PREISKEL&CO

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Conformance and Interoperability of Telecoms / ICT Equipment

Danny Preiskel
Senior Partner

PREISKEL & CO LLP

dpreiskel@preiskel.com | info@preiskel.com

4 King's Bench Walk, Temple, London EC4Y 7DL, UK • WWW.PREISKEL.COM

EVENT CONTEXT

ITU-D Study Group 2 Workshop

Session 1

Regulatory Framework & Conformance

Guaranteeing equipment quality, safety, standard compliance, and protection against dangerous or non-homologated devices.

14:35 – 15:50 | Room K, ITU Geneva

Session 2

Interoperability of ICT Equipment

Ensuring seamless communication across disparate networks and vendors, avoiding vendor lock-in, and securing service continuity.

16:05 – 17:15 | Room K, ITU Geneva

CORE FOUNDATIONS

The Interoperability Imperative

Global Connectivity

Gateway to digital economy and productivity.

Quality & Safety

Resilient infrastructure protecting public health.

Cross-Border Standards

Harmonised coordination prevents fragmentation.

MARKET BARRIERS

Challenges in Developing Countries

Widespread Non-Interoperability

Fragmented systems block seamless service delivery.

Weak Import Controls

Few nations enforce mandatory import standards.

Counterfeit Proliferation

Substandard devices damage networks and consumer trust.

Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs)

Regulatory MRA

Government commitment to mutually recognize conformity testing for equipment regulatory approvals.

Non-Regulatory MRA

Voluntary arrangements between accreditation bodies to recognize third-party conformity results.

IMPACT ANALYSIS

Key Advantages of MRAs

Avoid Duplicate Testing

Streamlines conformity verification across borders.

Cut Time to Market

Accelerates product commercialization cycles.

Reduce Production Costs

Lowers financial burdens for global manufacturers.

TESTING ECOSYSTEM

Regional C&I Test Laboratories

Shared Regional Solutions

Pools capital and technical resources across developing countries to address priority testing needs.

ISO/IEC CASCO Toolbox

Provides internationally accepted gold-standard credentials for testing and certification bodies.

ENFORCEMENT FRAMEWORK

Market Surveillance & Protection

Prevent Interference

Stops non-compliant products from disrupting networks.

Protect Consumers

Safeguards public health and safety against hazards.

Fair Competition

Shields legitimate businesses from illicit traders.

THREAT MITIGATION

The Impact of Counterfeit Devices

Network Degradation

Causes dropped calls and reduced capacity.

Safety Hazards

Presents chemical and battery explosion risks.

Economic Loss

Undermines genuine manufacturers and IP rights.

STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS

Counter-Counterfeit Measures

IMEI Database Control

Leverages GSMA and WCO filtering at customs.

Central National DB

Maintains device information for market surveillance.

Multi-Stakeholder Action

Unites governments, MNOs, and consumers.

Regional Case Studies

Guinea

Strict certification rules, equipment labeling, seizure of counterfeit goods, and rigorous deterrent penalties.

Rwanda (EAC Roadmap)

Regional MRAs, centralized real-time EIR SIM-lock control systems, and accredited testing centers.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

EU Cyber Resilience Act

Mandatory Cybersecurity

Strict hardware and software security standards backed by CE marking before EU market entry.

The 'Brussels Effect'

Global manufacturers adopt EU standards, allowing developing nations to align approval requirements internationally.

NEXT-GEN NETWORKS

IMT-2030 (6G) Technical Requirements

ITU-R Working Party 5D

Finalised unified radio interface evaluation requirements.

20 Performance Metrics

Includes seven entirely new metrics specific to 6G.

6 Usage Scenarios

Covers AI, immersive comms, and integrated sensing.

INDUSTRY INNOVATIONS

O-RAN Alliance & Open Architecture

Open Fronthaul Interface

Enables multi-vendor interoperability between radio units (O-RU) and distributed units (O-DU).

Global PlugFests & OTICs

Testing and integration centers verifying real-world equipment compliance and multi-vendor synergy.

GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS

IoT Standardisation & Architecture

ISO/IEC 30141

Harmonised reference architecture for IoT deployments worldwide.

ITU-T Recommendation Y.4459

Defines digital entity architecture and generic information and service interoperability for IoT devices.

Discussion & Questions

Thank you for your engagement. Let us collaborate on building robust conformance and interoperability ecosystems.

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