



HANDBOOK

Gulf Conformity Mark (G-Mark) for Toys

The G-Mark is a mandatory requirement for toys destined for sale in the GCC Member States. The G-Mark demonstrates that a product conforms to Gulf Technical Regulations and is safe for consumers to use.

This handbook provides an introduction to the certification process, specific requirements for toys products, and guidelines for displaying the G-Mark on your products.

Please contact certification@qima.com if you have any questions.

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The G-Mark Certification Process

The GCC Standardization Organization (GSO) is responsible for regulating high-priority product categories for products entering the markets of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Member States which consist of:

- United Arab Emirates
- Kingdom of Bahrain
- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Sultanate of Oman
- State of Qatar
- State of Kuwait

Note: The Republic of Yemen is not an official member of the GCC, however the G-Mark is accepted for products imported into the country.



CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT SCHEME

The GSO created the Regional Conformity Assessment Scheme project in 2005 for the harmonization, integration and building of the standardization areas and quality infrastructure for member states. The result of this project is a unified regional system. Under this scheme, the GSO created the Gulf Technical Regulations (TR) that outline the safety requirements for products intended to be used by consumers. Listed below are the current TRs available:

No.	Technical Regulation
BD09100504	General Product Safety Regulation
BD09100501	Gulf Regulation on G-Marking
BD-131704-01	GSO Technical Regulation on Toys: 2nd Edition
BD-142004-01	Gulf Technical Regulation for Low Voltage Electrical Equipment and Appliances

For more information on Gulf TRs, please visit:
<https://www.gso.org.sa/gcts/hs>



NOTIFIED BODIES

GSO utilizes Notified Bodies (NB) to perform Conformity Assessment activities to verify that products conform to the GSO TR. The GSO provides a list of approved NBs at <https://www.gso.org.sa/nb>. A manufacturer or importer may only choose one NB for each product.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION

The certificates issued in accordance with the requirements of this scheme are based on the certification scheme Type 1a and Type 1b of ISO/IEC 17067.

Upon receipt of application from the manufacturer, the Notified Body (NB) will examine the Technical Documentation and supporting evidence to assess the adequacy of the design of the product. The NB will also review the manufacturer's risk analysis.

The NB's review will seek to determine:

- That the product has been manufactured in conformity with the Technical Documentation.
- That appropriate testing has been conducted in accordance with the Technical Regulation and relevant Standards. If not, then arrange for testing to be conducted.

When the NB is able to conclude that the requirements of the Gulf Technical Regulations have been met, it will issue a Gulf-type examination certificate to the manufacturer. The certificate will contain the name and address of the manufacturer, a list of the tests performed, conclusions, conditions for validity, a color image of the product, and its description (including dimensions and necessary data for identification of the approved type).

CONFORMITY CERTIFICATES

After the NB review and evaluation process, and if the decision is made to award the applicant with a GC certificate, the NB will generate the certificate and the Gulf Conformity Tracking Symbol (GCTS) from the GSO Certification Tracking System and issue both to the applicant.



For toys, the Gulf/GC Type Examination Certificate is valid for **up to 5 years**.

QIMA is an independent **Notified Body** approved by the Gulf Standardization Organization (GSO) to provide G-Mark certification.





G-Mark Requirements for Toys

SCOPE

Children's toys or toys are articles or products designed or intended, whether or not exclusively, for use in play by children under 14 years of age. "Intended for use by" means that a parent or supervisor shall reasonably be able to assume by virtue of the functions, dimensions and characteristics of a toy that it is intended for use by children of the stated age group.

The following items are exempt from scope:

- Playground equipment intended for public use
- Automatic playing machines, whether coin operated or not, intended for public use
- Toy vehicles equipped with combustion engines
- Toy steam engines
- Slings and catapults

Relevant HS codes for toys are as follows:

HS Code	Product Type
8712	Bicycles and other cycles (including delivery tricycles) - not motorized
871200100001	Two-wheeled bicycles with a wheel size less than 16 inches
871200100002	Two-wheeled bicycles with 16-to-20-inch wheels
871200100003	Two-wheeled bicycles with a wheel size of more than 20 inches
871200100005	Two-wheeled scooters
9500	Toys, game, and sports requisites; parts and accessories thereof
9503	Tricycles, scooters, pedal cars, and similar wheeled toys; dolls carriages; dolls, other toys; reduced-size (scale) models and similar recreational models, working or not; puzzles of all kinds
950300100001	Kids bicycles with three wheels
950430000000	Other games, operated by coins, banknotes, bank cards, tokens, or by other means of payment, other than bowling alley equipment
950490000006	Dice games (table, ladder and serpent, Monopoly, etc.)
9505	Festive, carnival, or other entertainment articles, including conjuring tricks and novelty jokes
950600000000	Articles and equipment for general physical exercise, gymnastics, athletics, other sports (including table-tennis) or outdoor games, swimming pools and paddling pools





STANDARDS

Items, Materials or Products	Specification, Standard Method or Technique Used
Mechanical and physical properties	GSO EN71-1
Flammability	GSO EN 71-2
Migration of certain elements	GSO EN 71-3
Experimental sets for chemistry and related activities	GSO EN 71-4
Chemical toys (sets) other than experimental sets	GSO EN 71-5
Finger paints - requirements and test methods	GSO EN 71-7
Activity toys	GSO EN 71-8
N-Nitrosamines and N-Nitrosatable substances	GSO EN 71-12
Olfactory board games, cosmetic kits, and gustative games	GSO EN 71-13
Trampolines for domestic use	GSO EN 71-14
Electric toys - safety	GSO IEC 62115, EN 62115
Safety requirements of cosmetics and personal care products	GSO 1943
Cosmetic coloring substances	GSO 394
Fragrances used in toys	BD-131704-01 Annex II, III Chemical Properties, Clauses 9-10
Phthalate content	CPSC-CH-C1001-09.3/9.4, GSO ISO 8124-6, or 16 CFR 1307
Azo dyes content	Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006
Nickel release	Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006
Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) content	Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006
Bisphenol A (BPA) content	Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006
Formamide content	Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006
Microbial contamination test	EuP / BP Appendix XVIB / USP <61> and <62>



Toys with accessible liquid/pastes/putties/gels/powders	Toxicological Risk Assessment (TRA)
Flame retardants (TCEP, TDCP, TCPP)	Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006
Physical, electrical, and chemical requirements not covered by EN-71	GSO ASTM F963
Physical, flammability, heavy metal, and phthalate not covered by EN-71	GSO ISO 8124
Other applicable tests such as chemical; radioactivity; CMR; allergy	Base on SA/CSA (Risk base)

CERTIFICATION TYPE



- Type 1a (Manufacturer) - Product Testing
- Type 1b (Importer) - Inspection + Product Testing

The Economic Operator (manufacturer or importer) must provide the following information to their chosen Notified Body:

Technical Documentation for Children's Toys	Type 1A	Type 1B
Application form	✓	✓
Proof of organization entity (e.g. business/trade register, license)	✓	✓
Photo(s) of the product (e.g. trademark, country of origin, model no., label marks, QR code or barcode, etc.)	✓	✓
Manufacturer Declaration of Conformity (DoC) (in English and Arabic)	✓	
Importer Declaration of Conformity (DoC) (in English and Arabic)		✓
Product information and description	✓	✓
The technical information related to the product to be certified, such as (but not limited to):		
• Construction (e.g., product assembly drawings, exclude soft toys)		
• Materials (e.g., Bill of Materials / Bill of Substances)		
• Explanations, and/or relevant design calculations (if applicable)	✓	✓
• Performance, intended use, and accessories, parts, etc.		
• Test report(s) with validity of one (1) year		
• Risk assessment of the product		
• Other relevant docs required e.g. declaration of compliance (if applicable)		
Production flow	✓	✓
Letter of authorization for access (if applicable)	✓	✓



Guidelines for Displaying the Gulf Conformity Mark

Rules for the use of the GSO Conformity Tracking Symbol (GCTS) are issued by the GCC Standardization Organization (Rev 2.0, issued 21.05.2019). The GCTS is also known as the “G-Mark”. After complying with all requirements in the technical regulations for children’s toys, products are then marked with the GCTS. This mark allows authorities in the GSO member states to check the validity of the relevant certificate upon arrival at first port of entry.

MARK ACQUISITION

The master version of the GCTS is downloaded from the GSO Certificate Tracking System. The formatting is tightly controlled and only the official master version can be used for reproduction. The GCTS is applied to the certificate by the notified body and to the product by the manufacturer/importer. The notified body supplies the GCTS to the manufacturer/importer following certificate issuance.



CONFIGURATION AND DIMENSIONS

The GCTS for products is composed of two elements as shown below.



The size of the GCTS can be modified as long as the proportions are maintained. The mark can be reproduced in black and white or color provided that enough contrast is used for the QR code to be readable during scanning. No other images or logos should be combined with the GCTS.



LOCATION

The rules for the placement of the GTCS provides flexibility based on the dimensions of the product:

Case	On Product	On Packaging	On Accompanying Documents
1. Product dimensions and/or nature allow marking of GCTS			
2. Product dimensions do not allow for complete GCTS mark			
3. It is not possible for product to be marked at all			

Optional

Positive and negative versions of GCTS



The GTCS must be visible on the outside surface or under an easily accessible part (one that does not require a tool to access), and permanent (indelible and/or not easy to remove). This requirement is only applicable to the main body or component. The mark does not have to be placed on additional components or accessories unless the product is formed by two or more main functional units identified by independent plates. In those cases, the GCTS shall be put on all units.



The GTCS must also be placed on all levels of packaging for the main product except for shipping cartons used to package multiple units of the same product.

USAGE TERMINATION

The GCTS may only be used as long as the certificate is valid. If the certificate is withdrawn for any reason, the manufacturer/importer must stop using the mark immediately.

How QIMA Can Help

As an independent Notified Body approved by the Gulf Standardization Organization (GSO), QIMA can support your G-Mark needs for children's toys intended for sale in any of the GCC member states and the Republic of Yemen.

QIMA can also provide additional supporting services to help importers secure the entry of their products to their destination market including:



PRODUCT TESTING

QIMA's global network of ISO 17025 accredited laboratories provide testing for products that lack a test report or have incomplete testing.



RISK ASSESSMENT

Support for importers or manufactures unsure of the G-Mark risk assessment requirement.



LABEL REVIEW

Help brands avoid delays during the conformity assessment process.



SASO CERTIFICATION

Product Certificate of Conformity (PCoC) and Shipment Certificate of Conformity (SCoC) for products entering Saudi Arabia.

Contact our expert team at certification@qima.com





About QIMA

At QIMA we are on a mission to offer our clients smart solutions to make products consumers can trust.

We combine on-the-ground experts for quality inspections, supplier audits, certification, and lab testing, with a digital platform that brings accuracy, visibility and intelligence for quality and compliance data.

We operate in 95 countries and help more than 17,000 global brands, retailers, manufacturers, and food growers achieve quality excellence.

Our 4,000 committed employees live and make decisions everyday by the set of our core values: have a look and [learn more about the QIMA way.](#)

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