

FAQ'S ON TYPE APPROVAL OF TELECOMMUNICATION DEVICES

1. **WHAT IS TYPE APPROVAL(EQUIPMENT AUTHORIZATION)**

Answer: Equipment authorizations an approval given to devices (radio or non-radio equipment), which will be interfaced with Nigerian communications network or used in Nigeria especially wireless devices

2. **Can A SONCAP Certificate Be Used As Equipment Authorization?**

Answer: No, NCC Type approval is mandatory for all communications equipment to be imported for sale or deployment in Nigeria.

3. **HOW TO SUBMIT A TYPE APPROVAL APPLICATION - TA**

Answer: Applications can be submitted [ONLINE] USING THE E-Services platform

Full details on the Type Approval Requirements can be found by navigating to the Nigerian Communications Commission website and clicking “About The Commission--→ Stakeholder Information--→ Service Delivery Timelines--→ Technical Standards and Network Integrity Department and select “**Type Approval Requirements**”

URL: <https://ncc.gov.ng/docman-main/type-approval-application-forms/1073-type-approval-requirements>

– [ONLINE APPLICATIONS]

The Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) has introduced an E-Services Platform for serving its applicant. An applicant can take advantage of this platform and submit their Type Approval Applications. For more details on creating an account and submitting an application <https://eservices.ncc.gov.ng/>

You will be required to create an account and provide the below listed items during the onboarding process:

- i. Company RC/BN Number
- ii. Company Tx Identification Number
- iii. Email address

4. **Where Can One Obtain The List Of Type Approved Equipment?**

Answer: From the NCC website simply click on the Header “Technology Regulation” and then under “Technical Standards” click “Type Approval”. Scroll down and click on either “Approved Mobile Handsets” and or “Approved Communications Equipment”

<http://www.ncc.gov.ng/technology/standards/type-approval>

5. **WHO CAN APPLY FOR EQUIPMENT AUTHORIZATION IN NIGERIA?**

Answer: Any corporate bodies such as NCC Licensees, Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM), Vendors, Test Laboratories, Registered Companies etc. can apply for equipment Type Approval

6. **What Are The Equipment Types And Billing Category Prices For Type Approval of Devices**

Answer: <https://ncc.gov.ng/technical-regulation/standards/type-approval#type-approvalfees>

7. **What Kind Of Devices Must Be Subjected To The Type Approval Process?**

Answer: Any and all telecommunication based devices including both emitting and non-emitted radiated devices are subject to the Type approval process. The devices that must be type approved are:

- a. **Spectrum Dependent Equipment (Radio equipment),**
NodeB, eNodeB, gNodeB microwave equipment, among others
- b. **Non-radio Dependent Equipment (Equipment with Networking Interfaces)**
Enterprise, Service Provider Routers, Switches, Security Appliances,
- c. **Short Range Devices (SRD) –NCC SRD Regulation**
Products/Devices including Radio Equipment installed in vehicle, fridges, air conditioners etc.
- d. **Terminal devices (mobile phones, mi-Fi, tablets, CPE etc.)**
- e. All telecoms terminal equipment collectively known as Radio and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment (RTTE), **RED** i.e. intentional and non-intentional radiators
- f. **Major Network Equipment ISP Switches/MSC, BSC, nodeB, eNodeB, microwave radios**
- g. **Short Range Devices and Internet of Things (IoT)**

8. What Are The Guiding Documents On Device Authorization/Type Approval?

Answer:

a. NCC Type Approval Regulation

http://www.ncc.gov.ng/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=74&Itemid=89

b. NCC Type Approval Guideline

http://www.ncc.gov.ng/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=73&Itemid=88

c. The Nigerian Communications Act 2003

<http://www.ncc.gov.ng/documents/128-nigerian-communicationsact-2003/file>

d. The NCC Short Range Device Guidelines with approved Frequencies in Nigeria

<https://www.ncc.gov.ng/docman-main/legalregulatory/guidelines/803guidelines-on-the-use-of-short-rangedevices/file>

e. NCC (Type Approval Fees and Billing Categories)

<https://ncc.gov.ng/technical-regulation/standards/type-approval#type-approvalfees>

f. Service Delivery Timelines

In line with Executive Order 001 (EO-001, 2017) on Ease of Doing Business, find below the NCC's Service Delivery Timelines from the various Departments of the Commission. See line below for Technical Standards Department

<https://ncc.gov.ng/the-ncc/stakeholders/service-delivery-timelines#technical-standards-network-integrity-department>

9. What is the current policy on labelling/e-labelling?

Answer: The Commission is currently not enforcing the policy in the guideline. However a policy on e-labelling will soon come into effect.

10. Are tablets, and small computing devices operating on 5GHz Band permitted?

Answer: Yes, they are permitted. During the Type Approval process, a declaration of conformity to the guideline on 5GHz operating frequency is required ONLY for Access Points, Point-to-Point and Point-to-Multipoint Radios etc. Please note that 5.4GHz Band (5.47GHz-5.75GHz) is a licensed band

11. What is the current policy on submission of samples?

Answer: As of now, the Commission only accepts portable terminal devices which includes but not limited to Mobile phones, Tablet PCs, Laptops, Cameras with Communication modules etc. in the Type approval process. Samples of other devices can be requested from applicants if and when necessary.

12. Do we need the NCC type approval before importing to Nigeria

Answer: Yes, for all equipment with communication capabilities and that can be connected to a communication network in Nigeria

13. What is the current policy on Short Range Devices?

Answer: The Commission has Guideline on the use of Short- Range Devices in Nigeria.(See Link below)
<https://www.ncc.gov.ng/docman-main/legalregulatory/guidelines/803guidelines-on-the-use-of-short-rangedevices/file>

14. Is In-country testing mandatory?

Answer: No, use of In-Country Test laboratory is not mandatory. However, tests must be carried out in accredited laboratories.

15. Is Local Representative mandatory for the certificate?

Answer: Local representative is not mandatory.

16. What Test-Reports are accepted by the NCC?

Answer: the NCC type Approval Regulation and Guideline hinge basically on the European Tests. However, few extract from the American code of the Federal regulation(CFR) Title 47 Part 15 B and C-just few parts of it , not all rules are applicable-, and also IEEE.802.11 family of WLAN Standards and Specifications can also be considered

17. What is the life span of the certificate i.e. the validity?

Answer: NCC type approval certificate does not have an expiry date.

18. Is NCC Identifier labelling of Type Approved Devices Mandatory?

Answer: Yes, it is mandatory. However, while enforcement is yet to commence, you are notified that this may change at a moment's notice.

19. Can pre-payments be made in advance for Type Approval Applications?

Answer: No, invoice payment can only be made after the review and approval of an application for Type Approval.

20. For foreign applicants for Type Approval, is having a local representative required?

Answer: Having a local representatives is not required and offers no advantage over local applicants

21. What is the cost of Type Approval (TA) Process?

Answer: Upon review of the application and device specifications, the equipment is characterized into certain billing classes which ultimately determines the statutory type approval fees.

QUESTIONS DEALING WITH MARKETING NAME AND LABELLING MATTERS

MARKETING NAME

1. Is providing Marketing name a new rule in Nigeria?

Answer: It has always been in existence. When submitting an application do include this name in the Online Platform

2. Is the Marketing name now required for every application?

Answer: Yes, every product that has a marketing name different from the regulatory or internal code name known to the manufacturer must be stated in every application”

3. Can type approval application be submitted when marketing name is yet to be decided?

Answer: Recall that submission of sample of the product is required for type approval applications. When type approval application is being submitted, the final commercialized product which contains the marketing name is submitted together with the application.

4. If the certificate is released under marketing name A, but the client would like to change the Marketing name to B in the future, do they have to update the certificate or submit a new application?

Answer: Any change in model number/marketing name requires a new application.

LABELLING

5. What is the current policy on labelling/e-labelling?

Answer: The Commission encourages e-labelling in addition to the traditional on-the-product labelling.

6. What is the policy on manuals?

Answer: A hard-copy manual as part of the packaging is always encouraged.

7. NCC Identifier labeling of Type Approved Devices Mandatory?

Answer: Yes, it is mandatory. However, while enforcement is yet to commence, you are notified that this may change at a moment's notice