


<b>Preparing Authority:</b>  Ryan Kidwiler	  <b>G106 - Guidance on Scopes of Accreditation for Telecommunication Certification Bodies</b>	<b>Publication Date:</b>  03/09/23
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Telecommunication Certification Bodies (TCBs) may be accredited to certify products to the following Scopes of Accreditation. The following certification schemes requirements and supporting testing laboratory requirements are as follows:

### **1. United States of America – Federal Communications Commission (FCC):**

**TCB Scope of Accreditation** – TCBs may be accredited to certify products to one or more of the scopes of accreditation listed in Table 1 of TCB Program Roles and Responsibilities. It is not necessary to be accredited to all of Scope A, B or C. The TCB may choose which of the following scopes they wish to be accredited to perform:

- (a) Unlicensed Radio Frequency Devices (A1, A2, A3, A4);
- (b) Licensed Radio Frequency Devices (B1, B2, B3, B4);
- (c) Telephone Terminal Equipment (C1).

**Testing Laboratory ISO/IEC 17025 Scope of Accreditation** – In accordance with the FCC document TCB Program Roles and Responsibilities, the TCB must also have a supporting test lab that is accredited to ISO/IEC 17025, General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories. A TCB is required to have the capability and test equipment necessary to perform testing to a “core” set of tests, for each scope of accreditation. To ensure that it is capable of performing the tests within their scope of accreditation, the TCB shall have a supporting test lab that is accredited to ISO/IEC Standard 17025 with an appropriate scope of accreditation. The testing laboratory portion of the TCB shall be accredited to cover the regulations and measurement procedures as listed in Table 3 of TCB Program Roles and Responsibilities.

### **2. Canada – Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED):**

**TCB Scope of Accreditation** – In accordance with ISED’s document [REC-CB – Recognition Procedure and Requirements for Certification Bodies](#), CBs shall be accredited per Section 4.1(b) to certify equipment to at least one of the following scopes, as listed in section 4.2:

Radio Scope 1 – License-exempt Radio Frequency Devices;  
Radio Scope 2 – Licensed Personal Mobile Radio Services;  
Radio Scope 3 – Licensed General Mobile and Fixed Radio Services;  
Radio Scope 4 – Licensed Maritime and Aviation Radio Services;  
Radio Scope 5 – Licensed Fixed Microwave Radio Services;  
Broadcasting – All BETS in the Category I Equipment Standards List.

**Testing Laboratory ISO/IEC 17025 Scope of Accreditation** – In accordance with ISED’s document [REC-CB – Recognition Procedure and Requirements for Certification Bodies](#), per section 4.3:

For the purpose of maintaining current technical competence, knowledge and expertise, CBs shall:

- (a) have their in-house testing laboratory accredited in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017, General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories, by the Department, the SCC or a Recognized Accreditation Organization or equivalent, as per the terms of the MRA, or any other equivalent agreement; or

(b) enter into contractual arrangements with testing laboratories such that the personnel of the CB have access to personnel and facilities capable of performing the required testing and can supervise the testing. The purpose of this is to maintain current expertise and understanding of the applicable technical regulations.

These contracted testing laboratories must be accredited in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017 by a recognized Accreditation Organization or equivalent, as per the terms of the MRA, or any other equivalent agreement or arrangement. Copies of all arrangements with recognized testing laboratories shall be provided to the Department through the CB's Designating Authority before the recognition is granted.

(c) provide the signed Testing Laboratory Technical Assessment Checklist

The list of applicable standards can be found in the Radiocommunication and Broadcasting Equipment Scopes of Accreditation for Certification Bodies list at: <https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/spectrum-management-telecommunications/en/devices-and-equipment/procedures-conformity-assessment-bodies/radiocommunication-and-broadcasting-equipment-scopes-accreditation-certification-bodies>.

### **3. Singapore – Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA):**

**TCB Scope of Accreditation** – In accordance with IMDA Singapore's document, Scheme for Recognising Foreign Testing Laboratories and Certification Bodies for Conformity Assessment of Telecommunication Equipment, per section 5.2, "an MRA partner may accredit and designate certification bodies to certify equipment to one or more of the applicable IMDA Technical Regulations under the scope for":

- a) Line Terminal Equipment (Table 1 Annex 2);
- b) Radio-Communication Equipment (Table 2 Annex 2).

**Testing Laboratory ISO/IEC 17025 Scope of Accreditation** – In accordance with IMDA Singapore's document, Scheme for Recognising Foreign Testing Laboratories and Certification Bodies for Conformity Assessment of Telecommunication Equipment, per section 6.2 (c), to be eligible for recognition as an IMDA recognized certification body, the organization must have testing facilities accredited in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025 in the relevant area of telecommunication, EMC or electrical safety by an Accrediting Body appointed by the MRA partner, the accreditation shall be relevant to the equipment types and technical regulations for which designation is sought; and/or have arrangement with testing laboratories that are recognized by IMDA under MRA. Per section 5.2, "the minimum set of testing capabilities expected of certification bodies to be considered for a particular scope of accreditation and designation is substantiated by supporting evidence that CBs' evaluation activities are performed with internal and/or external resources accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 as required by ISO/IEC 17065 for product certification."

### **4. Hong Kong – Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA):**

**TCB Scope of Accreditation** – In accordance with OFCA's document Criteria and Requirements Applicable to Foreign Testing Laboratories and Certification Bodies Seeking Recognition by OFCA as Conformity Assessment Bodies, per section 6, "a CAB who is eligible to be recognized by OFCA must be accredited to perform certification to at least one of the technical specifications in one of the following three scopes":

- (a) Radio Equipment (regulated by [HKCA 10XX specifications](#));
- (b) Marine Radio Equipment (regulated by [HKCA 12XX specifications](#));
- (c) Fixed Network Equipment (regulated by [HKCA 20XX specifications](#)).

**Testing Laboratory ISO/IEC 17025 Scope of Accreditation** – In accordance with OFCA's document Criteria and Requirements Applicable to Foreign Testing Laboratories and Certification Bodies Seeking Recognition by OFCA

as Conformity Assessment Bodies, per section 5 “A foreign certification body must fulfill the following requirements before it becomes eligible for recognition by OFCA... (c), has in-house testing laboratory and/or has contractual arrangement with external testing laboratory, both of which shall have the capability and technical competence in conducting tests to the relevant technical regulations and shall be accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 by an accreditation body which is a signatory to APAC MRA”. As such, a TCB who is eligible to be recognized by OFCA must be accredited to cover the relevant regulations and measurement procedures as listed.

- (a) Radio Equipment (regulated by [HKCA 10XX specifications](#));
- (b) Marine Radio Equipment (regulated by [HKCA 12XX specifications](#));
- (c) Fixed Network Equipment (regulated by [HKCA 20XX specifications](#)).

Note: Other than the HKCA specifications, there are technical requirements on electrical safety and electromagnetic compatibility (EMC). Conformance to safety requirements is a **pre-requisite** and must be included on the testing Scope of Accreditation. OFCA has defined the requirements on electrical safety and radiation protection (applicable to certain types of radio equipment only). Details may be referred to the technical specification [HKCA 2001](#).

## **5. Japan – (MIC):**

**TCB Scope of Accreditation** – In accordance with Japan’s Telecommunication Business Act and Radio Law, TCBs can apply for **one or more** MRA scope categories (A1, A2, B1, B2, and B3). Within each scope category, the TCB must be qualified to certify **all** of the equipment classes.

### **Telecommunications Business Law (Terminal Equipment)**

Scope A1 - Terminal equipment for the purpose of calls;

Scope A2 - Other Terminal equipment.

### **Radio Law (Radio Equipment)**

Scope B1 - Specified Radio Equipment Article 38-2-2, paragraph 1, item 1 of the Radio Law;

Scope B2 - Specified Radio Equipment specified in Article 38-2-2, paragraph 1, item 2 of the Radio Law;

Scope B3 - Specified Radio Equipment specified in Article 38-2-2, paragraph 1, item 3 of the Radio Law

**Testing Laboratory ISO/IEC 17025 Scope of Accreditation** The laboratory must be assessed and found competent to perform testing to all equipment classes under each desired scope. The laboratory may either be accredited to the actual test methods notified by MIC at:

<http://www.tele.soumu.go.jp/e/sys/equ/tech/techobj/index.htm>;

<http://www.tele.soumu.go.jp/j/sys/equ/tech/test/index.htm>;

[http://www.soumu.go.jp/main\\_sosiki/joho\\_tsusin/tanmatu/index.html](http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/joho_tsusin/tanmatu/index.html) or a method that is equal to or surpasses these methods. If the laboratory is not using the test methods notified by MIC, the laboratory shall have procedures for determining equivalency of other test methods to those separately notified by MIC and shall maintain records of equivalency determination, in accordance with A2LA’s [R308-Specific Requirements - 17065 - Telecommunication Certification Body Accreditation Program](#).

## DOCUMENT REVISION HISTORY

Date	Description
03/09/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Removed references to ISO/IEC 17025:2005</li><li>➤ Removed references to Industry Canada (IC) and replaced with Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED)</li><li>➤ Corrected the hyperlinks for HKCA 10XX, 12XX, and 20XX specifications</li><li>➤ Corrected ISED link at the end of section 2</li></ul>