



Information Note on Procedures to be Applied to Prototypes under Test

These procedures stem from Annex 1, Amendment 2 of the Public Service Delegation Agreement of 12 June 2008 on the technical review and issuance of official certificates of compliance for temperature-controlled carriage equipment. Annex 1 deals with specific renewal procedures for certain certificates of technical compliance under Article **R. 231-45** of the French code of rural and sea fishing law.

This note provides an update on the specific procedures to be applied by the competent authority when issuing certificates of technical compliance for prototypes under test

The purpose of the certificate of technical compliance is to verify, prior to the transport equipment going into service and periodically thereafter, that they have been deemed suitable for use. This control aims to ensure that the vehicles are capable of producing refrigeration and maintaining the temperatures required to adequately preserve food during transport, or simply to check the insulating capacity of the body.

The entire system relies on the confidence that the professional should establish in his/her ability to ensure that the equipment complies with the regulatory requirements.

This confidence is based on:

- the conformity of the results of equipment type tests carried out by the official station, which in this context issues an official test report regarded as a Type Approval Certificate as described by ATP,
- the conformity of the quality provisions implemented by professionals,
- the results of the audits periodically carried out by the competent authority.

The official testing station(s) shall be reported to UNECE by the French Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and accredited in accordance with NF EN ISO 17025 for tests described in Appendix II, Annex I of the ATP Agreement.

The competent authority shall be designated by the French Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as part of a public service delegation. Audits shall be performed on the basis of reference documents and rules for authorization approved by DGAI.

Applications for certificates of technical compliance submitted by authorized companies shall undergo technical assessment by the competent authority, who shall issue the certificates in the absence of any

non-conformity. Applications, assessments, and issuance of certificates shall be based on the use of a database management system called “DATAFRIG” and follow DGAI-approved procedures.

The abovementioned assessments shall be carried out at the expense of the applicant.

When, for practical reasons and when there is a technological need for it, a manufacturer has to test a new equipment in a real situation in order to finalize its design before carrying out the official tests, the competent authority may, on the basis of an expert appraisal of the testing station in charge of type testing the new equipment, issue a certificate of technical compliance to the manufacturer requesting it, on condition that:

- when dealing with a unit, the equipment’s constituent body holds a valid, official test report,
- when dealing with a cell, the unit, if applicable, holds a valid, official test report,
- the required type tests have been scheduled prior to issuance of the abovementioned provisional certificate and the selected official ATP testing station has sent out a notification mentioning the dates of the test,
- the technology involved requires a live test to be performed to adapt the technology to the intended use.

The ATP official testing station shall carry out the expert appraisal necessary to evaluate, on the basis of the information communicated by the manufacturer, the compliance of the equipment to the contemplated class. It shall draw up an expert report for the manufacturer and the competent authority.

Before the certificate issued expires, compliance of the equipment shall be re-evaluated by the competent authority using the official test report issued by the testing station during the live test.

No other certificate shall be temporarily issued for the same equipment and in the same conditions as the above test. However, the provisional certificate may be renewed once.