



# **CERTIFICATION RULES**

## **GS Mark by LCIE**

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**Application Documents:**

The documents of application of the Certification Rules are available at LCIE for the applicants and the License Holders.

**This edition replaces the previous edition (3 last):**

Edition 7: 04th June 2008

Edition 8: 19th March 2012

Edition 9: 24th January 2017

## **1. SUBJECT - SCOPE OF APPLICATION - REFERENCE DOCUMENTS - DEFINITIONS**

The voluntary **GS mark "GEPRÜFTE SICHERHEIT - APPROVED SAFETY"** is designed to certify the conformity of the product according to the provisions in force in the German Product Safety Act, (Produktsicherheitsgesetz - ProdSG), related to the safety of the means of technical work and consumer products.

The GS mark is applicable to "ready-to-use" products put into circulation or exposed in Germany by a manufacturer or an importer. It may be granted to the products indicated in the bulletin of the **"Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Arbeit"** (Federal Ministry of the Economy and Work).

It is granted voluntarily for product in conformity with the technical rules of safety recognized in Germany (Regulatory documents, Directives and applicable Standards}, of German, EU or international origin.

A certificate must be issued to prove the attribution of the GS mark. See paragraph 2.

In addition to the CE marking, the GS mark guarantees that the product complies with additional rules relative to health and safety at the time of putting the product on the market.

The Laboratoire Central des Industries Electriques (LCIE), in its capacity of Certification Body approved by the **"Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Arbeit"** (Federal Ministry of the Economy and Work) can grant the right to use the GS mark to any applicant meeting the requirements defined below.

In absence of relevant regulations, the LCIE does not deliver the GS Mark.

In the following text, the term "the Mark" indicates the present application of GS Mark.

### **Scope of application**

The product categories object of the GS Mark by LCIE are subject to Appendix 1.

### **Reference Documents**

- The ProdSG law (Product Safety Act) in force
- The document ZEK-GB in force, relative to "the minimum conditions for the granting of the GS Mark"

PAH restriction in material used: AfPS GS in force

## Definitions

1. **"Product"** must be understood in the sense of a "ready-to-use" product, according to the ProdSG law
2. **License Holder:** Legal entity that benefits the right to use the GS Mark, which commits, which accepts responsibility for the maintenance over time that the product will conform with the appropriate requirements, and which submits to all obligations. Therefore, the legal entity that ensures control over its manufacturing (assembly, quality control, marking, packaging) and its marketing channels (traceability). The license holder has the responsibility for compliance with all the requirements defined in the Certification Rules of the GS Mark.
3. **Manufacturer:** Organization, located at one (or more) place(s) given(s), which performs or controls all the steps of design, manufacture, control, handling, storage and marketing of a product.

*Note 1: Applicant and manufacturer are often one and the same entity.*

*Note 2: The idea of manufacturer can also be extended to any applicant of the GS Mark when the responsibility of maintaining, over time, the compliance, remains its responsibility, and when the Certification Body carries out Quality Control operations in the factories.*

4. **Applicant:** It is the legal entity that wishes to obtain the right to use the GS Mark for its own account or on behalf of a third party, for a product or product range and committed itself to quality control of the products. He claims the right to use the mark for one or more factories. Is regarded as factory where the certified product is manufactured and / or assembled. This is also the place where the routine and random tests are conducted on behalf of the license Holder. He signs the commitment letter.  
For the record: The applicants are either suppliers ("first party") and either buyers ("second party").

## 2. The GS - LCIE MARK: METHODS OF MARKING - REFERENCES TO THE MARK - CERTIFICATES

Ali certified products must bear the Mark of Conformity in accordance with appendix 2 of the present Certification Rules, which defines:

- the methods of reproduction of the logotype which must be respected as of the granting of the right to use the Mark;
- the conditions to use the Mark.

### GS Certificate

- The documents used for granting the GS mark must, by principle, be written in German. LCIE accepts the said documents in French or in English. In case of demand from ZLS, the most significant parts are translated in German.
- The LCIE GS Certificate is established in German and English based on the template registered in the DATACERT system.
- The certificate shall indicate the name of the GS Certification Body, the name of the License Holder, the identification of the manufacturer, the number of the certificate, date of issue and signature of the person responsible for granting the certificate, the reference of the product (model), the technical data of the product, the mention that the product complies with the ProdSG law.

- The standards used for delivering the GS mark are indicated with their date of edition on the certificate.  
Duration of validity of the GS certificate is 5 years maximum. It may be limited to a **batch** of a given product. It may be renewed after appropriate examination and documentation, and, when appropriate, a new testing of the product type.
- The License Holder is authorized to use the certified product with the GS Mark, respecting the logo as displayed in Annex 2.
- The GS Mark associated with the LCIE logo may be used by the License Holder as soon as the mark is granted.
- Only certified products may be labelled with the GS Mark.
- Only the Certification Rules for the GS mark by LCIE, and/or the general sales conditions are taken as reference.
- The certificate may be declared not valid or be withdrawn according to ProdSG law.

### **3. OBLIGATIONS TO BE RESPECTED BY THE LICENSE HOLDER**

#### **3.1. The License Holder commits himself to complying with the following:**

- to maintain conformity of the product listed to the Mark to the applicable requirements by provisions of procurement, manufacturing and control bringing a degree of confidence equivalent to that which led to the admission to the Mark;
- to affix the CE marking on the product according to rules, in force, and to designate a representative in European Community in case of need;
- to conform without restriction, nor reserve with the provisions of the present Certification Rules and if necessary, with any applicable specific Certification Documents;
- to authorize access, to its buildings and installations, and to guarantee access to the buildings of the manufacturer of the product if the applicant and the manufacturer are different, to the representatives of the Certification Body or its representative within the frame of the audits and controls of the certified products;
- to accept transmission of the reports relative to control and tests to the ZLS - Zentralstelle der Länder für Sicherheitstechnik, or any other German competent authority;
- to pay all the expenses relating to the attribution and the maintenance of the use of the Mark under the conditions listed in clause 11.

#### **3.2. Particular obligation when of putting into circulation of consumer products**

a) The License Holder, the manufacturer, his representatives and the importers of a consumer product are in the obligation:

-when putting into circulation:

- to make sure that the user receives all necessary information allowing him to judge and to protect himself from the dangers due to the consumer product, dangers being able to occur during the usual or reasonably foreseeable period of utilization, and which without warning are not immediately detectable,
- to clearly identify the name of the manufacturer or his representative in the European Community if he does not elect domicile there, or the name of the importer and his address, on the consumer product or its packing,

- to take the measures adapted to the characteristics of the products they are putting in circulation in order to avoid any danger. These measures can be the recall, partial or complete, of the consumer product, the adequate warnings, and withdrawal, partial or complete, of the products as well.
  - when use of consumer product for which temperature can cause dangers, to carry out random controls on the products, to examine the complaints and to fill a book of complaints so that the people in charge of sales can propose adequate measures
- b) The License Holder, the manufacturer, his representatives and the importers of a product shall immediately inform the relevant authorities according to appendix I of Directive 2001/95/CE if they know or may suppose according to their experience that a consumer product may have consequences on health or safety of the users. They must especially inform about measures which they took to remove this danger.
- c) the retailer must verify that he sells only safe consumer products. Therefore, he should not put on the market product for which he knows or can think according to information he has or from his experience, they do not respect the fundamental requirements mentioned above.

The item b) also applies to a retailer.

#### **4. PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING THE RIGHT TO USE THE GS MARK by LCIE**

The applicant shall fill in the Application Form which is delivered to him by LCIE and address it back to LCIE by joining the technical file mentioned to it.

The application relates to a product designated by its commercial reference and its characteristics. Alternatives and accessories of a basic model, or several different products but being able to be considered as a family of products of identical nature, could however be the subject of only one application.

##### **4.1 Types of applications**

An Application for the right to use can lead to:

- an admission;
- an extension;
- a maintenance;
- a renewal.

An admission results from a request of a manufacturer not having the right to use the Mark for the manufacturing unit concerned for the presented product.

An extension relates to a modified product compared to a basic product of type already listed to the Mark, the validation of the modifications requiring partial tests and checks.

Maintenance relates to a product already listed to the Mark and without change, or a product different from the basic product by aesthetics, by the trademark, modifications or changes not requiring a test or of checking.

A renewal relates to a product listed to the Mark whose period of validity of the right to use (5 years) expires.

## 4.2 Admission

### 4.2.1- General Conditions

Review of the application includes examination of three fundamental requirements:

- the product must be in conformity with the safety and health requirements,
- the product must be in conformity with the usual conditions relative to its putting into circulation,
- the product should not endanger the health and the safety of any user or any third party within the frame of a normal use or a foreseeable misuse.

What result in:

- a. examination of the product characteristics.
- b. examination of the conditions of presentation of the product on the market (including its packaging), its marking, its notes of warning, its instructions, and the data relating to the shut off and all usual information in connection with the product.
- c. The notices and user and installation manuals must be written in German.  
Note: the applicant must provide LCIE with relevant evidence that the German documents are of good editorial and orthographic quality.
- d. examination of the technical file provided by the applicant, allowing to demonstrate that the product is designed and made in respect of the standards and applicable specifications, if available results of control and testing carried out by the producer showing that the product is conform to the quality requirements, etc.  
The document used for granting the GS mark must allow to identify the product and its components unambiguously (by photos, drawings, list of parts, etc.).  
The documentation shall include all evidences that the product complies with the CE marking.  
  
The requestor shall provide any evidence of material conformity to AfPS GS in force PAK requirements, relative to the Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon (PAH) restriction, as applicable.
- e. checking of the product conformity to the technical requirements of safety. It is made of examinations and tests according to standards and applicable reference specifications (see Annex1). The testing reports must make reference to ISO/IEC 17025.
- f. the initial visit of the factory manufacturing the products, to be sure that the general organization, the means of production and control, the organization of quality are likely to guarantee the maintenance of the conformity of the products to the applicable regulations; the visit is performed by auditors/inspectors qualified by LCIE and submitted to professional secrecy. At the time of this visit, the auditors/inspectors of LCIE take, whenever necessary, at the end of the production line or on stock the necessary samples to controls and tests;  
The inspector takes into consideration the controls of the products (i.e. individual testing in mass production, statistical controls, in-process controls), and/or the provisions of quality assurance for the product or the production.

The visit is made on the following:

- technical equipment,
- allocation of personnel,
- manufacturing process,
- incoming inspection,

particular requirements specific to the product, including packaging, notices and manuals in German, usage of the GS logo, designation of the product type, designation and address of the manufacturer, and similar mentions.



The manufacturer shall put in place incoming control and final control of the product for being granted with the GS mark.

- g. Verification that the product has not been concerned by a withdrawn certificate, emitted by another GS Certification Body, for safety or lack of compliance to the GS rules.

#### **4.2.2- Decision of certification**

The conclusions resulting from the report of audit and the report of examination and tests are taken into account for the decision of certification. The reports are provided to the applicant.

The right to use the Mark is granted by the General Manager of the LCIE or its proxy.

The authorization to use the Mark is unseizable and inalienable.

When there are several manufacturing units within the same company, the benefit of the Mark is granted individually to each unit, even if the concerned products are identical.

#### **4.2.3- Particular Conditions for the initial factory inspection**

##### **a) Manufacturer already being granted with a GS certificate**

A GS certificate has already be delivered to the manufacturer by the same GS Certification Body for a similar product of the same family of products, produced in the same workshops, and the inspection report already established does not mention any defect, then this inspection report may be used as a valid document for the initial visit.

##### **b) Product already granted to the GS mark by another GS Certification Body**

Admission may be granted for a product already GS Certified by another GS Certification Body, or for a similar product of the same category of products, after examination and acceptance of the admission documentation of the GS CB who has issued the following documents for having confirmation that the documents are up-to-date and valid (the existing GS certificate, the full Test Reports corresponding to the product and the last Factory Inspection Report) and examination of a sample of the product, notice and manuals.

For that purpose, the Factory Inspection Report taken into account has to be dated less than 6 months. The next Factory assessment shall take place at the anniversary date of the previous Factory Inspection, in such a way the frequency of visit stays annual. If the Factory Inspection report is dated beyond 6 months, a new Inspection shall be carried out in the frame of the admission process.

In case of need, the Certification Officer can decide to proceed to complementary verification (partial or complete test programs, factory inspection, etc.).

##### **c) Factory Inspection already performed in the frame of another conformity mark**

The initial visit may be omitted when the factory is already known from the Certification Body in the frame of another mark of conformity (NF mark for instance) provided that:

- the product to be certified to GS is similar to the product already certified to another mark
- the Factory Inspection report is dated less than 6 months

- the information available in the Factory Inspection Report is complete for GS

#### **4.3 Request of extension, maintenance, renewal**

At the time of examination of the application and according to the nature and the range of this one, the LCIE determines whether whole or part of the services described in clause 4.2 are to be realized.

For the requests for extension or maintenance not requiring issuance of a new authorization, the conclusions resulting from examination are the subject of a notification of extension or maintenance.

Renewal of the right to use the Mark:

At the end of the period of validity, the certificate can be renewed only once without new tests being carried out, provided that

- the reference documents have not changed
- the concerned product has not been changed
- the conditions of production have not been modified.

The renewal requires the issuance of a new authorization to use the Mark.

### **5. ORGANIZATIONS INTERVENING DURING THE PROCEDURE OF AGREEMENT AND RENEWAL OF THE RIGHT TO USE THE MARK**

#### **5.1- Competent Authority**

The ZLS - Zentralstelle der Lander für Sicherheitstechnik, central office of Lander for the engineering of safety, is the proper authority on all the German territory.

##### **Zentralstelle der Lander für Sicherheitstechnik**

im Bayerischen Staatsministerium für Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz (StMUV)

Rosenkavalierplatz 2, 81925 München

Deutschland

The ZEK Committees (Zentraler Erfahrungsaustauschkreis = central forum of exchange of experience), EK1 (low voltage electric equipment) and EK9 (machines) are made of representatives coming from all the GS Certification Bodies, and issue some decisions which must be respected and taken into account in the product testing programs.

#### **5.2- Certification Body approved by ZLS**

LABORATOIRE CENTRAL DES INDUSTRIES ELECTRIQUES (LCIE)

Direction of the Certification

33 avenue du Général Leclerc,

F-92266 Fontenay-aux-Roses Cedex (France)

Tel: +33 1 40 95 60 60

LCIE France, authorized organization by ZLS, is responsible for all the operations of management and implementation of the certification process within the frame of its authorization.

### **Main functions assumed by the LCIE France**

LCIE France has the responsibility of:

- preparation, drafting and approval of the Certification Rules defining the procedures of evaluation and control of conformity to the standards, in particular the requirements relating to the control by the manufacturer of the quality of the products;
- examination of the applications of right to use the Mark, issuance of the certificate of authorization to use the Mark, issuance of the test results and certificates;
- relationship with the manufacturers, in particular for the control of the correct use of the Mark;
- checking of the product conformity to the technical requirements of safety. It is made by examinations and tests according to standards and applicable reference specifications (see Annex1)
- realization of the initial audits/inspections;
- realization of the surveillance audits/inspections, scheduled or unannounced;
- information on the certified products for the urgent requests from the market;
- to maintain up-dating of information about possible change of regulations and technical rules when applicable;
- to inform ZLS immediately in case of significant change of the conditions requested to grant the GS mark, such as change of the management of the testing and certification management, or organization change which can impact its independence;
- to evaluate conformity of the product exclusively on the basis of test reports issued by laboratories recognized by ZLS and accreditation bodies (COFRAC), under the reserve that LCIE shall verify close to the GS Body who has delivered the report that the report is at the last issue and valid. Those labs shall communicate to ZLS the names and addresses of labs that carry out partial testing.
- to take into account the ZEK (Zentraler Erfahrungsaustauschkreis = Central Forum for exchange of experience) Committee decision;
- to participate to the professional experience exchange in the EK1 / EK9 Committees;
- to keep at least 10 years the documents relative to testing and certification, after expiration of the validity period of the certificates concerned.

### **5.3. "GS Partner Laboratories" of LCIE France**

Sub-contracting the testing activity is possible according to the provision of ZEK-GB in force for granting or maintaining surveillance of the GS Mark, under the control of the Certification Body.

The « Partner » Laboratories must be authorized by ZLS and must demonstrate the following to the Certification Body:

- their competency in the technical domain of testing in cause.
- their accreditation to the ISO/CEI 17025

They accept that the GS Certification Body, the ZLS representatives may control them and review documents used for granting the GS Mark. They accept to follow the GS Certification Body, the ZLS or the local accreditation body decisions.

The IECEE CTF1 (TMP) procedure is accepted. The CTF2 (WMT) and CTF3 (SMT) procedures are forbidden.

The certification operation remains of the responsibility of the Certification Body.  
The GS Certification Body is responsible to maintain surveillance over the Partner Lab.

#### **5.4. Authorized Factory Inspection Body**

The Factory Inspections and control on the market are performed by the LCIE France or under its responsibility by Authorized Factory Inspection Bodies.

The Factory Inspections can be also sub-contracted to foreign Third Party bodies, after signature of a co-operation contract between the parties.

### **6. DECISION FOLLOWING A REQUEST FOR GRANTING THE RIGHT TO USE THE MARK**

#### **6.1 Nature of the decisions**

The instruction of an application may be concluded by one of the following decisions:

- Agreement to grant the right to use the Mark;
- Refusal to grant the right to use the Mark,
- Postponement of the decision for a complement of assessment.

The decisions are enforceable as from their notification.

#### **6.2 Validity of the right to use the Mark**

The period of validity of the Certificate is normally **5 years**. It cannot be increased. It can be reduced, in particular, in the event of fraud, of non-conforming product or standard withdrawn for safety reasons, or **end of validity of a standard edition**. The certificate may be also limited to a **batch** of products.

The Mark is affixed on the product under the responsibility for the "License Holder", once the authorization of use is received from the LCIE.

In any case the Mark cannot be affixed when:

- the product is not manufactured any more in conformity with the provisions of the present Certification rules;
- the right to use the Mark was withdrawn.

Affixing the Mark on a product will never, in no instance, substitute the guarantee of the LCIE to the one that is of the "License Holder responsibility".

### **6.3 Publication of information**

LCIE makes publicly available on its website a database with all certified products and their main characteristics.

All information written on the GS License may be made publicly available.

## **7. SURVEILLANCE OF THE CONFORMITY OF PRODUCT LISTED TO THE MARK**

### **7.1 Surveillance conducted by the LCIE**

Surveillance is conducted by the LCIE France as of the granting of the right to use the Mark.

The control of the use of the Mark has the aim of checking:

- that the marketed product is in conformity with that for which the right to use the Mark was granted;
- that the applicant maintains the provisions relating to the internal audit of conformity for the concerned product;
- generally, that the "License Holder" respects the obligations to which it committed formally.

In the event of irregularity, the LCIE France makes a decision in accordance with clause 8 of the Certification Rules.

Moreover LCIE France reserves the right to perform any visits, or to carry out or to make carried out all tests which it considers necessary following complaints, disputes, litigations, etc... of which it could be informed and related to the use of the Mark.

LCIE France reserves the possibility to carry out controls of batch whenever declared necessary.

#### **Factory Inspection**

The surveillance consists of audits in manufacturing units (or distribution ones), notably, control of the production conditions, inspection and tests of the certified products. Samples may be picked for examination and tests of conformity of the product, and any other check allowing to ensure the respect of the commitments taken.

If sub-assemblies are assembled in other workshops, and if it does not exist an effective incoming control of those sub-assemblies, then the GS Certification Body shall perform surveillance provisions for those sub-assemblies.

#### **Frequency of the visits**

For a License Holder obtaining a GS certificate for the very first time, frequency of the visits is basically annual.

Frequency may be increased according to the manufacturer, the production and the product. intervals of time between the control provisions are determined at the granting of the GS mark. In any case, the decision is documented.

**Selection of samples for control**

The sampling of products for control may be requested by the Certification Body, for purposes of testing of the critical points. Extent of the testing program or frequency of sampling can be modified by the LCIE according to the results obtained by the previous controls.

If the product is certified to several Marks managed by LCIE, the sampling may be unique for all the marks. A unique testing program may be carried out, taking into account the GS specificities and the results of testing apply to all Marks.

**Stricter surveillance**

If a stricter surveillance for protecting the GS Mark is decided, based on the GS Certification Body experience, publication relative to the product, or from any other source of information (including for instance from the authorities controlling the market, etc.), the following points are applied:

- in addition to the periodic control of the workshops, the GS Certification Body performs a control of the final product or examination of a pre-shipment inspection,  
And
- the GS Certification Body performs quarterly effective controls of the workshops or in- process control during which some samples are picked for testing. When 4 successive controls are without non conformity relative to safety of the product, the frequency of inspection returns to annual.

**Batch Control**

When the production is made only at certain period of time, surveillance is performed by a batch control.

The GS certificate is then delivered for the lot. This inspection may be performed under the form of pre-shipment inspection, in-process inspection or testing of the product at destination.

### **Sub-contracted Manufacturing**

The GS Certification Body keeps the responsibility to guarantee quality of sub-contracted manufacturing operations, by any means adapted to the surveillance.

### **Provisions in case of defects revealed during inspection**

The verifications performed for the surveillance of the production are documented in the inspection reports (i.e. CIG-023 report template).

- in case of small defects (case n°2 of the CIG-023), the manufacturer defines and implement Corrective Actions which are controlled during the next inspection,
- in case of more serious defects (case n°3 of the CIG-023), the Corrective Action plan is engaged by the manufacturer, with implementation within 2 months' time frame. If the improvement actions are not performed or are not efficient, the GS Certification Body decides about the provisions corresponding to the defects impacting safety (case n°4 of the CIG-023),
- in case of defects impacting safety (case n°4 of the CIG-023), improvement is required under 1 week. If the actions are not performed or are not efficient, the GS certificate is suspended until the situation becomes acceptable again. The suspension may be of 3 months maximum. If the situation is not corrected the GS certificate is withdrawn.
- In case of severe defects having possibly an impact on the safety of the consumer or user, or in case the inspection visit is refused by the factory, the corresponding GS certificate is withdrawn. The information is made publicly available (blacklist) and also directly transmitted to German Authorities and to the other GS Approved Certification Bodies. The license holder is asked to remove from the Market all concerned products already dispatched.

The Inspection body is responsible to check implementation of the Corrective Actions in due time.

### **7.2 Controls conducted by the License Holder**

The License Holder of the Mark is committed to conduct in the manufacture of product bearing the Mark, a regular control in accordance with the obligations as per clause 3 of the Rules.

### **7.3 Control requested during the process of complaint**

In the event of litigation with users, controls may include sampling or tests on the spot of use of the certified products (in this case, the License Holder is invited to be, present or be represented to attend to the sampling and the tests).

### **7.4 Results within the framework of the surveillance**

The audits/inspections or controls carried out are summarized in audit reports and test reports.

## **8. DECISIONS WITHIN THE FRAME OF THE SURVEILLANCE**

On the basis of result of the visits of the testing and manufacturing unit, the LCIE notifies one of the following decisions:

- a) Maintenance of the right to use the Mark;
- b) Suspension of the right to use the Mark;
- c) Withdrawal of the right to use the Mark.

In the case of the decisions b) and c), the additional expenses of checks decided by the LCIE are the responsibility of the License Holder, whatever their results, as well as the expenses of tests in the taken samples whose results are non-conforming.

The withdrawal can be pronounced for one of the following causes:

- no respect of the obligations described in the present Certification rules and accepted at the time of the request for admission by the License Holder,
- improper use of the Mark,
- fraud, deception
- non-payment of the expenses connected with the attribution or the maintenance of the Mark.

The decision is executive as of its notification.

The License Holder can contest the decision in accordance with clause 9.2 of the Rules.

## **9. INFRINGEMENT TO THE LAW RELATIVE TO THE SAFETY OF PRODUCT AND EQUIPMENT**

When a GS certificate is withdrawn following a defective production or other severe infringement, a new demand of GS certificate is conducted as an initial demand, with stricter surveillance the first year.

In case of repetitive infringement, the GS certificate will not be granted anymore to the concerned manufacturer.

ZLS is informed, like other GS Certification Bodies.

### **9.1. Improper use of the Mark**

Are considered as improper uses:

- any affixing of the Mark by a person or company not having received the right to use the Mark,
- any affixing of the Mark on a product other than that the one for which it was delivered,
- any affixing or maintenance of the Mark on a modified product, without prior authorization,



- any selling or selling attempt of a marked product after cancellation or withdrawal of the right to use the Mark,
- any publicity likely to create ambiguity between the product covered by the Mark and those which are not certified,
- in general, all acts related to the Mark likely to mislead a third party.

LCIE shall inform ZLS of any improper use of the Mark when known.

In accordance with its internal procedures, LCIE takes the suitable actions following the improper use of GS Mark.

## **9.2. Contesting a decision - Appeal**

The applicant or the License Holder can contest a decision.

The delay to make an appeal against any decision of the LCIE is 15 days. Appeals are treated by LCIE France; the last authority is the Committee of Certification of LCIE which is composed of manufacturers, users and state representatives.

Appeals do not have a suspensive effect.

## **10. PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE LICENCE HOLDER IN THE EVENT OF MODIFICATION OF THE CONDITIONS HAVING AN INFLUENCE ON THE OBTENTION OF THE MARK AND RESULTING DECISIONS**

Any modification in the conditions of the admission of the Mark must be announced in writing by the License Holder.

### **10.1 - Modification concerning the License Holder**

The License Holder must announce in writing to the LCIE any legal modification concerning his company or any change of corporate name.

In the event of fusion, liquidation or absorption of the License Holder, all the rights to use the Mark could have been granted automatically cease.

### **10.2 - Modification concerning the manufacturing unit**

Any transfer (total or partial) of the manufacturing unit of a certified product in another place of work unknown to LCIE for this type of product involves an immediate suspension of the right to use the Mark for the transferred products.

The License Holder must declare this transfer in writing to the LCIE which will organize a visit of the new site of manufacture and, if necessary, may decide to conduct necessary testing.

The LCIE issues a new certificate after examination that is charged to the License Holder.

### **10.3 - Modification concerning the quality organization of the manufacturing unit**

The License Holder must declare in writing to LCIE any modification related to his quality organization likely to affect the conformity of the production to the requirements of the Certification Rules and his appendices. In particular, any modification concerning installations, quality plans must be declared.

He must in particular declare any modification of certification of his Quality Management System.

Any temporary suspension of internal audit of a certified product involves an immediate suspension of the right to use this one.

### **10.4 - Modification concerning the certified product**

Any modification of the certified product defined in appendix 1 must be declared in writing to LCIE, which according to nature and the range of the modification and after instruction decides the maintenance, the suspension or the withdrawal of the right to use the Mark.

Any final cessation of manufacture of a certified product or any abandon of a right to use the Mark must be declared in writing to the LCIE which will proceed with the withdrawal of the right to use the Mark.

LCIE France informs ZLS about the estimated duration needed by the License Holder for the final reduction of stocks of certified products.

## **11. FINANCIAL CONDITIONS**

The expenses related to the examination of the applications of admission and control of the Mark are the subject of an offer established pursuant to the tariffs in force with LCIE.

The expenses are to be settled with LCIE, by the applicants and the recipients of the Mark, in accordance with the rules specified in the offer. The signature of the request form of the right to use the Mark means acceptance of this offer.

These expenses are established as follows:

#### **For the admission**

The expenses include:

- Expenses for admission for certification,
- Expenses for the tests and examination of the product,
- Expenses for the initial visit of the production site (audit/inspection/checking),
- Expenses for the translation review of notices and user and installation manuals in German language,
- Expenses for issuing certificates.

In the case of the instruction of an application for admission, the whole of the expenses is to be covered by the applicant, whatever the result of these operations is.

**For the surveillance of the Mark**

The expenses include:

- expenses for follow-up of the file,
- in the case maybe, the expenses for the extension or changes of the certified products range,
- expenses for the tests and examination of the product, - expenses for the audit/inspection and checking in factory,
- annual expenses for the Mark management related to the right to use the mark (right of user, reporting to ZLS, follow-up of EK1/EK9 documents and meetings, support of ZLS audit, administration of possible complaints, surveillance of the market by picking- up samples, tests and decision),
- expenses for promotion of the Mark, in Europe and out of Europe,
- in the case maybe, expenses for specific study or settlement of supplementary specific documents.

Within the framework of the follow-up actions, the whole of the expenses is to be settled by the License Holder, whatever the result of these operations.

If the results of follow-up reveal the need for additional operations, the applicant is informed about them so that he can agree with the complement of expenses to be charged to him, and if necessary about the corresponding delays.

In case the License Holder doesn't pay any invoice regarding surveillance items, the relevant services are considered as not executed and the corresponding licenses are withdrawn, then an information is made to German Authorities and other GS Approved Certification Bodies.

**12. COMPLAINT RECORDS**

The License Holder of the right to use of GS Mark must:

- keep a record of any complaint in connection with the conformity of a product to the requirements of the relevant standard and to make available this record to the organization of certification upon request,
- take appropriate measures following such complaints or concerning any defect noted in a product which would affect its conformity with the requirements of certification,
- document correctives actions undertaken.

This record must be made available to the auditor/inspector at the time of the visits.

**13. APPROVAL- REVISION**

The Rules (and its appendices) were adopted by the President of LCIE on June 16<sup>th</sup> 2020.

It can be revised by LCIE France according to its initiative or according evolutions or modifications of the German Regulation. The revision must be approved by the President of LCIE.

**APPENDIX 1****SCOPE**

Any right to use the GS Mark of LCIE is granted on the basis of conformity to one (or more) DIN / EN standard(s) and/or specification(s) accepted(\*) by the LCIE, and applicable to a product/range of products belonging to one of the categories listed below.

This product/range of product comes from an identified manufacturer for one or several manufacturing units declared and recognized by the LCIE.

**SCOPE: PRODUCTS/RANGE OF PRODUCTS CONCERNED BY THE APPLICATION**

In case of certification to the Mark of a range of products, the program of the tests and checks will take into account similarities

Categories of the products for which the GS Mark may be granted by LCIE is delivered on request.

## **APPENDIX2**

### **CONDITIONS OF MARKING - REFERENCES TO THE GS MARK**

#### **GRAPHIC CHARTER OF THE GS MARK**

##### **REPRODUCTION OF THE LOGO OF THE GS - LCIE MARK ON THE PRODUCT**

The logotype must be affixed in a durable and readable way on each admitted product, in a place where it is not likely to be deteriorated.

All the equipment for which the Mark of safety is used, must bear the trade mark of the company, as declared with the LCIE.

Marking must be carried out in accordance with the below defined graphic charter.

Note: the realization of the logo by engraving, stamping on a principal part of the material is accepted.

##### **DESCRIPTION OF THE MARK**

The GS Mark is materialized by the following logotype affixed on each product admitted according to the safety requirements specific to the product: any homothetic transformation of this logotype is accepted.

As per the ZLS / BaUa acceptance on 06/02/2008



##### **CONDITIONS OF DEMARKING**

Any suspension and any withdrawal of the right to use the GS - LCIE Mark involves prohibition to use and to refer the GS Mark.

When a certified product appears to be non-conforming with the requirements, the License Holder shall take any measures necessary so that the demarking is carried out at in any place where it is there referred to.