

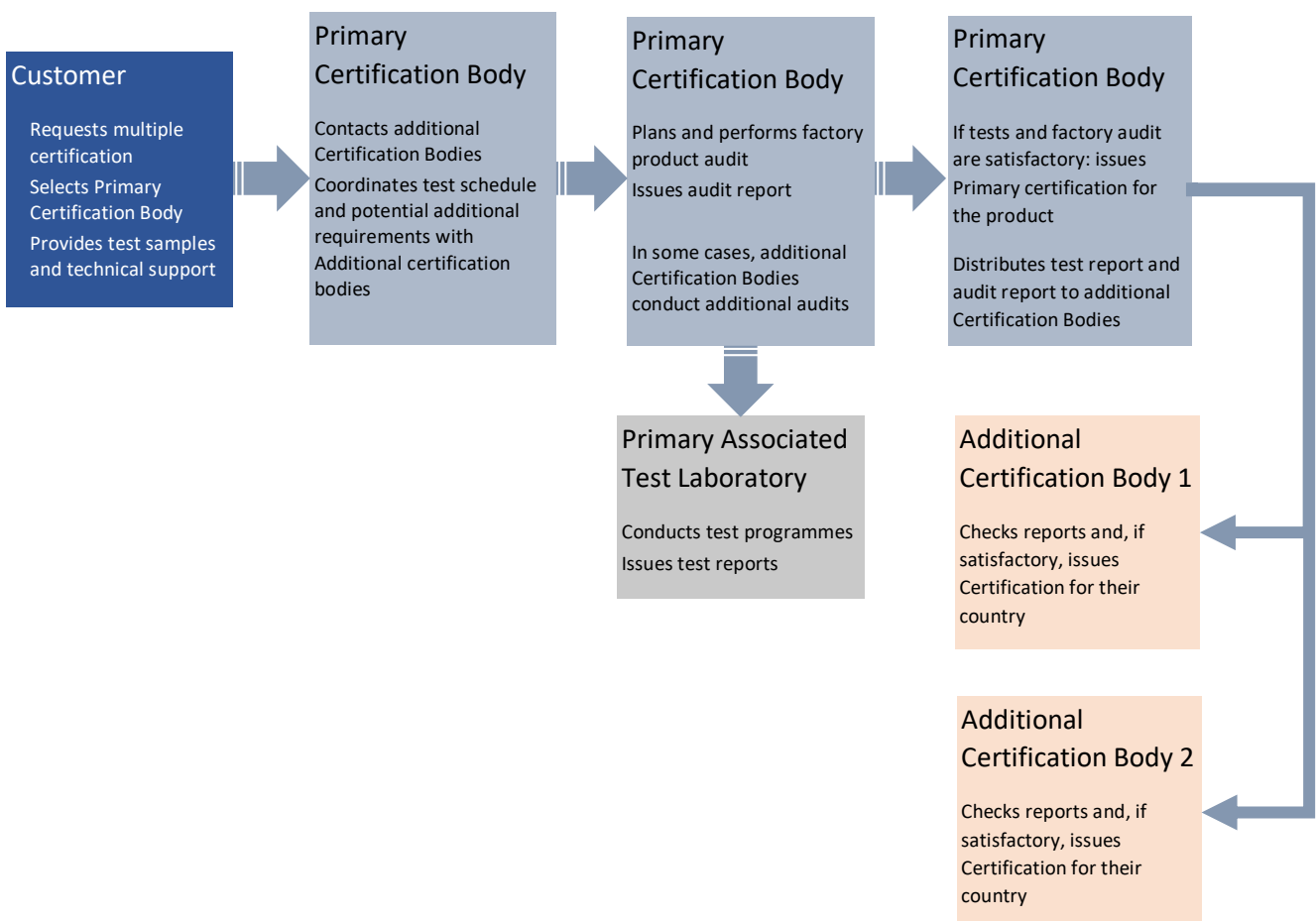
Simplified multiple certification process

EFSG is the association of established certification bodies of Europe specialising in the fire and security sectors.

When fire and security products are distributed on an international level, there is often a requirement to obtain local certification which can result in the need to repeat complete testing programmes, this can hinder efficiency and increase the time to market for producers. EFSG works to establish a clear framework of cooperation between its members in order to align interpretations and facilitate mutual recognition of the tests performed by any of the associated testing laboratories signatory to the agreements. Consequently, procedures for multiple certification are simplified, time efficient and cost-effective.

EFSG has facilitated the creation of mutual recognition agreements that allows its member certification bodies to accept the test results of the associated testing laboratories in support of local certification.

Simplified multiple certification process



A customer (usually a product manufacturer) wishing to benefit from the simplified multi-certification process makes an application to the EFSG member certification body of choice (Primary Certification Body), stating that multiple certification is required and which of the EFSG member certification marks are needed.

To be sure of a smooth process it is essential for the customer to declare an intention to apply for multiple certification when first contacting the certification body. If no intention has been declared prior to the start of the testing programme it may be necessary to repeat or include additional tests in order to satisfy all the requirements of each certification body involved.

The chosen certification body will initiate the necessary contractual arrangements and will adopt the role of project manager, liaising with the other certification bodies throughout the project as appropriate.

In accordance with the rules of certification, the customer must have a signed contractual arrangement with each certification body involved and must agree to abide by the specific rules associated with the use of each of the certification marks.

Testing is then conducted under the supervision of the primary certification body. Upon successful completion, the test results are submitted to each additional certification body for acceptance in accordance with the corresponding mutual recognition agreement. Note only the results of tests identified in the mutual recognition agreements are accepted.

The members of EFSG have agreed to accept the test results from any of the associated testing laboratories that are signatory to the mutual recognition agreement.

Further information about the multiple certification process and the mutual recognition agreements can be downloaded from www.efsg.org

About EFSG

EFSG members are committed to delivering quality approval services that are focused on the needs of specifiers seeking reliable products and equipment manufacturers that must bring their products to market quickly.

Behind the mutual recognition agreements are extensive inter-laboratory comparison exercises and rigorous surveillance audits that provides the confidence for the EFSG members to accept testing results from the associated testing laboratories.

Specialists from the EFSG membership openly exchange technical expertise and work with the major standardisation organisations to establish common interpretations and test methodology associated with the test standards. This helps to improve the quality and consistency of testing which in turn leads to better product conformity.

Certificates issued by EFSG members are widely accepted by specifiers, end users and other certification bodies, as evidence of compliance with the appropriate standards.