

Is it possible to include CB test reports and test reports of other GS-Bodies (submitted from the manufacturer or another testing laboratory) for granting of the GS Mark?

1. CB test reports submitted by the manufacturer:

The principles of the ZEK-GB-2000-01 are relevant for the inclusion of test reports submitted by the manufacturer:

Reports that are submitted by the manufacturer may be accepted under application of the following criteria. The recognition has to be limited as a principle to tests and test reports that can be performed and evaluated easily and for which ambiguous test results usually can be excluded. The authorized body (GS Body) shall perform the majority of the required tests itself, or through subcontracting (whereby the order is issued by the GS Body).

The use of a CB test report which covers the majority of the testing and which is submitted by the manufacturer or another laboratory is not acceptable for granting of the GS-Mark, as the above mentioned principle has to be met in the first place.

The CB Scheme is regulated in document ZEK-GB-2002-01 only. This Basic Decision (GB) regulates the requirements and choices for subcontracting to test laboratories (see 2).

2. Test reports of another GS Body submitted by the manufacturer:

Based on the recognition by the ZLS it is possible - in case of a test report by another GS-Body (Body A) - to accept the report even if it is submitted by the manufacturer and it covers the majority of the tests. In this case all necessary documents (they are called "test report" from here on) including the measurement and test results have to be submitted to the accepting ("second") GS-Body (Body B).

The test report submitted by the manufacturer may be used only if Body B verifies this report by direct inquiry at Body A. This verification has to cover that

- the test report was as a matter of fact created by body A,
- it is the current test report,
- the test report has been submitted completely and
- no changes were made in the report.

It has to be agreed between the two GS Bodies that -if necessary - further documents can be provided (such as calibration certificates, raw data, etc.).

It is irrelevant whether the test report has been submitted to Body B by the manufacturer or – upon request from the manufacturer - directly by Body A.

For granting the GS-Mark each GS Body is obliged to re-evaluate the documents and to decide whether further tests are necessary.

3. Subcontracting:

The requirements for subcontracting are regulated by the ZEK-GB-2002-01.

For subcontracting the general principle applies is that essential tests may be subcontracted only if the laboratory of the GS Body can basically perform the tests itself (e.g. subcontracting may be used in case that the own laboratory is overloaded). Non-essential tests may always be subcontracted (e.g. tests for PAH).

The use of test reports within the IECEE CB Scheme is regulated in document ZEK-GB-2002-01 only. This Basic Decision (GB) specifies the requirements and choices for the subcontracting to other testing laboratories.

If a test report - which is generated on the basis of a voluntary agreement on mutual recognition of test reports (e.g. CCA - or IECEE CB Scheme or others) - shall be used for granting a GS Mark, the order to perform the tests must be issued by the GS-Body itself. The conditions for the use of these reports are well defined in the document ZEK-GB-2002-01 (clause 1.5). One essential condition is that the product must be physically available at the Certification Body.