



**IECEX 02**

Edition 4.0 2010-08

# **IECEX PUBLICATION**

**IEC System for Certification to Standards relating to Equipment for use  
in Explosive Atmospheres (IECEX System)**

---

**IECEX Certified Equipment Scheme covering equipment for use in explosive  
atmospheres – Rules of Procedure**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

PRICE CODE

**ZZ**

---

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
INTRODUCTION.....	4
Overview for issuing IECEX Certificates of Conformity, ExTRs and QARs .....	6
1 Scope.....	7
2 Normative references .....	7
3 Definitions .....	7
4 Governing of the IECEX Certified Equipment Scheme.....	10
5 Principles of the IECEX Certified Equipment Scheme.....	10
6 Confidentiality .....	12
7 Participating countries .....	12
8 IECEX instruments.....	13
9 Procedure to issue an IECEX Certificate of Conformity .....	16
10 Acceptance of ExTRs and QARs for national certification .....	18
11 Acceptance of certification bodies and testing laboratories .....	19
12 IECEX publications .....	24
13 Complaints .....	25
Annex A Application from a candidate Member Body of the IECEX System to become a participating country in the IECEX Certified Equipment Scheme .....	26
Annex B Declaration by a certification body applying to become an Ex Certification Body to operate within the IECEX Certified Equipment Scheme .....	27
Annex C Declaration by a testing laboratory applying to become an IECEX Testing Laboratory .....	28
Annex D Additional information to be provided by a testing laboratory in applying for acceptance as an ExTL .....	29
Application for assessment to become a testing laboratory .....	35

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**IECEX Certified Equipment Scheme covering equipment  
for use in explosive atmospheres –****Rules of Procedure**

## FOREWORD

The IECEX Management Committee (ExMC) has prepared this publication.

All of the annexes to this publication are normative.

This publication is directly related to Publication IECEX 01 containing the Basic Rules of the IECEX Certification System.

This edition of IECEX 02 takes effect immediately upon publication.

The text of this publication is based on the following documents:

<b>Document</b>	<b>Report on Voting/Acceptance</b>
ExMC/542/CD	ExMC/571A/RM

This edition of the Rules of Procedure was approved for publication during the 2009 ExMC Melbourne meeting. Full information on the approval of this publication can be found in the documents indicated in the above table.

## INTRODUCTION

The IECEX is a single global certification framework based on IEC International Standards. It caters for countries whose national standards are either identical to those of the IEC or else very close to IEC Standards. The IECEX is truly global in concept and practice, reduces trade barriers caused by different conformity assessment criteria in various countries, and helps industry to open up new markets. The goal is to help manufacturers reduce costs and time while developing and maintaining uniform product evaluation to protect users against products that are not in line with the required level of safety.

The aim of the IECEX System and its Schemes is to ease international trade of Explosion Protected Equipment (termed Ex equipment) by eliminating the need for duplication of testing and certification, while preserving safety. IECEX operates as an International Certification System covering products and services associated with the Ex industries.

### **Where do you commonly find Ex equipment?**

Flammable gases, vapours and mists, as well as combustible dusts create potentially explosive atmospheres. Ex equipment in such areas include:

- Automotive refuelling stations or petrol stations
- Oil refineries, rigs and processing plants
- Oil and gas tankers, drilling ships and FPSO (Floating Production Storage Offloading vessels)
- Chemical processing plants
- Printing industries, paper and textiles
- Hospital operating theatres
- Aircraft refuelling and hangars
- Surface coating industries
- Underground coal mines
- Sewerage treatment plants
- Gas pipelines and distribution centres
- Grain handling and storage and processing (flour-milling industry)
- Woodworking areas
- Sugar refineries
- Light metal working, where metal dust and fine particles can appear

### **IECEX options**

The IECEX Certified Equipment Scheme provides both:

- 1) A single global Certificate of Conformity, that requires manufactures to successfully complete:
  - Testing and assessment of product samples for compliance with IEC Standards
  - Assessment and auditing of manufacturing premises
  - On-going surveillance audits of manufacturing premises
- 2) A “fast track” process for countries where regulations still require the issuing of national Ex certification or approval by way of global acceptance of international IECEX product test and assessment reports (ExTR).

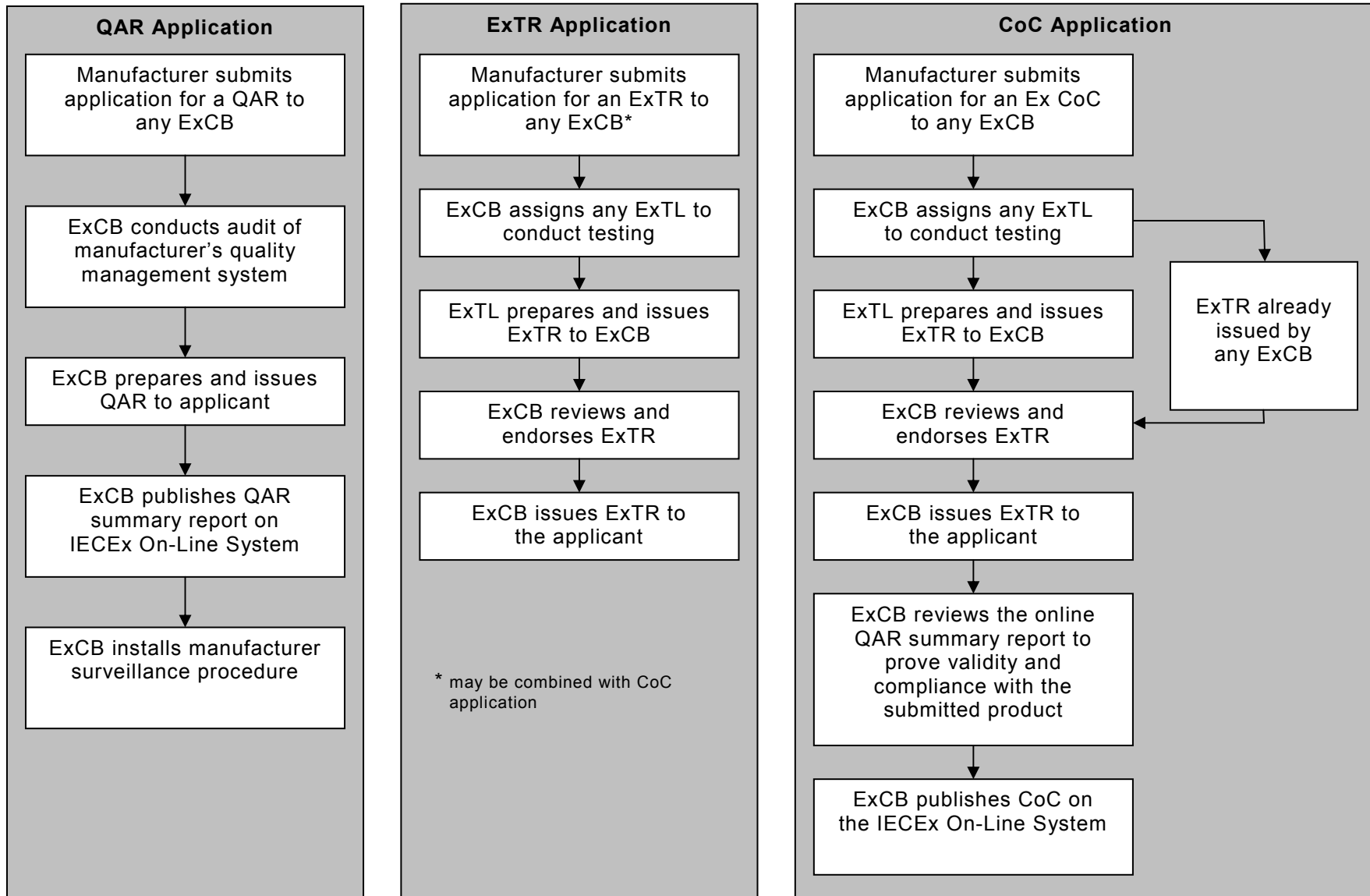
**IECEX credibility**

IECEX accepts the participation of Ex Certification Bodies and Ex Test Laboratories only after successful completion of the IECEX assessment process, which also includes on-going surveillance. Each Ex candidate Certification Body and Testing Laboratory is subjected to the same IECEX assessment process utilizing the internationally established ISO/IEC Standards and Guides on conformity assessment supplemented with the IECEX Technical Guidance Documents with world experts in the field of explosion protection being appointed as IECEX Assessors.

**More information**

Further information is available from the IECEX website: [www.iecex.com](http://www.iecex.com), (containing free copies of the IECEX Rules and Procedures), from any of the IECEX Certification Bodies or directly from the IECEX Secretariat via the coordinates shown on the IECEX website.

## Overview for issuing IECEx Certificates of Conformity, ExTRs and QARs



# IECEX Certified Equipment Scheme covering equipment for use in explosive atmospheres –

## Rules of Procedure

### 1 Scope

This publication contains the Rules of Procedure of the IECEX Scheme, hereinafter referred to as the "Rules", for the certification of equipment which is intended for use in explosive atmospheres and which complies with one or more International Standards that define the types of protection against causing an explosion (IECEX Certified Equipment Scheme).

A list of current Standards in use is published on the IECEX website: [www.iecex.com](http://www.iecex.com).

These Rules relate to the Basic Rules of the IECEX System, as given in Publication IECEX 01.

Rules covering the IECEX Certified Service Facilities Scheme and the IECEX Certification of Personal Competencies Scheme are given in Publications IECEX 03 and IECEX 05 respectively.

NOTE The IECEX Certified Equipment Scheme is applicable to equipment conforming to International Standards.

### 2 Normative references

The following publications contain provisions, which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of these Rules. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. The Ex Management Committee shall decide the timetable for the introduction of revised editions of the publications.

IECEX 01: 2008, *IEC System for Certification to Standards relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmospheres (IECEX System) – Basic Rules*

ISO/IEC Guide 2: 2004, *Standardization and related activities – General vocabulary*

ISO/IEC Guide 65: 1996, *General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems*

ISO 9001: 2008, *Quality management systems – Requirements*

ISO/IEC 17025: 2005, *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories*