ITU C&I Programme

Overview of ITU C&I Programme including ITU Testing Laboratories and Product Conformity Databases

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

The ITU C&I Programme was initiated at the request of ITU's membership to:

- enhance the conformity and interoperability of ICT products implementing ITU Recommendations or part thereof
- improve the quality of ITU Recommendations
- reduce the digital divide and the Standardization Gap by assisting developing countries with human resource and infrastructure capacity building

ITU Conformance and Interoperability programme (C&I), https://itu.int/go/citest

Key pillars:

Pillar 1: Conformity assessment

Pillar 2: Interoperability events

Pillar 3: Capacity building

Pillar 4: Establishment of test centres and a C&I programme

in developing countries

Core ITU Resolutions:

- Resolution 177 (PP-22)
- Resolution 76 (WTSA-24)
- Resolution 47 (WTDC-22)
- Resolution 62-3 (RA-23)

<u>Implementation of C&I programme:</u>

- ITU-T SG11: lead group on testing (https://itu.int/go/tsg11)
- All other ITU-T SGs are developing test specifications in areas of their responsibilities
- Conformity Assessment Steering Committee (CASC): Testing Laboratories Recognition procedure
- ITU test events
- <u>ITU-D SG2 (Q4/2)</u>: assistance to developing countries on implementing C&I programme
- ITU training events on C&I

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Overview

Conformity with international standards such as ITU Recommendations is one of the core principles underlying the global interoperability of ICT networks, devices and services.

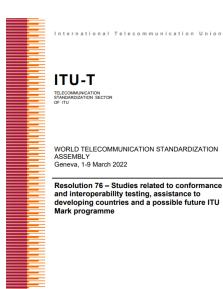
The ITU Conformity and Interoperability (C&I) programme was initiated at the request of ITU's membership to enhance the conformity and interoperability of ICT products implementing ITU Recommendations or part thereof, solicit feedback to improve the quality of ITU Recommendations, and reduce the digital divide and the Standardization Gap by assisting developing countries with human resource and infrastructure capacity building.



Key outcomes:

- Product Conformity Database (launched in 2014)
 Note: around 500 entries
- Testing Laboratories database (launched in 2022)
 Note: 14 TLs as of July 2025
- List of ITU-T Technical experts (12 experts, CASC)

 Note: They may be involved in the TL assessment
- Testing specifications for different ICT technologies
- Number of test events (23 events)
- Number of training events and workshops



Rev. Resolution 76 (WTSA-24)

"Conformance and interoperability testing, assistance to developing countries, and a possible future ITU Mark programme"

resolves

. . .

3 to continue working with accreditation bodies to recognize testing laboratories with competence in conformance testing in accordance with ITU-T Recommendations;

instructs the study groups

. .

4 to submit to CASC a **list of ITU-T Recommendations** which could be candidates **for the certification scheme**, taking into account market needs,



Instructs the TSB Director

5 in collaboration with the Director of BDT, and in consultation with each region, to continue implementing the ITU C&I programme, including the testing laboratory database and informative pilot conformity product database, identifying product conformance and origin;

. . .

7 to facilitate implementation of the ITU-T C&I testing laboratory recognition procedure;

. . .

instructs the ITU-T CASC

- - -

1 to maintain the **procedure to appoint ITU-T technical experts** for involvement in the testing laboratories' assessment teams of existing conformity assessment programmes, for the assessing/checking of the competence of testing laboratories;

2 to maintain a **procedure for recognizing testing laboratories** competent to test conformance
according to ITU-T Recommendations, in
collaboration with existing accreditation bodies

ITU Conformity Assessment Steering Committee (CASC)

https://itu.int/go/casc

It was established in April 2015 by ITU-T SG11 to elaborate detailed procedures for the implementation of a test laboratory recognition procedure in ITU-T



CASC outcomes:

- Established collaboration with International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) on Testing Laboratory recognition procedure
- Considered the survey prepared by ILAC to identify Testing Laboratories accredited to perform testing in accordance with ITU-T Recommendations
- Approved the ITU Guidelines:
 - Testing Laboratories recognition procedure [2022]
 - ITU-T CASC procedure to appoint ITU-T technical experts [2019]
- Appointed 12 ITU-T Technical experts on ITU-T Recommendations H., K., M. and X.series [10-2023]

ITU started recognition of the
Testing Laboratories (TLs) which are
accredited by an Accreditation Body
that is a signatory to the ILAC MRA
for testing, which scope of
accreditation contains ITU-T
Recommendation(s)





Events

Publications

Membership

News

Labs gain official recognition for testing conformance with ITU standards

Labs gain official recognition for testing conformance with ITU standards

News · 3 Oct 2022







By ITU News

Testing labs can now obtain official recognition from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) for their competence to test the conformance of products with ITU technical standards.

The first eight testing labs have recently been listed in the new directory for ITU-recognized facilities. For buyers seeking standards-based solutions, another complementary ITU database lists compliant products - those meeting the standards developed by the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T).

ITU Testing Laboratories Database (TLDB)

http://itu.int/go/tldb

Key recognition criteria:

- accredited by an Accreditation Body that is a signatory to the ILAC MRA for Testing (using ISO/IEC 17025)
- have ITU-T Recommendations in the TL's scope of accreditation

<u>ITU-T Guideline – Testing Laboratories</u> <u>recognition procedure</u> (2022)



- 14 Testing Laboratories (TL) listed in the ITU Database (as of September 2025)
- The recognized TLs provides updates on the scope of their accreditation and its validity on a regular basis



ITU Product Conformity Database (PCDB)

The database was launched in 2014, and it lists ICT products compliant with ITU-T Recommendations

Among the criteria for populating the database is that the ICT product is tested by a testing laboratory recognized by the ITU

Product Conformity Database

OU ARE HERE: HOME > ITU-T > ITU CONFORMITY AND INTEROPERABILITY > PRODUCT CONFORMITY DATABAS

SHARE (1)



DISCLAIMER: This database is not certified to be either accurate or complete, but only reflects the information that has been communicated to the ITU secretariat. The ITU secretariat has not verified the veracity or accuracy of such information, nor the relevance of the products to ITU Recommendations

E-Health Devices Mobile Phones Ethernet Services IPTV M	lobile Number Portability Systems	Optical fiber equipment		
Product	Company	Model Number	Conformity to ITU-T Recommendation	
HealthUp HIS	Openit, Inc.	OI-PROD-HU-HIS		
nHealthcare - Smart Healthcare	NTELS Co., LTD	NSH-16		
NoninConnect - Connected Fingertip	Nonin	3230, 3240, and 3245		
Accu-Chek Instant (BTLE & USB) and Instant S meter (USB)	Roche	958		
Wireless Blood Clucose Meter	Ascensia Diabetes Care	Contour Next ONE and Contour Plus ONE		



Overview of ITU C&I Databases

ICT equipment compliant with ITU-T Recommendations*



Applicant: Any stakeholder, including non-ITU member (e.g. vendor, operator, customer, TL, certification body, etc.) which fulfil the criteria

Product Conformity

ITU

Database



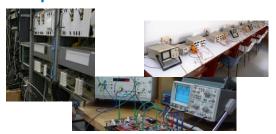
Reference table of ITU-T Recommendations for C&I

Raise customer's awareness on ITU-T Recommendations implemented in ICT equipment

In operation since 2019 12 experts



Testing Laboratories which have competence on ITU-T Recommendations





Applicant: Any Testing Laboratory, including non-ITU member which fulfil the criteria

ITU
Testing Laboratories
Database

https://itu.int/go/tcdb

In operation since 2014 500+ entries

Raise customer's awareness on TLs which have competence on testing against ITU-T Recommendations

https://itu.int/go/tldb

In operation since 2022 14 entries

* Lingo: **Recommendations** = ITU technical standards

SG11 C&I Action plan

The aim of the SG11 C&I Action Plan (rev. 2023) is to maintain:

- Reference Table of standards which are used for C&I assessment
- Pilot Projects for conformity assessment against ITU-T Recommendations

The **Reference Table** lists ITU-T Recommendations to be used for conformity/interoperability testing including references to the applicable test suites (ITU and/or other A.5 qualified SDOs).

https://itu.int/go/reference-table

ITU-T Rec.	Suitability for testing		Parameters	Tests suites	Tests suites	Reference to the applicable Test	Who studies
	Conformity	Interopera bility	to be tested	available in ITU-T Recs [Y/N]	available from SDOs / Forums / Labs [Y/N]	Suite (existing ITU-T Recs and/or other SDOs / Forums)	additional / new test suites ITU/ Others
Q.703	Y	Y	MTP Level 2 (SS7)	Y	N	Q.781	N
Q.704	Y	Y	MTP Level 3 (SS7)	Y	N	Q.782	N
Q.706	Y	Y	The Level 3 performance aspects (SS7)	Y	N	Q.782	N
Q.707	Y	Y	MTP Level 3 (SS7)	Y	N	Q.782	N
Q.721- Q.724	Y	Y	Telephony User Part (TUP) (SS7)	Y	N	Q.783	N
Q.761- Q.764	Y	Y	Telephony User Part (TUP) (SS7)	Y	N	Q.784; Q.784.1; Q.784.2; Q.784.3	N
Q.767	Y	Y	Application of ISUP (SS7)	Y	N	Q.784; Q.784.1; Q.784.2; Q.784.3	N
Q.730	Y	Y	ISUP for supplementary services (SS7)	Y	N	Q.785; Q.785.2	N

Mantained by TSB

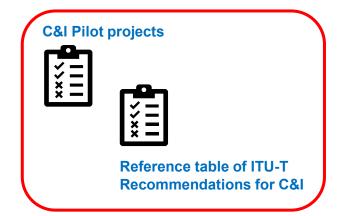
The Reference Table provides guidance when populating the ITU Conformity Product Database especially for ICT products tested against ITU-T Recommendations using test specifications developed by external SDOs.

The **Pilot Project** aims are (normally organized by ITU-T SGs):

- to develop the required test specification as ITU-T Recommendation/Supplement/Technical Paper
- conduct testing of particular ICT devices
- populate product conformity database with products which successfully passed the testing

https://itu.int/go/pilot-projects





ITU-T technical experts

Ref: ITU-T Guideline – "ITU-T CASC procedure to appoint ITU-T technical experts" (2019)

ITU-T technical expert a candidate ITU-T technical expert who has been assessed

by the ITU-T CASC appointment team and as result appointed by the ITU-T CASC as an ITU-T Technical

expert

TL assessment team a group of experts appointed by ILAC or IECEE, to perform

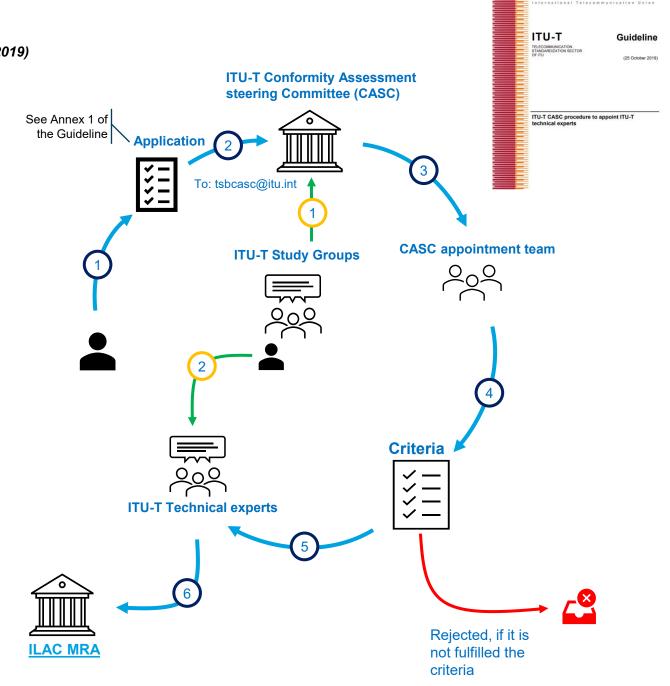
the assessment of a Testing Laboratory. A number of ITU-T technical experts will join the TL assessment team, as

decided by the ITU-T CASC.

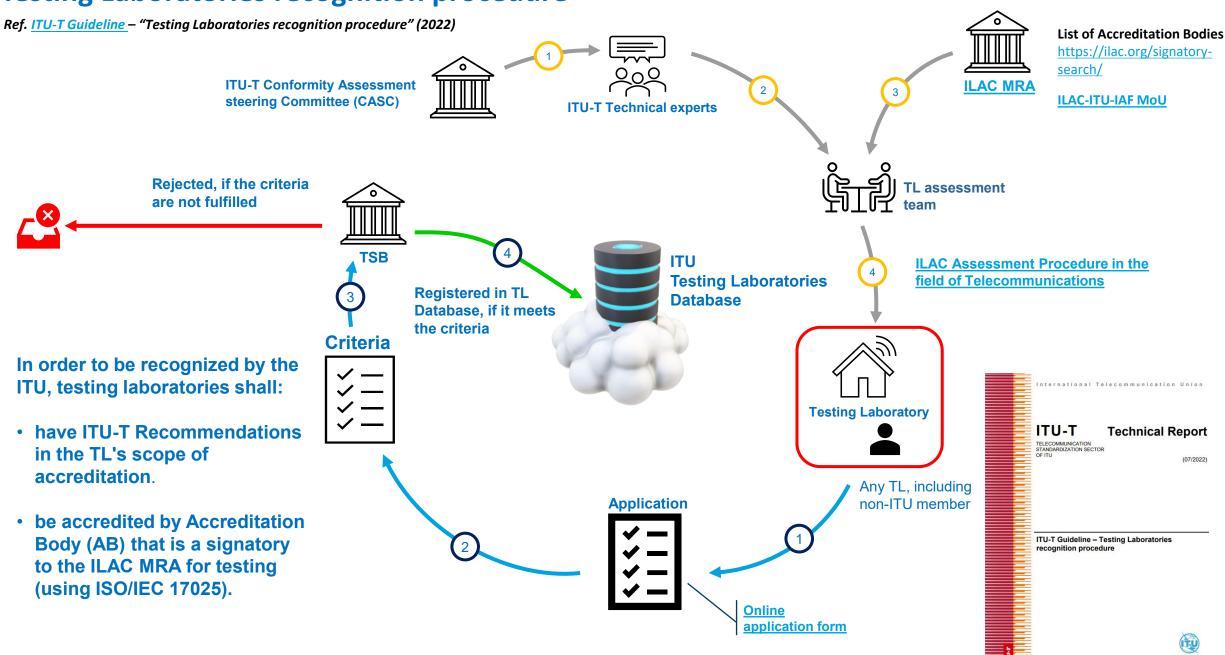
Criteria

The prospective ITU-T technical expert should (see cl.9 of the ITU-T Guideline):

- be an expert from ITU members
- have a good technical knowledge and experience on particular ITU-T Recommendation(s) to perform respective conformity assessment
- provide technical assistance in the scope of the particular ITU-T Recommendation(s) for which they have been positively assessed, to the TL assessment team of bodies (e.g. ILAC)
- follow rules and procedures of ILAC
- comply with the following requirements:
 - knowledge and experience on the development of relevant ITU-T Recommendation(s) and corresponding test suites; experience in testing and measuring of the relevant ITU-T Recommendation(s); competence to review Test Report(s);
 - completed relevant training programmes to be determined by the ITU-T CASC (optional);
 - shall not have a conflict of interest with the TL being assessed.



Testing Laboratories recognition procedure



Product Conformity Database

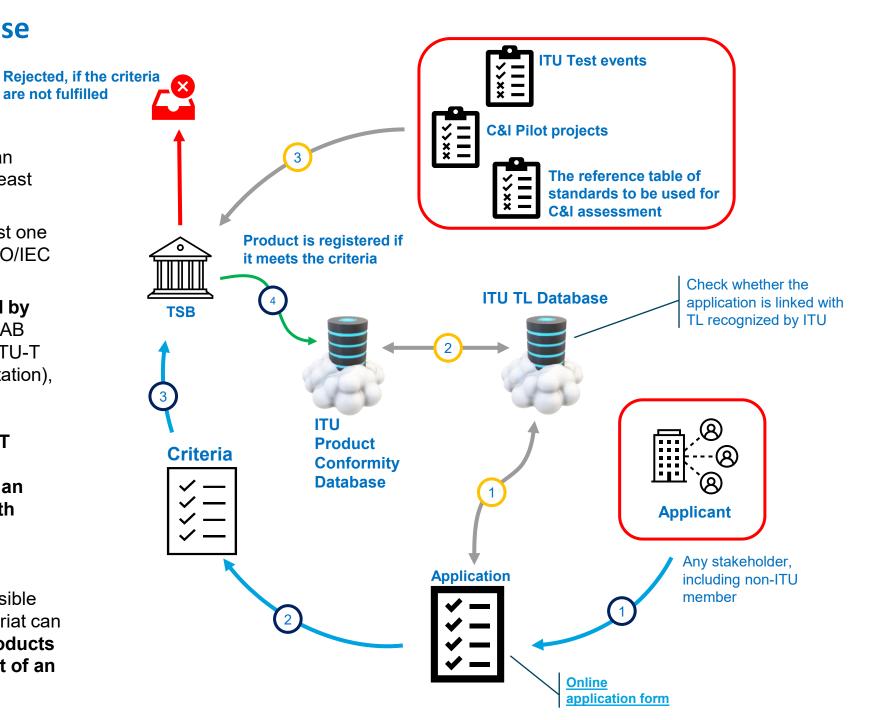
Criteria

The product is either:

- tested by a testing laboratory which has an accreditation with ISO/IEC 17025 and at least one ITU-T Recommendation;
- certified to be in conformance with at least one ITU-T Recommendation by a CAB with ISO/IEC 17065 accreditation;
- tested by testing laboratory recognized by ITU (accredited by ILAC MRA signatories AB (Accreditation Body); test laboratory has ITU-T Recommendations in its scope of accreditation), see ITU-T Guideline.

Product is to be tested to applicable ITU-T Recommendations using ITU-T test specifications or procedures adopted by an SDO or forum qualified in accordance with Recommendation ITU-T A.5.

At this early stage of the database's implementation, the entry of products is possible through two other channels: the ITU secretariat can enter products into the database if these products were tested in an ITU test event or as part of an ITU conformity testing pilot project.





ITU, ILAC and IAF have maintained a structured partnership under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), originally signed in 2012 and revised in August 2022.

Among key revisions were support and promotion of the ITU recognition of testing laboratories that are accredited by ILAC MRA signatories to perform testing in accordance with ITU Recommendations as detailed in the ITU Testing Laboratory recognition procedure.







MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

BETWEEN

THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

AND

THE INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION FORUM

AND

THE INTERNATIONAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION COOPERATION

1. Parties and Purpose

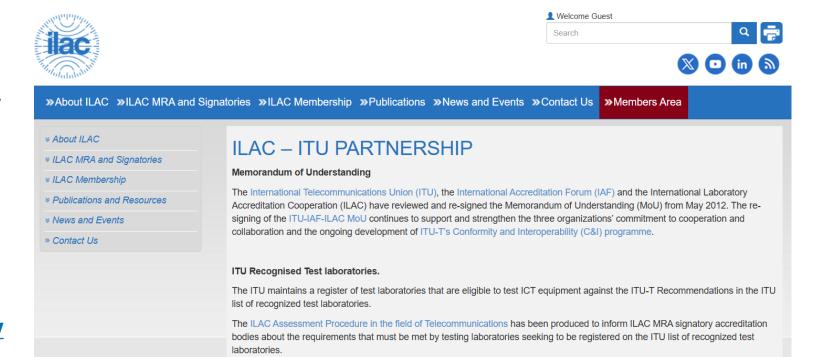
The Parties

- 1.1 The International Telecommunication Union (hereafter ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs). It allocates global radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits, develops technical standards that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strives to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities worldwide.
- 1.2 The International Accreditation Forum (hereafter IAF) is the specialised body administering a global multilateral mutual recognition arrangement among accreditation bodies responsible for accrediting conformity assessment bodies including management system certification bodies, product certification bodies, personnel certification bodies and verification and validation bodies, having as their objective the formal recognition of competent conformity assessment bodies, for specified scopes.
- 1.3 The International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (hereafter ILAC) is the specialised body administering a global multilateral mutual recognition arrangement (MRA) among accreditation bodies responsible for accreditation of conformity assessment bodies including calibration laboratories, testing laboratories, medical laboratories, inspection bodies, proficiency testing providers, reference material producers and biobanks, having as their objective the formal recognition of competent conformity assessment bodies, for specified scopes.

ILAC-ITU Partnership

The <u>ILAC Assessment Procedure in the</u> <u>field of Telecommunications</u> has been produced to inform ILAC MRA signatory accreditation bodies about the requirements that must be met by testing laboratories seeking to be registered on the ITU list of recognized test laboratories.

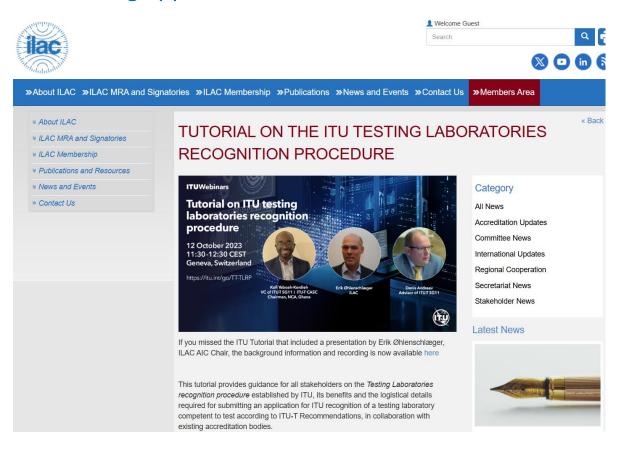
It is aligned with ITU Testing Laboratory recognition procedure (2022)





Promotion

ITU in collaboration with ILAC organized a tutorial aimed at guiding all stakeholders on Testing Laboratories recognition procedure established by ITU, its benefits and all logistical details needed for submitting applications









ITU

Future plans



Continue maintaining ITU Testing Laboratories database in close collaboration with ILAC



Encourage vendors and recognized Testing Laboratories to populate ITU Product Conformity Database with ICT products tested by recognized Testing Laboratories



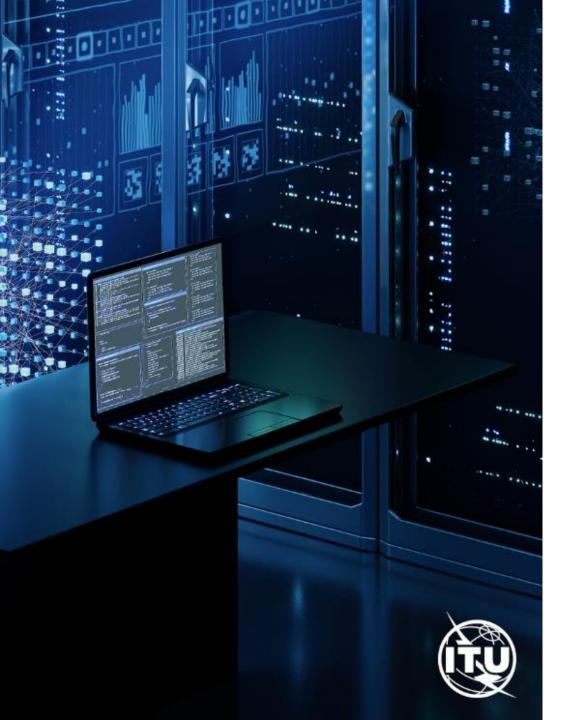
Collaborate with IAF on the possibility of launching certification schemes for specific ITU standards taking into consideration market needs

RESOURCES

Video Guideline on ITU Testing Laboratories and Product Conformity Databases







RESOURCES

ITU C&I Portal: https://itu.int/go/citest

ITU TL Database: https://itu.int/go/tldb

ITU Product Conformity Database: https://itu.int/go/tcdb

ITU Tutorial on TL recognition procedure: https://itu.int/go/TT-TLRP

Contacts

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