

# FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA



## Electrical and Electronic Equipment Mutual Recognition Agreement (EEE MRA)

### WHAT IS IT?

- The EEE MRA is an annex to the New Zealand-China FTA. Its formal title is “the Agreement between the Government of New Zealand and the Government of the People’s Republic of China on Cooperation in the Field of Conformity Assessment in Relation to Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Components”.
- The EEE MRA provides an alternative route to comply with the China Compulsory Certification (‘CCC’) system for certain electrical and electronic products.
- The EEE MRA makes New Zealand the first and only country where approval to apply the Chinese CCC mark can be given outside of China.

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

- New Zealand’s electrical and electronic products exported to China need to undergo the same tests, inspections and certifications as other products produced and sold in China.
- Before the agreement was implemented, New Zealand exporters of electrical and electronic products had to undergo a process of testing, inspection and certification by Chinese Conformity Assessment Bodies. Products needed to be sent to laboratories in China for testing and Chinese inspectors needed to visit factories in New Zealand. The process could be costly, complicated and lengthy.

- The EEE MRA allows this process to be carried out in New Zealand by New Zealand conformity assessment bodies and factory inspectors that have been approved under the Agreement.

### WHAT PRODUCTS ARE COVERED?

- The EEE MRA does not cover all electrical and electronic equipment that requires CCC marking.
- The conformity assessment bodies that have been accredited under the EEE MRA can certify and test products in three categories – audio and video products; household and similar use appliances; and lighting electrical appliances.



# NEW ZEALAND IS THE FIRST AND ONLY COUNTRY WHERE APPROVAL TO APPLY THE CHINESE CCC MARK CAN BE GIVEN OUTSIDE OF CHINA

- There is the possibility of extending this scope to include: electrical wires and cables; circuit switches, electric devices for protection or connection; low voltage electrical apparatus; electric tools; welding machines; and information technology equipment.

## WHO ARE THE CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT BODIES?

- There is one accredited certification body – Telarc SAI Ltd ([www.telarc.co.nz](http://www.telarc.co.nz)).
- The accredited testing facilities are EMC Technologies Ltd ([www.emctech.com.au](http://www.emctech.com.au)) and Spectrum Laboratories Ltd ([www.spectrumlab.co.nz](http://www.spectrumlab.co.nz)).

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF USING THE EEE MRA?

- Previously, New Zealand manufacturers needed to send products to China for testing. Now all the required tests can be done in New Zealand.
- No translation is required and the conformity assessment process can all be carried out in English, because the EEE MRA allows compliance with IEC Standards and provides translations of all other relevant documents.
- The EEE MRA removes the need to pay for Chinese factory inspectors to come to New Zealand as part of the certification process, saving (both) time and money.

## WHAT STANDARDS DO I HAVE TO MEET TO EXPORT MY PRODUCTS TO CHINA?

- Products must meet IEC standards that are aligned with the relevant Chinese Standards, with some deviations required for the China market.
- For a full list of products and the standards that apply, see “Schedule A – To China” which is available at [www.chinafta.govt.nz](http://www.chinafta.govt.nz).

## RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENT FOR CHINESE COMPANIES IMPORTING INTO NEW ZEALAND

- Chinese exporters will also be able to gain New Zealand recognition for their exports to New Zealand that comply with the provisions of the agreement.

- Chinese manufacturers may have their products tested, inspected and certified in the same way as they would if the products were to be sold on the Chinese market but taking into account the specific product standards required by the New Zealand regulators. Therefore, the agreement will also assist New Zealand regulators to manage risks relating to electrical safety and electromagnetic compatibility, and consumers can have maximum confidence in Chinese products imported under the EEE MRA.

## HOW MUCH WILL IT COST TO GET MY PRODUCT CERTIFIED AND HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

- The time and cost will vary, depending on the complexity of the product. The testing facilities (EMC Technologies and Spectrum Laboratories) and the product certification body (Telarc) will charge separate fees. For an indication of likely costs and timeframes involved, please contact Telarc and/or EMC Technologies and Spectrum Laboratories directly.

## WHO DO I CONTACT TO GET MY PRODUCT CERTIFIED UNDER THE EEE MRA?

For further information on the process for getting product certification, see [www.telarc.co.nz](http://www.telarc.co.nz).

### FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact [eeemra@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:eeemra@mbie.govt.nz)

