WHAT CERTIFICATION DOES MY PRODUCT NEED?

RACS

A practical guide to **SASO**, **G-Mark**, **SFDA**, **ECAS** and **EQM**



REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

MARKET ACCESS

SAFETY & TRUST

ASSURED QUALITY

GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

SASO

Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (**SASO**) is the national authority responsible for the development of technical standards and regulations for a wide range of products commercialized in Saudi Arabia.

Many regulated products must demonstrate their conformity with the requirements established by SASO before they can be placed on the market in the country.



SASO TYPICALLY APPLIES TO:

- Electrical products
- Construction materials
- Chemical products
- Industrial equipment
- Regulated consumer products

IMPORTANT TO KNOW:

- **SASO** establishes the technical requirements.
- Many certification processes are managed through the **SABER** platform.
- Requirements vary depending on the product category.



G-MARK

The Gulf Conformity Mark **(G-Mark)** is a GCC standardization scheme for certain regulated products marketed in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.

Its objective is to harmonize technical requirements among member states and facilitate the free movement of products within the region.



COUNTRIES WHERE IT APPLIES

- Saudi Arabia
- United Arab Emirates
- Kuwait
- Qatar
- Oman
- Bahrain

SOME PRODUCTS THAT MAY REQUIRE G-MARK INCLUDE:

- Toys.
- Low voltage electrical equipment.
- Other products subject to GCC technical regulations.

IMPORTANT TO KNOW

- Not all products destined for GCC countries require G-Mark. Its application depends on the corresponding technical regulation.
- Many certification processes are managed through the SABER platform.
- Requirements vary depending on the product category.

SFDA

The Saudi Food and Drug Authority **(SFDA)** is the regulatory body responsible for ensuring the safety, quality and efficacy of products that impact human health in Saudi Arabia.

Its mission is to **protect and promote public health** by regulating products through effective standards, compliance, and vigilance.

SFDA REGULATES:

- Pharmaceuticals
- Medical devices
- Cosmetics
- Food products
- Dietary supplements
- Tobacco products



KEY OBJECTIVES

- Ensure product safety and quality
- Support innovation and health sector development
- Enhance compliance and build public trust

All regulated products must obtain **SFDA approval** before being placed on the market in Saudi Arabia.

ECAS vs EQM

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COMPLIANT

Although both schemes are related to the United Arab Emirates, they have different purposes.

ECAS

The Emirates Conformity Assessment Scheme (ECAS) is a conformity assessment program that demonstrates that a product complies with the technical requirements established by the regulations of the United Arab Emirates.

It is commonly used to obtain the necessary approval before placing certain products on the market.



EQM

The Emirates Quality Mark (EQM) is a quality mark granted to products and manufacturers that demonstrate continuous compliance with the applicable requirements.

In addition to evaluating the product, this scheme may include factory audits and ongoing surveillance activities.

MAIN DIFFERENCES

ECAS		EQM
Product certification		Quality mark
Initial assessment		Continuous assessment
Applies to regulated products		Includes manufacturer supervision
Regulatory requirement in many cases		Demonstrates a higher commitment to quality

HALAL CERTIFICATION

Halal certification guarantees that products comply with the requirements of Islamic Law (Sharia) and are suitable for consumption by Muslims.

It is internationally recognized and increasingly in demand in global markets.

WHAT DOES A HALAL PRODUCT MEAN?

A halal product must:

- Not contain any ingredients prohibited by Islamic Law.
- Be properly processed, stored and transported in accordance with HALAL principles.
- Comply with strict standards of hygiene, quality and traceability.

BENEFITS OF HALAL CERTIFICATION

- Access to markets with a large Muslim population.
- Increased consumer confidence.
- Competitive advantage and greater global acceptance.
- Compliance with religious and legal requirements.

HALAL CERTIFICATION PROCESS

1 APPLICATION
The manufacturer submits the required documentation.

2 DOCUMENT REVIEW
The documents and ingredients of the product are reviewed.

3 AUDIT (IF APPLICABLE)
On-site evaluation to verify production processes and facilities.

4 EVALUATION AND APPROVAL
The results are evaluated and the certification decision is made.

5 CERTIFICATE ISSUANCE
The HALAL certificate is issued and authorizes its use.

IMPORTANT
Certification requirements may vary depending on the certifying body and the destination market.