



F.A.O.: All CCQS Existing Certificate Holders

Advance Renewal of Certificates

Regarding the renewal of certificates and whether a renewed certificate may be issued in advance of the expiry date of the current certificate:

In principle, a renewal certificate may be issued before the current certificate expires, provided that the applicable renewal assessment has been completed and the certification requirements continue to be satisfied. Where a renewal certificate is issued in advance, its effective validity period may commence immediately following the expiry of the current certificate. This provides continuity of certification without creating an unnecessary overlap between the validity periods of the existing and renewed certificates or reducing the overall renewed certification period.

Certificate holders are encouraged to initiate renewal activities sufficiently in advance of the certificate expiry date to allow the assessment to be completed before the existing certificate expires. Commencing the renewal process approximately six months before expiry is recommended.

CCQS recognises that manufacturers may have commercial reasons for completing renewal in advance. Where a certificate has 6–8 months of remaining validity, customers, distributors, or other interested parties may request evidence that certification will continue beyond the current expiry date.

In such circumstances, where the renewal assessment and certification decision have been satisfactorily completed, CCQS may issue the renewed certificate in advance, with the new validity period commencing immediately following expiry of the current certificate. This allows the certificate holder to demonstrate that renewal has been completed while maintaining continuity between the two certification periods.

Important: The renewed certificate shall not become valid or effective until the expiry date of the current certificate. The current certificate therefore remains the applicable certificate until its stated expiry date. The renewed certificate should not be used, presented, or represented as evidence of current certification before its effective date. In particular, it should not be used in a manner that could suggest that the renewed certification has already entered into force or that it supersedes the current certificate before its expiry date. The renewed certificate is subject to the applicable requirements in force at the time of renewal. Any subsequent changes to the applicable standard(s), Recommendations for Use (RfUs), regulatory requirements, or recognised state of the art may affect the validity of the certificate and may require additional assessment, testing, or other action to maintain certification.

Kind regards,
CCQS Certification Team



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