



UKCA - Top 20 Questions and Answers



Frequently asked questions

The UK Government recently announced changes to help simplify the application process of the UKCA marking for most products placed on the market in Great Britain. Here, LRQA experts answer some of the key questions that have emerged.

Q | 1. What is UKCA?

A | The UKCA (UK Conformity Assessed) marking is a new UK product marking used for goods being placed on the market in Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland). It covers most goods that previously required the CE marking, known as 'new approach' goods.

Q | 2. What products does UKCA marking apply to?

A | The UKCA marking applies to most goods previously subject to the CE marking. It also applies to aerosol products that previously required the 'reverse epsilon' marking.

The technical requirements ('essential requirements') you must meet - and the conformity assessment processes and standards that can be used to demonstrate conformity - are essentially the same as they were for the CE marking.

The circumstances in which you can use self-declaration of conformity for UKCA marking are the same for CE marking. If you were able to self-declare conformity for the CE marking, you would be able to do the same for the UKCA marking.

Q | 3. When did UKCA come into force?

A | The UKCA marking came into effect on 1 January 2021. However, to allow businesses time to adjust to the new requirements, you will still be able to use the CE marking until 1 January 2023 in most cases.

The CE marking is only valid in Great Britain for areas where GB and EU rules remain the same. If the EU changes its rules and you CE mark your product based on those new rules, you will not be able to use the CE marking to sell in Great Britain, even before 31 December 2022.

Q

4. When is it acceptable to UKCA Mark products in the UK?

A

From 1 January 2021, the UKCA mark will be the conformity assessment marking for England, Scotland and Wales for most goods currently subject to CE marking. CE UKNI applies for Northern Ireland.

Q

5. Is it mandatory to UKCA Mark from 1 January 2021?

A

UKCA marking can be used from 1 January 2021 but for New Approach Directives correctly certified CE marked items will be accepted in the UK until 01 January 2022.

Q

6. Is LRQA Verification Ltd. a Conformity Assessment Body for UKCA marking?

A

Yes, LRQA Verification Ltd is an Approved Body for UKCA marking.

Q

7. Can I CE and UKCA mark the same piece of equipment?

A

Both markings can be applied to a single piece of equipment provided they meet CE and UKCA requirements.

Q | **8. Are approvals issued by UK Notified Bodies and Recognized Third Parties prior to 31 December 2020 still valid to support CE Marking for the Pressure Equipment Directive?**

A | No, except for CE UK NI. You will need approval from a Notified Body (NoBo) or Recognized Third Party Organization (RTPO) in a Member State.

Q | **9. Can a current EU27 based Notified Body be used to approve manufacturers for UKCA marking?**

A | No, only UK Conformity Assessment bodies can do this.

Q | **10. If I need to apply the CE marking to my equipment what do I need to do?**

A | Where EU Regulations require the involvement of a Notified Body you must ensure you have an agreement with such a Body who is established within the 27 member states. For example, LRQA Nederland BV or LRQA Verification BV.

Q | **11. What other UK markings are there?**

A | For the Carriage of Dangerous Goods 'Rho' replaces The 'Pi' Mark and the MCA Flag replaces the Wheel Mark for MED.

Q | **12. Where can I find a list of UKCA Regulations?**

A | Placing manufactured goods on the market in Great Britain →

Q | **13. What are the requirements for Northern Ireland?**

A | In Northern Ireland, EU conformity markings continue to be used to show that goods meet EU rules. For most manufactured goods, this is the CE marking. However, if you use a UK body to carry out mandatory third-party conformity assessment you also need to apply a UKNI marking. The UKNI marking is not recognized on the EU market. If you are placing goods on the EU market, you must use the CE marking on its own, without the UKNI marking. UKNI marking is acceptable within the rest of the UK.

Q | **14. A manufacturer has stock in his warehouse that is CE marked and may not be sold until after 1 January 2023. Are these items required to be reapproved for UKCA marking?**

A | Products placed on the market from 1 January 2022 will need to meet the GB requirements at the time of placing them on the market, including UKCA marking.

Q | **15. I have modified my pressure equipment or assembly of pressure equipment. Do I need a UKCA conformity mark on it?**

A | This depends on the extent of the modification to the pressure equipment or global assembly. An item of pressure equipment or an assembly of pressure equipment, which has been subjected to important changes that aim to modify its original performance, purpose and/or type after it has been put into service, may be considered as new product. Typically, the following should be considered:

- Changes to the original design (judged to be significant)
- Changes in design pressure and / or temperature (judged to be significant)
- Change in materials (judged to be significant)
- Major changes in process duty / process function (judged to be significant)

This has to be assessed on a case-by-case basis, unless otherwise provided for. Where a rebuilt or modified item of pressure equipment or an assembly of pressure equipment is considered as a new product, it must comply with the provisions of the GB requirements when it is placed on the market and put into service.

All modifications will need to be agreed with the PSSR Competent Person.

Q | **16. I have repaired my pressure equipment. Do I need a UKCA conformity mark on it?**

A | Items of pressure equipment or assemblies of pressure equipment which have been repaired (for example following a defect), without changing the original performance, purpose and/or type, are not to be considered as new products and would not be subject to conformity assessment.

All repairs will need to be agreed with the PSSR Competent Person.

Q | **17. I have modified my machinery. Do I need a UKCA conformity mark on it?**

A | This depends on the extent of the modification to the machinery. Typically, the machinery will need full conformity assessment and a UKCA mark where the modification:

- Is so extensive that the machinery is basically a new one
- Affects the function of safety devices or systems
- Introduces significant hazards that could not have been assessed in the original design, e.g. converting a manual machine to full computer control

Q | **18. Can existing CE-marked stock items placed on the market prior to 1 January 2023 be integrated into a UKCA assembly (independently of the location of the placing on the market)?**

A | Yes, provided that the CE marked item is correctly installed or integrated into an assembly, e.g. an assessment of its suitability / compatibility for the intended process must be carried out.

Q | **19. Does a TPED and a PED cryogenic tank placed on the market prior to 1 January 2023 require a new replacement valve?**

A | The new valve will need to comply with Carriage of Dangerous Goods requirements and bear the Rho marking.

Q | **20. A manufacturer has stock items in his warehouse that are CE marked and may not be sold until after 1 January 2023. Are these items required to be reapproved for UKCA marking?**

A | Products placed on the market from 1 January 2023 will need to meet the GB requirements at the time of placing the on the market, including UKCA marking.



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From independent auditing, certification and training; to technical advisory services; to real-time assurance technology; to data-driven supply chain transformation, our innovative end-to-end solutions help our clients negotiate a rapidly changing risk landscape – making sure they're shaping their own future, rather than letting it shape them.

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