



Organisation Internationale de Métrologie Légale

International Organization of Legal Metrology

International Organisation of Legal Metrology (OIML) Update

IECEx Management Committee Meeting
Edinburgh, 21-22 September 2023

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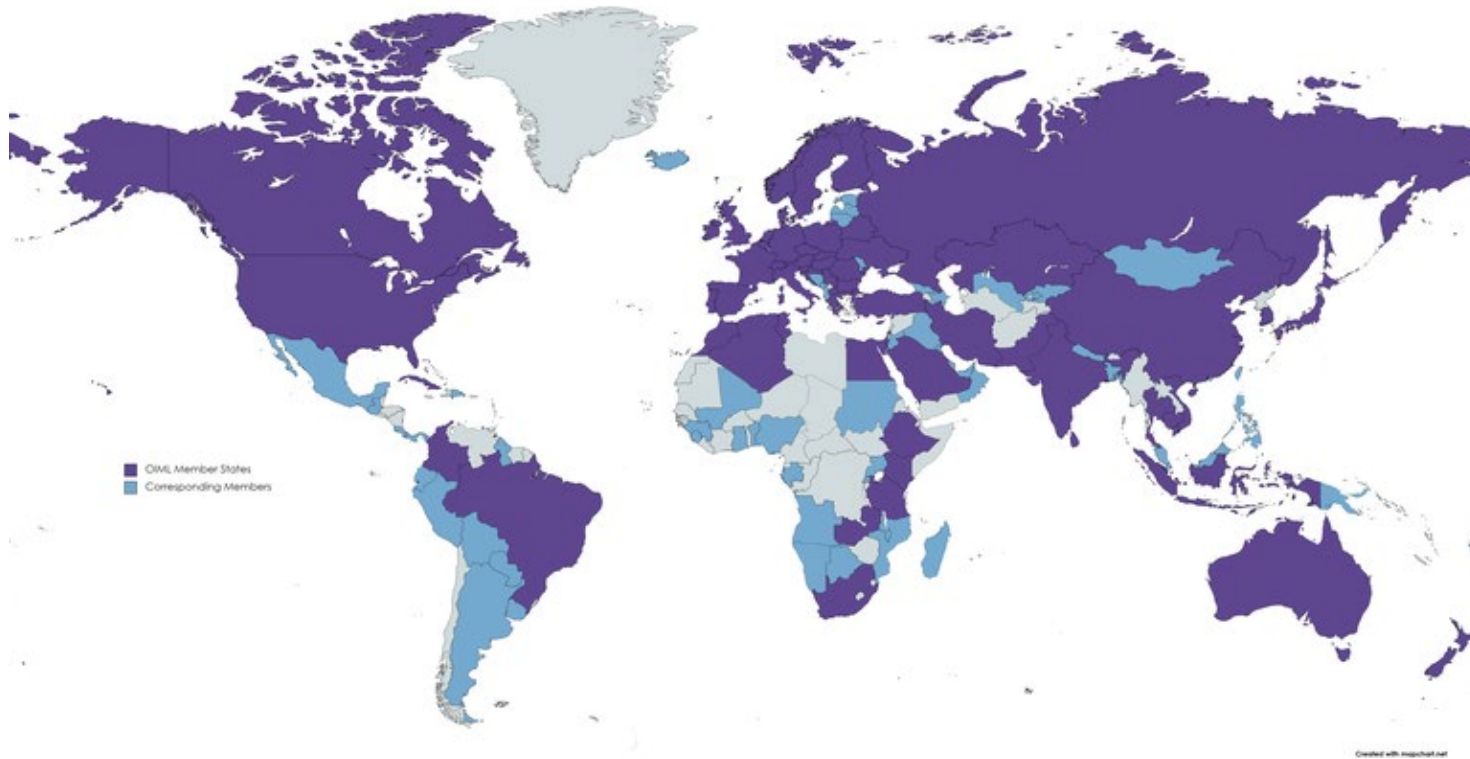
The OIML

- Intergovernmental treaty organisation, established in 1955
- International standards setting organisation under the terms of the WTO/TBT Agreement
- The mission of the OIML is to:
“Enable economies to put in place **effective legal metrology infrastructures** that are mutually compatible and internationally recognised, **for all areas** for which **governments** take responsibility, such as those which **facilitate trade, establish mutual confidence** and **harmonise the level of consumer protection** worldwide.”





OIML Membership



63 OIML Member States

64 OIML Corresponding Members



OIML “Pillars”

- **Technical work**
 - Development of OIML Recommendations (standards)
- **OIML Certification System (OIML-CS)**
- **Countries and Economies with Emerging Metrology Systems (CEEMS)**
 - Participation in OIML work, support policies, guidance
- **International cooperation**
 - Quality infrastructure (INetQI), BIPM, IEC, ISO, ILAC, IAF, ...
- **Digitalisation**
 - OIML Digitalisation Task Group (DTG) established





OIML Certification System (OIML-CS)



Principles of the OIML-CS

- Aims to **facilitate, accelerate** and **harmonise** work of **national and regional bodies** that are responsible for **type evaluation** and **type approval** of measuring instruments subject to **legal metrological control**
- It is a **voluntary** system and OIML Member States and Corresponding Members are free to participate
- Signing a **Declaration** commits, in principle, the signatories to **abide by the rules** of the OIML-CS



Objectives of the OIML-CS

- Promote **global harmonisation**, uniform interpretation and implementation of legal metrological requirements for measuring instruments
- Avoid **unnecessary re-testing** when obtaining national type evaluations ... while achieving and maintaining confidence in the results in support of facilitating global trade of instruments
- Establish rules and procedures for fostering **mutual confidence** in the results of type evaluations





- Launched on 1 January 2018 to replace the OIML Basic System and OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA)
- Basic System based on self-declaration
- MAA utilised accreditation or peer assessment for the Test Laboratory (ISO/IEC 17025)
- OIML B 18:2022 *Framework for the OIML Certification System*
- Type approval only - classified to Scheme 1a (ISO/IEC 17067)
- Scheme B – self-declaration
- Scheme A – accreditation or peer assessment
- OIML Issuing Authorities (ISO/IEC 17065 and OIML D 32, or ISO/IEC 17020 (with additional requirements) and OIML D 37)
- Test Laboratories (ISO/IEC 17025 and OIML D 30)





- 39 categories of measuring instrument in the OIML-CS, all of which are now in Scheme A
- 13 OIML Issuing Authorities and 27 Test Laboratories
- 35 Utilizers and Associates
- Over 1300 certificates issued
- Although numbers of OIML IAs and TLs have been fairly constant, scopes have been extended as instrument categories transitioned from Scheme B to Scheme A
- Manufacturers use OIML certificates and/or type evaluation reports to obtain national or regional type approvals (avoid repeat testing)
- Utilizers/Associates benefit from not having to invest in test facilities





- Eighth OIML-CS Management Committee Meeting was held on 16–17 March 2023 at METAS, Switzerland
- Some key items:
 - proposal to include OIML R 111:2004 *Weights* in the OIML-CS;
 - applicability of the *COVID contingencies* established in 2020 (remote assessments and use of experts);
 - establishment of a Working Group to consider the approach to modular approvals;
 - use of the OIML-CS logo on test reports; and
 - working with the OIML DTG to consider what implications digitalisation has for the OIML-CS (e.g. SMART standards, Digital Certificates, ...)



IEC / OIML Cooperation

- IEC / OIML MoU originally signed in 2011
- IEC support to the development of the OIML-CS
- Acknowledgement regarding use of IECEx IP in OIML B 18
- Updated MoU signed at CIML meeting 2018 in Hamburg



- MoU is currently in the process of being renewed/revised





IECEX / OIML Cooperation

Decision 2018/65 (ExMC/1436/DL)

The Meeting supported the formation of a Joint Working Group between IECEx and OIML to explore synergies and areas where the two organisations may be able to cooperate with the aim of making use of existing systems and practices in order to reduce cost and time to market for manufacturers of Ex equipment covered by both IECEx and OIML-CS Certification schemes. The terms of reference and proposed membership discussed at this meeting was also endorsed.

Resolution no. 2018/13

(agenda item 9.3.1)

The Committee,

Noting the proposal from the IECEx Management Committee,

Decides to establish a Joint Working Group with the IECEx to explore synergies and opportunities for cooperation,

Requests Dr. Roman Schwartz and Mr. Paul Dixon to represent the OIML on the Joint Working Group, and

Requests the OIML representatives to report to the CIML on the activities of the Joint Working Group at the 54th CIML Meeting in 2019.



Joint IECEx / OIML Working Group (JWG)

- IEC / OIML Joint Work Program to explore further opportunities for cooperation between the two organisations - for the benefit of manufacturers dealing with measuring instruments used in Ex environment
- Joint IECEx / OIML Working Group (JWG) established
- JWG ToR:

In accordance with the provisions of the IEC OIML MoU (October 2018), especially Article X, the IECEx and OIML agreed to explore areas for collaboration in an effort to prevent duplication by making use of existing deliverables in the field of “Ex” and provide proposals for consideration by both OIML and IECEx





JWG meeting – September 2019

- Review of representation on the JWG
- Updates on the status of the respective schemes (activities, developments, future meetings)
- Exploration of areas for cooperation
 - identifying common manufacturers across both systems
 - assessment and monitoring of Certification Bodies
 - process for the acceptance of Manufacturer's Test facilities
 - possible use of the IECEx online certificate system to add attachments to certificates
 - intercomparisons / proficiency testing
 - monitoring of experts participating in accreditations and peer assessments
 - full conformity assessment system (OIML-CS)



Actions and future plans

- Consideration of mechanisms to assist manufacturers requiring both OIML-CS and IECEx certifications:
 - PTB (Germany) has been undertaking a project to compare the two schemes
- Activities of the JWG to be fed into the higher level IEC / OIML JWP
- Standing invitations for participation in the respective meetings of each organisation
- OIML to consider the IECEx online certificate system for the possible use of the system to add attachments to certificates
- OIML to consider the IECEx approach to determining competence through accreditation and peer assessments
- Intention for both organisations to reinvigorate the JWG
- A new JWG convener will be required – OIML to consider





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