

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT TESTING AND CERTIFICATION ONE-STOP SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR NEEDS



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is considered to be any device or appliance designed to be worn or held by an individual for protection against one or more safety hazards.

In Europe, placing PPE products on the market is regulated under the PPE Directive (Directive 89/686/EEC). This directive applies to most safety products intended for use in domestic, leisure and sports activities, as well as for professional use.

All PPE products covered under 89/686/EEC have to meet Basic Health and Safety Requirements (BHSR) listed and described in Annex II of the PPE Directive.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT TESTING

SGS testing laboratories provide comprehensive testing services on many types of PPE products such as:

EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES

Equipment for eye protection, e.g. sun glasses, swimming goggles

Equipment for head protection, e.g. safety and sports helmets

Equipment for arm/leg protection, e.g. wrist, palm, knee and elbow protectors for users of roller sports equipment

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

Protective clothing, e.g. high visibility clothing, motorcyclists' protective clothing, welding clothing, heat & flame protective clothing, high cut resistance cloths

Protective footwear, e.g. safety, protective, occupational footwear, chemical protection and welders protection

Protective gloves, e.g. mechanical risk protective gloves, welding gloves, thermal risk protective gloves, and chemical permeation

Respiratory Protection for full face mask, half face mask and disposable face mask

The first step to check the quality of a PPE product is to conduct testing to assess compliance with relevant test standards. There are harmonized standards published for the PPE directive and compliance provides a presumption of conformity with the BHSR of the Directive.

In addition to the testing, the harmonised standards also describe the requirements for User Information and Product Marking.

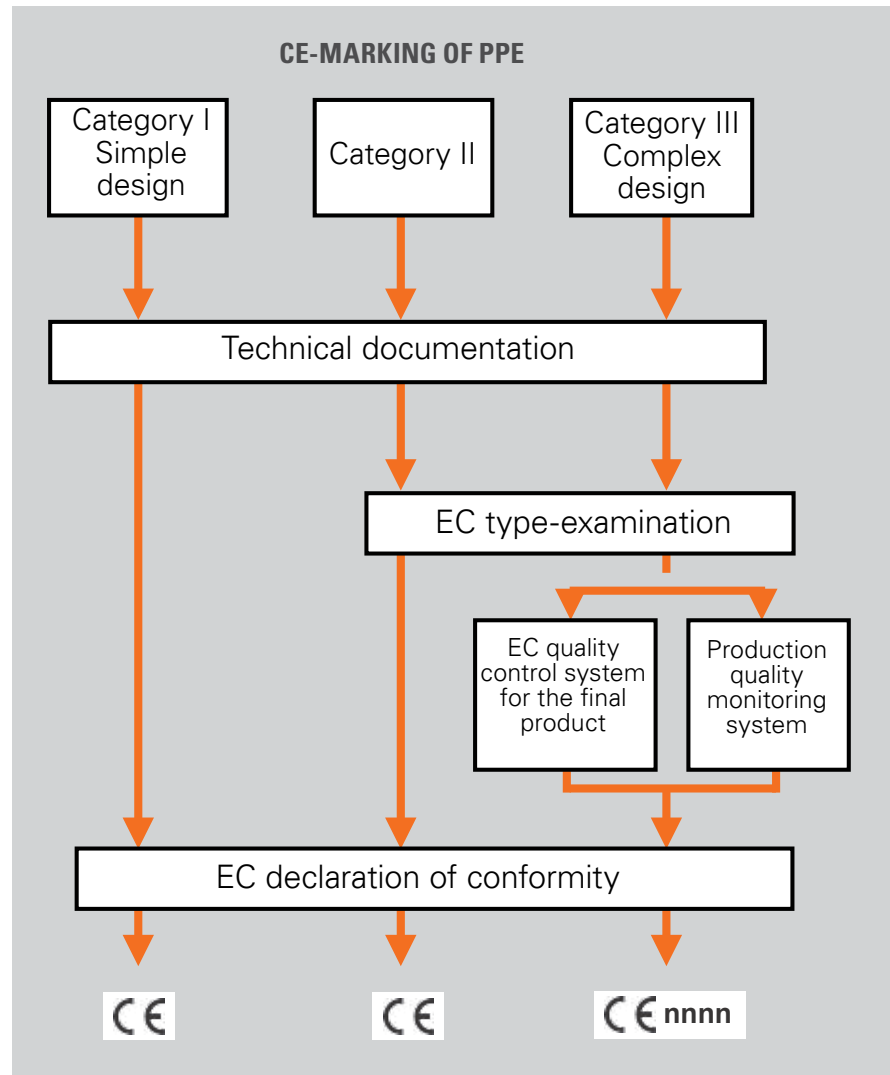
PPE CERTIFICATION

PPE products can be classified into three categories, I, II and III. In each case the manufacturer has to produce an EC declaration of conformity.

- Category I (“simple design”): e.g. simple gardening gloves, sunglasses
 - Manufacturers can self-certify. Self certification requires the development of a Technical File including the manufacturer’s Declaration of Conformity
- Category II (neither “simple” nor “complex”): e.g. safety and sports helmet, safety footwear, high visibility clothing
 - Requires an EC Type Examination certificate issued by a Notified Body (Article 10) such as SGS. This can be done by developing a Technical File including independent testing reports/ results
- Category III (“complex design”): e.g. respiratory equipment, fall arrest equipment and chemical protective clothing
 - Requires an EC Type Examination certificate (Article 10) and ongoing assessment of compliance (Article 11). Under Article 11, the client can choose to have the Notified Body
 - Audit the manufacturing site annually to ensure that quality management systems are in place to manufacture a compliant product on an ongoing basis; or
 - Select samples annually for compliance testing

Technical documentation must comprise all relevant data on the means used by the manufacturer to ensure that a PPE product complies with the basic requirements relating to it. EC-type

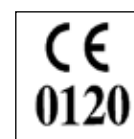
THE ROUTE TO CE MARKING IS SHOWN BELOW



examination requires the Notified Body to review the technical documentation against the requirements of the harmonised standard. Some SGS laboratories can provide a service to assist with the preparation of the technical file.

SGS provides EC-type examination certification for Category II and III PPE products through SGS United Kingdom Limited (notified body number 0120).

In addition, SGS provides Category III PPE certification through its world wide network of auditors.



After the relevant Notified Body certification, the manufacturer can affix the CE mark on their product.

SGS SERVICES	CATEGORY I	CATEGORY II	CATEGORY III
Testing	✓	✓	✓
Technical File Review / Gap Analysis	✓	✓	✓
EC Type Examination Certification (Article 10)		✓	✓
On-going Assessment of Compliance (Article 11) Factory Audit/ Compliance Testing			✓

PPE CATEGORIES	SGS ACCREDITED LABORATORIES FOR PPE CERTIFICATION				
	HONG KONG	GUANGZHOU	SHANGHAI	TAIWAN	INDIA
Footwear		✓			✓
Clothing	✓		✓		✓
Gloves			✓	✓	✓
Equipments		✓		✓	
Helmet		✓		✓	
Sunglasses, Goggles				✓	
Respiratory Protection					✓

ABOUT SGS

Headquartered in Switzerland, SGS is the world's leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company. Founded in 1878, SGS is recognised as the global benchmark in quality and integrity. We operate a network of over 1,650 offices and laboratories around the world with nearly 80,000 employees.

SGS Global Softlines has an extensive network of over 40 laboratories worldwide, with a strong team of committed professionals from multi-disciplinary backgrounds. Our internationally accredited state-of-the-art testing laboratories offer a comprehensive range of physical, chemical and functional testing services for components, materials or finished products. We help your company ensure the quality and performance needs and comply with international, industrial and regulatory standards worldwide.

CONTACT

For further details, please contact our regional office or your usual SGS contact.

GLOBAL SOFTLINES DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Email: Global.SL@sgs.com

ASIA – SGS HONG KONG

Phone: +852 2334 4481

Email: hk.sl.enquiry@sgs.com

EUROPE – SGS UNITED KINGDOM

Phone: +44 (0)203 008 7860

Email: gb.cts.sales@sgs.com

AMERICA – SGS NORTH AMERICA

CONSUMER TESTING SERVICES

Phone: +1 973 575 5252

Email: uscts.softlines@sgs.com



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WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE

SGS