

Regulatory Update - Ecuador

New Type Approval Regulation comes into force.

Further to PCS Regulatory Update issued on 30th January 2017, the new Type Approval Regulation “Type Approval Regulations and Terminal Certification for Telecommunications Equipment” was published on 15th June 2017 in Ecuador’s Official Gazette.

The main changes outlined in this new Regulation are:

- The Type Approval Process is now paperwork-only - the local testing requirement has now been eliminated, however the Ecuadorean Regulator, *Agencia de Regulación y Control de las Telecomunicaciones* (ARCOTEL) reserve the right to request samples for exceptional cases.
- Equipment with less than 50mW output power are no longer exempt from Type Approval. With this new regulation, the transmission power is no longer a consideration but rather the operation of the equipment that relates to the categories defined by ARCOTEL. PCS is investigating the impact to devices already on the Ecuador market and which did not require Type Approval under the previous Regulation.
- Approval Certificates will now be issued for each product category a device falls under. For example, if a device falls under more than one category (i.e. ACCESS POINT and WLAN ROUTER) it will fall under both “Terminals for Carrier Service” and “Terminals for Internet Access”. As such, 2 Approval certificates would be required. If a product operates in a category that it is not Approved for, ARCOTEL will issue sanctions. The full list of categories can be found in Annex 1 of this update.

- For equipment which do not fall under the categories defined by ARCOTEL in Annex 1, Type Approval is not required however a Letter of No Objection (LoNA) must be obtained. This is a mandatory requirement, and no longer voluntary. PCS is investigating the impact to devices already on the Ecuador market and where LoNA's are not in place.
- It remains the case that Ecuador Type Approval Certificates do not expire, and all currently Approved devices remain valid.

For additional information regarding this update, please contact:

Samanta Alvarez

Product Compliance Specialists Email: samanta@productcompliancespecialists.com

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Annex 1.

Equipment category	Examples
Terminals for Advanced Mobile Service	Telephones, or other equipment that has an IMEI and are connected to the operators of the Advanced Mobile Service.
Terminals for Carrier Service (P)	Terminal equipment on the user side that connect to the carriers of the wireless carrier service, such as Radios and Customer Premises Equipment
Terminals for Fixed Telephony Service	Cordless Telephones for the fixed telephone service. Example: CDMA450oWimax phones
Terminals for the Service Telecommunications by Satellite	Telephones and Modems using satellite telecommunications.
Terminals for Internet Access	Equipment that allows direct access to the internet wirelessly. Example: Access point. Exceptions are computers, laptops, printers, audio and video consoles, or Other equipment that connects indirectly and wirelessly to the internet.
Terminals for the Trunked Service	Two-way radios or other equipment used in trunked systems
Terminals for Community Service	Two way radios or other equipment used in communal systems