

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

Content Index

1. General information
2. Scope and application field
3. Definitions
4. General conditions
5. Certification scheme
6. Validity of the product conformity certification
7. Changes to the reference parameters and/or conditions for issuing the certification
8. Waiver, suspension or revocation of the certification
9. Confidentiality
10. Advertising
11. Economic contractual conditions
12. Responsibility
13. Acceptance of the provisions of this regulation

9				
8				
7				
6				
5				
4				
3				
2				
1	20/05/2025	Non discriminatory conditions	RSQ	AU
0	26/06/2024	Prima emissione	RSQ	AU
Rev.	Date	Type of Change	Controlled by	Approved by

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

1. General information

SMC Slovensko a.s. is an independent Certification Body that operates in the field of assessment and Certification of conformity of products, processes and services (hereinafter referred to as product) to the requirements of the Standards and Reference Documents.

This Regulation defines and describes the Rules applied by SMC Slovensko a.s. and illustrates the procedures followed by the Body for product certification and the methods that Organizations must follow to request, obtain and maintain such certification. Any Organization - natural person, legal entity or company - that contractually undertakes to observe the rules set out in this Regulation has access to the product certification services of the Certification Body SMC Slovensko a.s.

The application of the Regulation occurs impartially and without any discrimination towards all those who request and/or have obtained access to the product certification services from the Certification Body SMC Slovensko a.s. The policies and procedures under which our certification body operates, and their administration, are non-discriminatory. Procedures are not used to impede or inhibit access by applicants, other than as provided for the ISO/IEC 17065. Our services are accessible to all applicants whose activities fall within the scope of its operations. Access to certification process is not conditional upon the size of the client or membership of any association or group, are not conditional upon the number of certifications already issued. There are undue financial or other conditions. SMC Slovensko can decline to accept an application or maintain a contract for certification from a client when fundamental or demonstrated reasons exist, such as client participating in illegal activities, having a history of repeated non compliances with certification/product requirements, or similar client-related issues. SMC Slovensko confine its requirements, evaluation, review, decision and surveillance (if any) to those matters specifically related to the scope of certification.

SMC Slovensko a.s. does not provide, either directly or through agency relationships with subcontractors, any consultancy services to support Organizations in developing their activities aimed at obtaining Certification. The application of this Regulation is monitored by the Committee for Safeguarding Impartiality, appointed by the Sole Director of SMC Slovensko a.s., in which the parties interested in Product Certification are represented. The Committee for Safeguarding Impartiality guarantees the impartiality of the Certification Body

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

and conducts a review of the impartiality of the audits, certifications and decision-making processes of the Certification Body. The company management also undertakes to manage possible conflicts of interest and to ensure objectivity in product certification activities.

The fee schedule applied by SMC Slovensko a.s. is the one in force and is applied with fairness and uniformity.

SMC Slovensko a.s. entrusts audits to individuals or companies only through a written contract and keeps all documentation intended for certification applicants/licensees updated.

SMC Slovensko a.s. undertakes to notify certified customers by email of any changes to the certification requirements, changes or updates to the certification procedure (including changes to regulatory documents or requirements from accreditation bodies). SMC Slovensko a.s. checks with a specific additional audit (the costs of which are borne by the customer) or through maintenance/surveillance audits that the customer has complied with the new requirements. If the customer does not wish to comply with the changes, it may withdraw from the contract within thirty days of notification. After this period, the changes are deemed to have been accepted.

The information acquired during the certification activity by SMC Slovensko a.s. is considered and treated as confidential pursuant to the privacy legislation EU regulation 679/2016 in compliance with the rights of the interested parties and will be used only for the purposes of the assignment received. Such information is disclosed only to the functions involved in the certification and verification process and to the customer. If it must be disclosed due to legal obligations, SMC Slovensko a.s. will notify the customer.

SMC Slovensko a.s. does not assume any obligation regarding the positive outcome of the verification, nor regarding the issuance of the Certificate. SMC Slovensko a.s. is not responsible for any financial loss or damage, in any way caused during the audit, except in the case of proven negligent behavior by its staff.

If SMC Slovensko a.s. learns directly from the organization or other sources that the customer is implicated with responsibility profiles in some scandal or in some legal proceeding for corruption phenomena, it promptly conducts specific assessments and investigations. Once the analysis is completed, SMC Slovensko takes measures (strengthening inspections, suspension, closure of the assessment with archiving or other) based on the outcome of the assessment.

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

2. Scope and application field

This regulation defines the relationship between SMC Slovensko a.s. and the Organizations that intend to obtain certification. The Certificate is the document with which SMC Slovensko a.s. certifies that a product complies with the requirements of a Standard or a Reference Document.

The Regulation applies to the activities of:

- Certification of conformity of products to Directives and Regulations and national and/or regional legislation belonging to the voluntary and non-binding scope;
- Certification of products/services in accordance with voluntary national/international regulatory documents, technical rules or specifications.

The voluntary certification scheme is made public and accessible to anyone who requests it. The Regulation and the documents related to it contain the requirements necessary for the accreditation of product certification bodies according to the UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17065:2012 standard.

The Product Certification Scheme is based on the testing or inspection of samples taken from the market and/or from the Organization's warehouses or a combination of both, associated with production surveillance and surveillance of the Organization's quality system.

If the Organization entrusts external parties with the production of the products/services offered, while retaining final responsibility for them towards the customer, SMC Slovensko a.s. may also verify these parties regardless of the extent and type of control that the Organization exercises over them.

3. Definitions

In general terms, the definitions of the ISO/IEC 17000:2020 and ISO/IEC 9000:2005 standards apply to the definitions used in this Regulation.

The following definitions are also defined:

Product: Result of activities or processes.

Note: in the different contexts, the definitions reported by the specific reference standards or those relating to the Technical Specifications, against which (the company) requests the

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

release of the certification/attestation of conformity, apply. In all cases, the Technical Product Regulation reports the definition applicable in the particular context.

Process and Service:

Process: Set of interconnected resources and activities that transform input elements (raw materials, semi-finished products, services, etc.) into output elements (product);

Service: any activity offered by an Organization other than tangible products and processes.

Disciplinary or Technical Standard: Document issued or adopted by an international and/or national and/or regional regulatory body and available to the public, which prescribes the methods of obtaining and the specifications of a product and/or the methods of transforming the product.

Technical Product Document: Document that prescribes the technical requirements and characteristics that make the product, process or service certifiable. It contains the complete description of the product/process/service to be certified, the measurements, the tests with the relative methods of execution, and, when applicable, values and tolerances of the parameters. The Technical Document also contains the control plan, the applicable system elements and the operating methods to be followed for issuing the certification. The Technical Document can be a standard or a part of it, or be a stand-alone document.

Control Plan: The control plan is a document that establishes the type and frequency of the controls that the Organization must carry out to ensure the conformity of the certifiable and communicable characteristics that are the subject of the technical document itself.

Certification of conformity: Act by which an independent third-party body declares that, with reasonable reliability, a certain product, process or service complies with a specification or a standard, or complies with certain technical specifications.

Organization: Term used to indicate the Subject, Company or Organization of Companies, which has submitted an application for certification. termini generali, per le definizioni usate nel presente Regolamento si applicano le definizioni delle norme ISO/IEC 17000:2020 e ISO/IEC 9000:2005.

4. General conditions

The certification request can be submitted by any Organization, regardless of their type.

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

The certification system is based on analytical tests (if required) and on the verification and approval of the Applicant's Quality System (quality plan linked to the product) implemented for the production of the product or products in question, followed by continuous surveillance carried out through periodic verification of the company's quality system and through control tests on samples taken both from the market and from the production and/or processing sites.

The certification of conformity implies compliance with the provisions of the law in force, the responsibility of which remains with the Organization and occurs in accordance with a specific Technical Product Document.

The information acquired during the certification activity by SMC Slovensko a.s. is considered and treated as confidential pursuant to the privacy legislation EU regulation 679/2016 in compliance with the rights of the interested parties and will be used only for the purposes of the assignment received. This information is made known only to the functions involved in the certification and verification process and to the customer. If they must be disclosed due to legal obligations, SMC Slovensko a.s. will notify the customer. SMC Slovensko a.s. has the final decision on the admissibility of the product, for which certification and/or use of the mark is requested, to fall within the scope of the relevant reference documentation.

In order for the certification process to be activated by SMC Slovensko a.s. and the consequent granting of use of the Mark of Conformity, the Organization must:

- Implement the production and/or transformation process in ways that provide probative evidence of conformity with the requirements of the Product/production Specifications or the Technical Standard of reference and be subjected to the checks and tests established in the reference documents in force at the time of the request;
- Accept the rules established by this Regulation including the specific requirements set out in the technical product document;

Acceptance of the application, issuing of the Certification, its maintenance and the license to use the Mark of Conformity entail the payment of the amounts provided for. SMC Slovensko a.s. reserves the right to suspend or revoke the Certificate in the event of failure to fulfill these obligations.

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

The Organization, having obtained the certification, undertakes to keep its products/processes/services compliant with all applicable legal and mandatory requirements. SMC Slovensko a.s. is responsible for verifying on the basis of sampling, consistent with the audit times, that the Organization knows and is able to manage all mandatory aspects related to the product being certified.

The validity of the Product Certification starts from the date of issue of the Certificate, therefore the products placed on the market or supplied before that date cannot be considered covered by certification. Likewise, the products placed on the market or supplied after the expiry date, renunciation or revocation of the certification cannot be considered covered by certification.

5. Certification scheme

5.1 Certification Request

Each Organization interested in product certification based on a technical document, a norm or a standard, fills out in all its parts an Information Questionnaire sent by SMC Slovensko a.s. at the same time as this Regulation. SMC Slovensko a.s., before issuing the offer, examines the document, in order to verify that it contains information relating to the applicant's personal details, the place of production, the type of product and the relevant reference standard, that the certification requirements have been clearly defined and, in particular, that SMC Slovensko a.s. has the necessary skills to carry out the certification activity.

Once the above aspects have been clarified, SMC Slovensko a.s., in the event of acceptance, prepares and sends the offer, a document that contains information on the activities that will be carried out and the relevant rates in force. Acceptance of the offer perfects the contractual relationship between SMC Slovensko a.s. and the Customer and also entails acceptance of the provisions set out in this Regulation. The conclusion of the contract does not imply either directly or indirectly the obligation of certification.

Upon receipt of the above signed documents, SMC Slovensko a.s. performs the Review of the received documentation, requests if necessary additional information to support it and accepts the contractual conditions.

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

5.2 Analysis of documentation, preparation and approval of the product Technical Document

SMC Slovensko a.s. provides for the analysis of the documentation prepared and submitted by the Customer, and in particular the descriptive documentation of the product and the production quality system for the management of specific activities, in order to verify that the same provides for compliance with the requirements set by the reference documentation for product certification. The analysis consists of a study phase and a phase of preparation, evaluation and approval of the technical product documentation, the Technical Product Document, which must be issued, approved and used for carrying out testing, control and certification activities.

5.3 Planning and carrying out the audit

The positive outcome of the document analysis is followed by a program by SMC Slovensko a.s. for the purpose of evaluating the Organization. The program defines at least the following aspects:

- The members of the verification group with identification of the responsible person (RTA and Audit Team);
- The organizational units and the elements to be evaluated if necessary;
- The timing for the control of the Organization and the products.

The Audit Team is made up of a Responsible Person (RTA), possibly one or more Auditors or technical experts identified by SMC Slovensko a.s. taking into account the experience and independence of the Auditors.

In this regard, tasks are assigned on the condition that the RTA, the Auditors and the technical experts do not provide or have not provided professional services to the evaluated Organization in the previous two years. The Audit Team is communicated to the Organization together with the expected date for carrying out the verification. In the event that the Organization is small or medium-sized, the Audit Team may be represented only by the RTA. If there are justified reasons, the Organization may request in writing the replacement of one or more members of the Audit Team, indicating the reasons.

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

The assessment includes an in-depth verification of the conformity of the Organization's documentation and its ability to ensure that the product complies with the reference DTP through the evaluation of the company specifications and the performance of type tests if required by the DTP. The RTA, with the assigned audit team, holds an opening meeting at the Organization's headquarters, records attendance, clarifies any points of the program that are not fully understood, reiterates the commitment to confidentiality of the data and processes that the Audit Team will learn about during the inspection, defines the scope of the inspection, and clarifies anything else necessary to carry out the inspection.

During the inspection, the Auditors verify the product (means, procedures and personnel), the points of the Organization's quality assurance system strictly pertinent to the product and the correct application of the procedures defined by the Organization indicated in the reference documents, paying particular attention to the identification and monitoring of the requirements subject to certification including those mandatory in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The Audit can be considered concluded when it has been ascertained that all the elements of the system under examination have been implemented and verified by the Organization. The Organization is required to provide all necessary collaboration to the Audit Team and to make available to the Auditors all the documentation relating to the production, control and quality assurance system. At the end of the Audit, the Audit Team meets to review the findings and process the data collected. At the closing meeting and in the presence of the Organization's Management, the Audit Team illustrates the findings, specifying any deviations found. At this meeting, the Organization has the opportunity to discuss and ask questions to the Audit Team and to clarify its position on what has been communicated. The audit report, compiled by the RTA and delivered to the Organization, contains the results of the Audit.

5.4 Analytical and product specification checks

Upon successful completion of the inspection checks, SMC Slovensko a.s., in order to ascertain whether the specifications of the product being certified comply with the requirements of the Product Technical Document (where applicable), subjects the product to analytical checks. In cases where analytical checks are required, the Audit Team takes product samples, under normal production conditions, which will be sent to testing laboratories accredited in

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

accordance with the ISO/IEC 17025 standard. The number of samples to be tested is provided for in the reference product technical document; the sampling methods are those defined by the reference laboratory, identified by SMC Slovensko a.s. and shared with the Organization. The analytical checks are considered to be successfully concluded when SMC Slovensko a.s., having examined the test reports, ascertains that the results comply with the requirements of the reference product technical document. If the analytical tests have a negative outcome, the certification process is interrupted while the Organization, within an agreed time frame, adjusts the product's conformity to the prescribed requirements and requests SMC Slovensko a.s. to repeat the tests. At the discretion of SMC Slovensko a.s., some tests may be repeated on samples taken from production and/or processing to confirm the results obtained on the initial samples.

The samples prepared specifically for the tests must be manufactured, processed and/or conditioned with the same equipment and the same methods that are expected to be used in normal production and/or processing.

5.5 Certification Release

The results of the verification activities, both inspection and analytical on the product, are communicated by SMC Slovensko a.s. to the Customer's Management through the verification reports in which any non-conformities found are reported.

The non-conformities must be resolved before being able to obtain certification.

The Organization is obliged to:

- Notify SMC Slovensko a.s. of the planning and program of corrective actions that it intends to implement;
- Implement and notify SMC Slovensko a.s. the closure of the planned corrective actions within the scheduled deadlines.

SMC Slovensko a.s. may proceed with a further supplementary audit of partial or total evaluation when there is no objective evidence of the achievement of full conformity.

If the Customer does not implement the necessary corrective actions or does not respect the scheduled times, SMC Slovensko a.s. does not issue the Certificate of Conformity of the product.

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

The effectiveness of the corrective action plan implemented by the Organization will be assessed by SMC Slovensko a.s. during the subsequent audit and in the event of a positive assessment, the documentation relating to the inspection and the outcome of the tests will be sent to the deliberative commission which expresses its opinion on whether or not to issue the certificate of conformity. The decision is signed by the Legal Representative of SMC Slovensko a.s. by affixing his signature on the Certificate itself.

5.6 Surveillance Audit

The purpose of the surveillance inspections is to provide guarantees that the certified products continuously maintain compliance with the requirements of the standards according to which they have been certified (Product Technical Document).

The surveillance inspections provided for in the DTP must be carried out during the validity period of the contract and within one year from the date of the first inspection. The inspections must be carried out with the frequency provided for in the specific DTP. The frequency may vary in the case of different requirements.

If, due to the temporal characteristics of the products, it is necessary to carry out the inspections concentrated in certain periods of the year, these will be communicated to the Customer. The Organization must enable the Auditors of SMC Slovensko a.s. to carry out the surveillance activities and provide, for this purpose, the necessary assistance, also in order to know the main customers/resellers of the certified products and to guarantee the possibility of taking product samples for surveillance tests from them.

The surveillance visits are submitted to the resolution of the committee, and the decisions are promptly communicated to the Organization. In the event of no non-conformities, the maintenance of the certificate is confirmed. In the event of one or more non-conformities, the finding is confirmed by the SMC Slovensko a.s. committee and the Client is required to provide treatment and corrective actions that must be implemented within the defined terms. In the event of failure to comply with these requirements, SMC Slovensko a.s. may undertake all initiatives deemed appropriate as provided for in the event of renunciation, suspension or revocation of certification.

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

6 Validity of the product conformity certification

The Product Certification issued by SMC Slovensko a.s. is valid for three years from the date of issue of the same; this duration is specified in the Product Conformity Certificate. The validity of the Certificate is subject to periodic surveillance and complete review of the activities at least annually.

During the validity period of the certification, SMC Slovensko a.s. has the task of verifying that the customer, responsible for the conformity of the product to the specifications in the Product Technical Document, maintains the conditions that allowed the certification. Following the achievement of the Certification, the Organization may publicize it in the ways it deems most appropriate, provided that correct reference is always made to the product, the reference document and the limits of the certification. Following any incorrect use of the Certification, SMC Slovensko a.s. will take measures to prevent its continuation and to safeguard its interests. The certification is issued to the Organization limited to the certified products and operating units mentioned in the Certificate and is not transferable to other units. To this end, in order to maintain the validity of the certification, the Customer must:

- a) create products that comply with the provisions of the DTP;
- b) allow SMC Slovensko a.s. to carry out surveillance activities by carrying out inspection visits on the products and on the quality system related to the processes relating to the product;
- c) ensure compliance with the rules set out in the certification scheme and in particular use the mark correctly;
- d) eliminate non-conformities ascertained and notified by SMC Slovensko a.s. during the surveillance activity and apply appropriate Corrective Actions;
- e) keep suitable quality registration documentation and make it available to SMC Slovensko a.s. when requested;
- f) communicate to SMC Slovensko a.s. any changes relating to the ownership or management structure, management system and any other condition that may modify or compromise the conformity of the product to the initial requirements;
- g) promptly communicate any changes it intends to make to the conditions that allowed certification;
- h) be up to date with the payment of fees relating to surveillance verification activities.

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

In relation to the above, SMC Slovensko a.s. reserves the right to carry out appropriate and timely supplementary inspection checks and, if necessary, adopt measures to suspend and/or revoke the certification issued.

7 Changes to the reference parameters and/or conditions for issuing the certification

7.1 Changes requested by SMC Slovensko a.s.

In the event of changes to the Certification Scheme and/or changes to the reference standards, SMC Slovensko a.s., informs the interested Organizations and establishes the effective date from which the changes come into force, granting a reasonable period of time so that the customer can make the appropriate changes to its quality system.

The Organization has the right to renounce certification if it deems that its system is not adapted to the required changes. This decision must be communicated in writing to SMC Slovensko a.s.

SMC Slovensko a.s. may make changes to the conditions of validity of the certification through changes to this regulation, related documents and the price list. In this case, the customer may also accept the new conditions or renounce certification.

7.2 Changes determined by the Customer

It is possible that during the validity of the certificate, situations may occur that lead to changes in the customer's assumptions/requirements that led to the certification itself.

These changes may be of various nature:

- a) changes relating to the process and/or product characteristics;
- b) changes relating to the process/product control system;
- c) changes relating to the ownership or management structure of the organization;
- d) changes relating to the organization's management system;
- e) any other condition that may modify or compromise the conformity of the product to the initial requirements.

In all the cases listed above, it is the customer's duty to inform SMC Slovensko a.s. in writing of the changes it intends to make.

SMC Slovensko a.s., based on the information received, determines whether:

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

- the changes that are intended to be made do not alter the certification conditions and can be verified during the subsequent surveillance audit without further tests;
- the changes that are intended to be made alter the certification conditions and additional verification and/or testing activities are required; in this case, a revision of the Certification Offer by SMC Slovensko a.s. may be necessary as the costs of the additional verification and/or testing activities will be borne by the Customer;
- the changes that are intended to be made are such as to require a new certification process;
- the Customer should not be allowed to use the certificate and/or distribute products already marked, if resulting from such modified conditions, until SMC Slovensko a.s. has notified its consent.

7.3 Extension or reduction of certification

The Organization may deem it appropriate to extend the scope of the certification obtained; this may occur in two cases.

In the first case, for new types of products obtained in the same factories and according to the same standards for which the certification has already been issued, it must submit a specific request to SMC Slovensko a.s.

This will evaluate on a case-by-case basis whether and with what type of verification to proceed and will send a proposal with the details of the activities to be carried out and the related costs to be borne by the Organization.

In the second case, for new types of products according to different standards or in any case manufactured in factories other than those of the previous certification, the Customer must carry out the entire certification procedure already described in this Regulation again.

The Organization may also deem it appropriate to reduce the scope of the certification obtained.

In this case, it is sufficient for it to submit a specific request to SMC Slovensko a.s. and follow its provisions.

8 Renounce, suspension or revocation of certification

8.1 Renounce

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

The Organization may renounce the Certification at any time by written communication, email, or certified email to SMC Slovensko a.s. The renouncement, upon entry into force, entails for the Client the prohibition of its disclosure in any form and the cessation of use of the trademark.

The renouncement by the Client does not entitle to any reimbursement and authorizes SMC Slovensko a.s. to invoice all possible remaining costs, with the related expenses, incurred up to the date of the renouncement. SMC Slovensko a.s. shall proceed to cancel the Organization from the register, make its renouncement public and communicate it to the subjects who had been notified of the certification. The Organization may renounce the Certification:

- Upon expiry of the three-year period;
- In the event of changes to the reference standards;
- In the event of non-acceptance of the changes to this regulation;
- In the event of non-acceptance of the changes to the economic conditions established by SMC Slovensko a.s.;
- In the event of cessation of business or transfer of a branch of the company to a legal entity other than the one that obtained the Certification.

8.2 Suspension

SMC Slovensko a.s., having detected one or more problematic situations or the persistence of deviations after the agreed deadline, may suspend the Certification. The following are considered reasons for suspension of the certification:

- a) formal request by the Customer;
- b) temporary cessation of the product on the market;
- c) failure by the customer to resolve the non-conformities, found during the surveillance activity, after the agreed deadline for their elimination;
- d) improper use of the trademark;
- e) contravention of the provisions relating to the Certification Scheme or the procedures established by SMC Slovensko a.s. in this Regulation by the Customer;
- f) failure by the customer to communicate to SMC Slovensko a.s. circumstances or changes that may affect the conformity of the product to the reference standards;

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

g) impediment for any reason, by the customer, to ensure the regular performance of the verification activity provided by SMC Slovensko a.s.;

h) if it is not up to date with payments for activities already carried out and related to any type of service offered by SMC Slovensko a.s. even if different from certification.

In these cases, SMC Slovensko a.s. formally notifies the Customer of the suspension, also indicating the necessary conditions and the timeframes available for the restoration of the certification. The Customer is responsible for taking prompt and adequate actions to correct any non-compliance prescribed by SMC Slovensko a.s. and for formally communicating the corrective actions proposed and/or implemented.

The suspension is cancelled only when SMC Slovensko a.s. has ascertained satisfactory restoration of compliance with the certified requirements. Otherwise, SMC Slovensko a.s. proceeds to revoke the certification. The costs relating to additional checks, carried out by SMC Slovensko a.s. and resulting from the suspension, are borne by the Customer. During the suspension period, the Customer is still obliged to pay the annual fee relating to the management costs of the Certificate. During this period, the existing identification signs and conformity marks will be cancelled.

8.3 Withdrawal

The implementation of withdrawal of certification is decided by SMC Slovensko a.s. following the following cases:

a) the Customer:

- formally requests to renounce the certification;
- does not intend or is not able to comply with the new requirements introduced following the modification of the reference legislation and/or the DTP and/or the Certification Scheme;
- makes changes to the certified product that are not accepted by SMC Slovensko a.s.;
- does not intend or is not able to resolve the causes that led to the suspension of the certification;
- contravenes the provisions set out in this Regulation;
- does not fulfill the financial obligations undertaken with SMC Slovensko a.s.;

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

- unlawfully reproduces the certificate and/or the mark and associates it and/or affixes it to products for which a license for use has not been granted.
- b) Non-conformities detected during surveillance if the suspension measure is not sufficient;
- c) The production activities for which the Organization had obtained the certification cease;
- d) Transfer, bankruptcy or liquidation of the Organization: in these cases, with an appropriate application approved by SMC Slovensko a.s., the certification can be transferred to the new legal entity that has taken over the same activity if it guarantees the requirements that are the basis of the certification;
- e) In the presence of any other circumstance that may negatively affect the certified product.

In the event of revocation of the certification, SMC Slovensko a.s. shall:

- notify, by email or certified email, of the revocation order to the Customer and the interested parties;
- withdraw and cancel the Certificate of Conformity of the product;
- make public the provision for revocation of the certification and cancel the Customer and the related product from the list of certified Organizations;
- arrange, if it deems it necessary to safeguard the final consumer, for the Customer to withdraw the product from the market;

The Customer undertakes to:

- return the original Certificate of Conformity of the product granted to him;
- immediately stop using the certificate of conformity and/or the mark of conformity and any reference to the certification in any other document;
- communicate to SMC Slovensko a.s. the quantity of certified product in stock and the estimated disposal period;
- allow SMC Slovensko a.s. to check the products in stock at its warehouses;
- change the commercial identification of the product in order to avoid possible confusion on the market.

The costs and related expenses of any inspection visit and/or analytical tests will be invoiced to the customer based on the current rates.

SMC Slovensko a.s., in the event that the customer continues to refer to the same in any way following the revocation of the certification, may take legal action.

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

Failure by the Customer to pay the costs relating to the certification will result in the termination of the contract and consequently the subsequent withdrawal of the certificate.

9. Confidentiality

SMC Slovensko a.s. ensures that all confidential information acquired during certification activities is treated in a strictly confidential manner. This is without prejudice to any contrary provisions of law and/or accreditation bodies, as well as authorizations granted by the organization concerned.

10. Advertising

The Customer, following the issuance of the certificate of conformity of the product, has the right to make the news known and to use the certificate or the mark of conformity for the commercial promotion and valorization of the product.

The Customer is in any case required to:

- a) have SMC Slovensko a.s. approve the information and/or instructions that accompany the product on the label and that refer to the Technical Document of the product itself;
- b) take all necessary precautions so that in its publications and advertising there is no confusion between the certified product and non-certified products;
- c) refrain from indicating functions, making inferences or similar, such as to induce the consumer to believe that the “performance” of a product or its mark is guaranteed by certification when in fact it is not.

11. Economic contractual conditions

11.1 Rates

The rates that regulate the services of SMC Slovensko a.s. are defined by the Management in collaboration with the Technical Manager and the Quality Manager, taking into account the necessary checks and the commitment required, regardless of the volume of business of

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

the Organization. The contract is valid for three years and the renewal methods are defined in the specific contract signed between the parties. SMC Slovensko a.s. reserves the right to cancel/revise/modify the Certification Offer if, during the preparation of the verification (document analysis and preparation of the Technical Product Document) and evaluation (conducting inspections), it finds variations with respect to the conditions declared by the Customer or due to new obligations arising from competent Bodies or Authorities in the matter that require changes/cancellation of the Offer. In any case, the new Offer must be presented and accepted by the Organization before it comes into force.

Any request for a change to the visit program, at the request of the Customer, may involve the payment of a supplementary fee, based on the additional costs encountered.

In the event of renunciation, suspension or revocation of certification, the Organization is still required to pay the annual fee required.

11.2 Payment Terms

The fees for certification and registration activities can be paid directly to SMC Slovensko a.s. according to the indications reported on the invoices issued from time to time and on the Certification Offer. Failure to fulfill the aforementioned obligations will result in SMC Slovensko a.s. sending a warning letter and therefore the sanction of suspension and subsequent revocation of the certification as provided for in §§ 8.2 and 8.3 of this Regulation.

12 Responsibility

The Organization undertakes to guarantee the completeness and truthfulness of the documents and information made available to the auditors appointed by SMC Slovensko a.s. SMC Slovensko a.s. is explicitly exonerated from any liability in the event of missing or incomplete communication of data, as well as in the event that the same do not correspond to the real company situation.

Obtaining the Product Certification does not exempt the Organization from legal obligations relating to the products and from contractual obligations towards its customers with the exclusion of any liability or guarantee obligation on the part of SMC Slovensko a.s.

GENERAL REGULATION FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

No liability can arise from SMC Slovensko a.s. for defects in products, processes or services provided by the Organization to third parties.

13 Acceptance of the provisions of this regulation

Acceptance of this regulation is signed by the applicant by placing his signature in the specific field of the Certification Offer document.

By signing, the applicant declares that he has carefully read and approves the conditions set out in this Regulation.