

Regulatory Alert – South Africa

ICASA has released Notice 248 of 2017, regarding equipment to be exempt from Type Approval in South Africa

Following PCS' Regulatory Alert dated 6th October 2016, the *Independent Communications Authority of South Africa* (ICASA) has released a notice communicating its current position on equipment Type Approval exemption in South Africa.

This document expands on the discussion document drafted by ICASA last year and acknowledges the proposals put forward by industry at the public hearings which were held by ICASA in December 2016. For the full document detailing the proposals and considerations, please [click here](#).

In summary ICASA advise that no exemption will be granted on the basis of the type of equipment. Instead, they will develop a framework for the exemption of equipment operating under certain circumstances such as equipment which is destined for research and development in a laboratory setting, satellite communications equipment, sample testing equipment, and amateur radio equipment. A full list can be found in annex 1 of this alert.

ICASA will also consider entering into and amending MoUs with relevant regulatory bodies such as, but not limited to, CAA, SAMSA, and NRCS.

ICASA will also review their current Type Approval Framework and work towards a multi-level Conformity Assessment Framework. They also indicate that this broader framework will incorporate the circumstances under which MRA's may be entered into.

PCS will continue to monitor all developments regarding this topic, and will keep customers updated accordingly.

For additional information regarding this alert, please contact:

Sarah Thalmessinger

Product Compliance Specialists

Email: sarah@productcompliancespecialists.com

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Annex 1:

Table 1: Circumstances

Equipment Category	Description
Systems and equipment used for the production and distribution of broadcast and content services	All equipment in studios and production facilities that interfaces with the production environment and is under the control and operated by engineering professionals.
Test and measurement equipment	Any test and measurement equipment used by professionals and engineers of a licensed entity in the provision of telecommunications or broadcast services
satellite communications equipment	for temporal and/or limited area use only
Equipment for research and development in a laboratory environment	
Equipment for demonstrations of prototypes and testing	
Equipment for sample testing, demonstrations and field trials.	
Equipment for demonstrations and exhibition.	
Equipment for operations of specialised agencies	
Equipment for maritime or aeronautical operations	
Radio telescope receivers, calibration and test equipment.	
Radio telescope array and radio astronomy facilities	
Amateur radios	
Equipment used by Government Services	Used for national security and defence networks.
Equipment produced or imported for the purposes of exporting.	Not for use in South Africa
Spare parts, components to be used for repairs	Provided such part is used in a certified product