European Fire and Security Group
The Secretary
Amsterdamer Strasse 172-174
D-50735 Köln, GERMANY

Agreement on Safes and Strongrooms

Participants:

Certification Body	**Signatory**
CNPP	CNPP Route de la Chapelle Réanville 27950 Saint-Marcel
VdS Schadenverhütung	VdS Schadenverhütung GmbH Amsterdamer Str.174 D-50735, Köln
Svensk Brand- och Säkerhetscertifiering AB (SBSC)	Svensk Brand- och Säkerhetscertifiering AB S-11587 Stockholm
Associated Testing Laboratories	**Signatory**
CNPP	CNPP Route de la Chapelle Réanville 27950 Saint-Marcel
VdS Schadenverhütung	VdS Schadenverhütung GmbH Amsterdamer Str.174 D-50735, Köln
SP (interim status)	SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden Box 857 SE -501 15 Borås

The certification bodies, which are members in the European Fire and Security Group (EFSG) and associated testing laboratories signing this EFSG Agreement, agree to accept the following conditions. They agree to communicate on the conditions of this agreement to the market.

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In the following, “CB” is understood to be a participating certification body which has signed this agreement. PCB is that certification body having signed the EFSG Agreement Safes and strongrooms (Agreement) and where the applicant has applied for testing and certification.

In the following, “LAB” is understood to be a participating laboratory which has signed this agreement. MTL is the main testing laboratory under EFSG which has performed initial testing.

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1 Scope

This EFSG Agreement on Safes and Strongrooms (Agreement Safes) describes the co-operation on testing, certification (including prolongation, modification and duration), quality assurance and product surveillance for safes, ATM safes, strongroom doors and strongrooms according to EN 1143-1, for deposit systems according to EN 1143-2 and for secure safe cabinets according to EN 14450.

2 Validity

This Agreement is valid three years starting from the day as signed and is intended to be used for new applications and not retrospectively. It supersedes the previously signed version of the Multilateral Agreement on Safes and Strongrooms. After the three years period, the agreement will be renewed automatically for three years unless the signatories decide otherwise.

3 Participants

The participants of this Agreement are the certification bodies and associated laboratories as signed on the cover page.

To become a laboratory member of this Agreement, this laboratory shall have fulfilled the inter-comparison test as described in § 8.2.1 of the EFSG terms of reference and fulfil the requirements of the ESFG comparison test procedure for EN 1143-1 and EN 14450.

The actual status of the testing laboratories is documented by the EFSG secretary.

4 Normative References

This Agreement was signed using the references below. The latest versions will apply.

- EFSG terms of reference
- EN 1143-1 Secure storage units – Requirements, classification and methods of tests for resistance to burglary – Part 1: Safes, ATM safes, strongroom doors and strongrooms.
- EN 1143-2 Secure storage units – Requirements, classification and methods of test for resistance to burglary – Part 2: Deposit systems
- EN 1300 Secure storage units – Classification for high security locks according to their resistance against unauthorized opening
- EN 14450 Secure storage units - Requirements, classification and methods of test for resistance to burglary - Secure safe cabinets
- EN ISO 9001 Quality management system – Requirements

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5 Testing and certification

5.1 General

Each certification body (CB) participating in this Agreement remains responsible for its decisions and autonomous in its decisions. The CBs issue the certificate on their own mark.

The involved CBs agree that the tests have to be performed in 3 steps (see § 5.2)

- study and preliminary tests
- definition of the final test program
- classification test

On this basis, the participants fully accept test results issued by associated testing laboratories which have signed this Agreement. Basis of testing and certification are the above mentioned standards.

The certification bodies participating in this Agreement agree to certify the products described in the scope (§ 1) of this Agreement, for Agreement certification, on the basis of tests performed by the laboratories which have signed this Agreement.

The signatories agree to exchange experience at least once a year.

Test reports and additional documentation necessary for certification shall be issued in English.

5.2 Procedure for testing and certification

An applicant shall apply for certification at those CBs from which he wishes a certificate indicating his wish where the product shall be tested (see flow charts in Annexes A, B and C).

Taking the product specifications and the test specimen as a basis, the laboratory proceeds as follows:

- Examination of specimen and documentation
- Elaboration of a programme to attack the specimen
- Performing the preliminary tests
- Analysis of the preliminary test results and definition of the final test program
- Performing the final test program
- Issue test report which has to contain all phases as above.

The CB studies the test report and decides on issuing a certificate including a decision on the grading of the product.

When the applicant has not informed all the relevant CBs prior to the test, additional tests may be performed at any associated laboratory of this Agreement. The reasons for these additional tests shall be justified in writing to the applicant and the other involved CB will be informed by the CB who asks for additional tests.

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5.3 Duration of certificates

The maximum duration of certificates will be 4 years for all Agreement signatories.

The initial date of a certificate is the date of issue by CB1. Should a second CB certify the same product later on the "ending date" shall correspond to that of the certificate issued by the primary CB1 (see Annex A and B).

5.4 Prolongation and/or modification of certificates

The prolongation and/or modification of a certificate (e. g. design modifications or updating of standards) can be made either by a study of the product specifications and drawings or by retesting (or partial retesting) according to the updated standard.

It is the task of the applicant to initiate the prolongation and/or modification of its certificates with each of the CBs which has certified the product.

If a modification of a certificate is valid for one CB only, it shall not be possible to find it on the certificates issued in the frame of this EFSG Agreement. A separate certificate must be issued and the product shall have a different reference.

6 Product surveillance and Quality Assurance

Certification body signatories of this agreement agree to offer a common standardized procedure of audits for product surveillance to those applicants who meet the conditions expressed in clause 6.1, so that each certification body will be able to take his decision on that common audit.

6.1 Conditions to benefit from the harmonized audit procedure

In order to benefit from the common audit procedure, an applicant shall respect the following conditions:

- The quality management system for the manufacturing plant(s) related to the scope of the agreement is (are) certified according to ISO 9001 by a certification body accredited by an accreditation body recognized by EA (EA = "European Co-operation for Accreditation“; shortly EA, formerly EAC) and having signed the Multilateral Agreement (MLA) under EA.
- At least one of its products has been (or will be) certified after its testing according to the mutual recognition test procedure stated in this EFSG Agreement and the test sample was produced in exclusively that factory which will benefit from the harmonized audit procedure.

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6.2 Definition of the Primary Certification Body and request for initial audit

The primary Certification Body (pCB) is a Certification Body having signed the multilateral agreement and having audited the applicant during the first year of the application according to the common standardized procedure of audits.

The three following cases may occur as described:

-1- "First case"
The applicant already holds product certification by several Certification Bodies and wants to benefit from the common audit procedure without increasing the number of certification marks on his products. In such a case, an initial audit is not required and the pCB is chosen by the applicant.

-2- "Second case"
The applicant already holds product certification by one or several Certification Bodies and wants to benefit from the common audit procedure and by the same way wants to increase the number of certification marks on his products. In such a case, an initial audit is not required and the pCB is chosen by the applicant amongst the Certification Body(-ies) having already approved the applicant. The pCB will transfer the relevant information regarding the applicant to other CB(s).

-3- "Third case"
The applicant holds no product certification by any of the Certification Bodies and wants to get certification directly by several certification bodies and benefit from the common audit procedure by the same way. In such a case the pCB is the Certification Body whom the applicant has asked for the first type test and which will conduct an initial audit (before certifying the product).

6.3 Validity of the harmonized audit

The harmonized audit will be valid for:

- Products which are certified by the involved certification bodies in the frame of this EFSG Agreement.
- Other products covered by the scope (clause 1) but certified outside the agreement by any of the agreement members.

6.4 Conditions of the harmonized audit practice

6.4.1 The applicant shall make a formal request with each certification body from which he holds (or asks for) a certificate in order to benefit from this common audit procedure and allows the members of the agreement to exchange the appropriate information concerning the audit.

6.4.2 The successive audits will be performed by one of the involved Agreement certification body members on a one year rotation basis (January until December).

The first audit is performed by the primary Certification Body (pCB) within 6 months after the applicant requested to benefit from the Agreement.

6.4.3 The audit schedule for regular audits is organized once a year by the involved CB´s.

6.4.4 The normal frequency of the audit is twice a year; it may be reduced to once a year depending on the audit results. Each year the certification body is in charge of auditing the manufacturer for the current year, and the certification body which makes the first audit may perform another audit depending on the results of the first one.

At a new manufacturing plant, there will be two audits performed during the first twelve months independently of the first audit results or, if necessary, additional requirements will be asked by the involved CBs.

6.4.5 The audits will be normally announced, but at the initiative of the certification body may be performed unexpectedly.

When preparing the audit, the auditor in charge of the audit will ask the certification bodies for the complete list of certified products.

6.4.6 In order to be able to perform the audit for each product, a file of drawings stamped by the appropriate certification bodies shall be kept at the manufacturing plant.

6.4.7 For the performance of audits under this audit procedure, the following documentation shall be used:

- FS-MA Safes-01: Additional audit records
- FS-MA Safes-02: Non-compliance report
- FS-MA Safes-03: List of deviations
- FS-MA Safes-04: Generic product assessment report
- FS-MA Safes-05: Designation of approved products.

6.5 Requirements for qualification of auditors

EOQ quality operators shall be competent in all quality assurance techniques covered by ISO 9004. These competencies cover the understanding and practical application of disciplines througout the life-cycle of product or service delivery.

Specific techniques namely include: quality system principles, quality control, product verification and the control of measuring and test equipment; non-conformity and corrective action.

Auditors must have a minimum of three years experience in the field of auditing, of testing and/or construction/production in the mechanical industry.

Auditors that meet the above requirements shall perform satisfactorily three audits in the safe area under supervision. In case the experience has been acquired in the safe industry the minimum number of satisfactory audits may be reduced to one.

A list of auditors who fulfil the qualifications shall be kept by each CB and made available upon request to other parties.

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6.6 Evaluation of the audit report (see Annex C)

For a given year a certification body is responsible for the evaluation of the surveillance of all products in question manufactured at one site.

It is up to the responsibility of this certification body which has performed the audit to monitor the decision whether the second audit will be necessary.

This will be done within 3 weeks after the audit report has been issued and the answers by the manufacturer to the non-compliances have been received.

Where necessary the follow-up or a second audit for a given year will be performed by the same certification body.

7 Communication rules between applicants and CB

In respect of the information of the CB (such as modification of products, introduction of new manufacturing plant, etc.) the requirements of information between applicants and CB remain as regulated by each CB for its own certifications.

8 Interim status of new agreed Laboratories

Once a new laboratory has been agreed according to the EFSG comparison test procedure in its latest version, and agreed by the BOM of EFSG, the new agreed laboratory will be accepted as EFSG associated testing laboratory for a provisional period.

During this period, according to the initial practice of EFSG, when a test will be performed at this laboratory for certification purpose by more than one certification body, each involved certification body will have the possibility to delegate a representative.

One representative of EFSG should be appointed; additional observer(s) will be allowed to come on their own.

This EFSG representative will be allowed

- to observe the preparation work and pre-test
- to give an opinion on the test program and suggest test
- to witness the final test.

This procedure will be valid for 10 tests (5 for low grades – grades 0 to III; 5 for high grades – grades IV and higher). After this period a final decision will be made.

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9 Advisory group

The EFSG safe advisory group, open to EUROSAFE representatives, has the task to control the correct practice of the MA Safes. This group, based on the experience, will create and update a preliminary test list to be used by the participants of this Agreement.

At least, once a year or upon the request of one signatory of this Agreement, all parties will meet for a review regarding the implementation of the Agreement.

Unless otherwise agreed, one representative for each signatory of the Agreement will participate in the review. This representative can participate with consultative participants. The resolutions of the meetings shall be documented.

The place and date of the review shall be discussed and agreed by the signatories of the Agreement.

10 Disputes

In case of a breach of this Agreement, the signatories are obliged to attempt to resolve the problem in a fair discussion before dissolution of the agreement.

11 Dissolution of or withdrawal from the Agreement Safes

Dissolution of the Agreement will occur when a simple majority of the signatories gives 12 months notice to all the signatories of their request to dissolve the Agreement.

Withdrawal from the Agreement by one signatory will occur when that organization gives 12 months notice to all the signatories of its intention to withdraw from the Agreement.

A dissolution of, or withdrawal from the Agreement does not invalidate certifications, based on mutually accepted test results, that have been granted before the dissolution or withdrawal.

Test results issued after the signature are fully valid for implementation. Those issued before signature shall be scrutinized individually for acceptance by the members.

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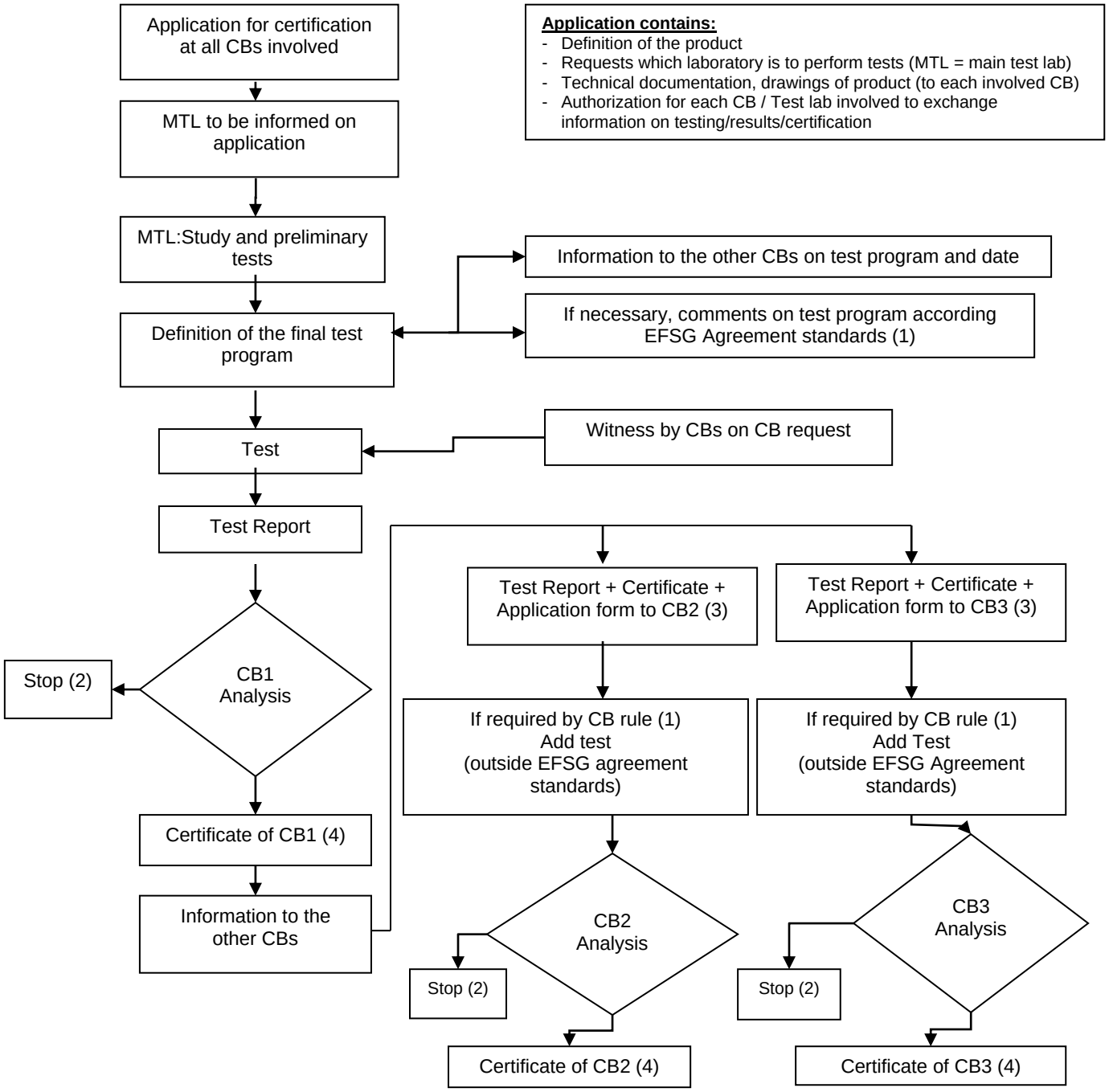
ANNEX A – Initial Certification



(1) NOTE: If the certification rule or national requirements asks for other requirements than EN standard or if the test program is not complete.

(2) NOTE: If the test report shows that the product doesn't meet the requirement of the expected grade and the manufacturer proposes modification to improve it, then the modification procedure applies.

(3) NOTE: It is the task of the applicant to send the test report, the certificate and the technical documentation to the other involved certification bodies.

(4) NOTE All the certificates shall end at the same date.

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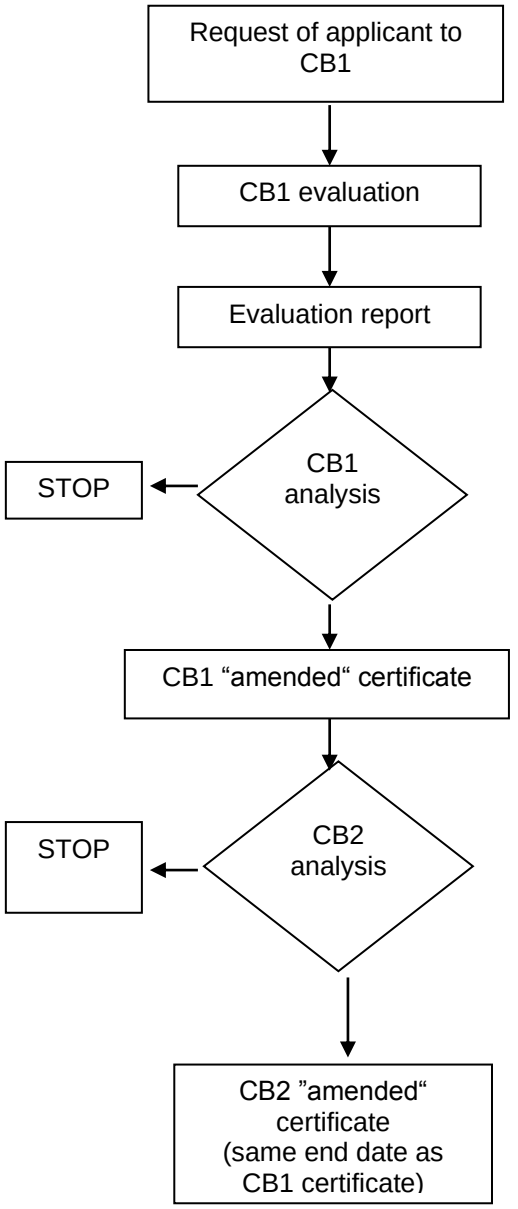
ANNEX B - Modification of products and/or prolongation of certificate



Step 1: The applicant shall declare that this request is valid also for CB2 and CB3.

Step 2: CB1 evaluation is made in cooperation with the LAB having performed the initial test (paper work, design assessment or retesting).

Step 3: The evaluation report can be issued either by CB1 or by the LAB having performed the initial test.

Step 4:

Step 5: It is the task of the manufacturer to send the ”amended“ certificate and the revised technical documentation (including if applicable – design assessment) to the other involved certification bodies.

Step 6:

Step 7:

RECOMMENDATION:
It is very important for traceability and to have good overview of the situation that a certified security product including locks recognised by the involved signatories has exactly the same design. So if a modification is valid for one certification body only, it shall not be possible to find it on the certificates issued in the frame of EFSG Agreement. A separate certificate must be issued and the safe shall have different ”name“ or reference.

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ANNEX C – Non-compliance definitions and follow up of audits

AUDIT

Deviations, non-compliances stated by the auditor at the end of the audit (*A) during the closing meeting, with a list of deviations - FS-03EFSG - given to the holder of certificate at the end of the audit and the non-compliance report(s) FS-02EFSG in case of non-compliance quoted 3 or 4.

Proposals (initial) can be done during the audit and immediate actions taken when required.

In every case the non compliances have to be reported, and the initial proposal added as remark if applicable

↓

Complete report (< 3 weeks after the audit)
FS-040EFSG
FS-040wEFSG
FS-03EFSG
FS-02EFSG

↓

Final Proposal for corrective actions in response to non compliances after the audit to be sent by the holder of certificate to the Auditor within 4 weeks (an extension of time can be asked by the holder of certificate if necessary). This does not relieve the holder of certificate for implementing immediate actions taken when required.

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Analysis of the answers (to be done by the auditor)
(Assessment whether the proposals clears the non-compliances or not)
and makes recommendations to the CB

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Decision by the CB
Keep the certification, new audit, suspension, withdraw or other decision.

↓

Information to other CB(s)

(*A):
1 = compliance
2 = suggestion for improvement
3 = minor non-compliance
4 = major non-compliance
For 3 and 4 actions have to be taken by the holder of certificate, such actions have to be reported to the auditor within 4 weeks following the incoming of the audit report.