EFSG
SAFE, TRUSTED, RELIABLE

Customer Guide

Agreement for Safes and Strongrooms

European Fire and Security Group

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About EFSG

EFSG establishes a common approach to conformity assessment in the form of mutual recognition agreements to support manufacturers that need to obtain multiple certification marks to gain access to European and worldwide markets.

Specialising in the fields of fire and security EFSG provides a network of highly experienced certifiers delivering quality certification services that focus on the needs of specifiers seeking reliable products and equipment manufacturers that must bring their products to market quickly.

The certifier members of EFSG with their well-respected certification marks work together with the associated test laboratories to help their clients obtain multiple certification with minimal duplication and cost.

EFSG has facilitated the creation of mutual recognition agreements for safes and strongrooms, high security locks, components of intrusion alarm systems and fire detection and fire alarm systems.

EFSG members of the MRA Safe and Strongrooms

France

CNPP Cert

Safes and strong rooms
High security locks
Intrusion alarm components

Germany

VdS Schadenverhütung

Safes and strong rooms
High security locks
Intrusion alarm components
Fire detection and Fire alarm system components

Sweden

Svensk Brand-och Säkerhetscertifiering AB (SBSC)

Safes and strong rooms
High security locks

Access to the mutual recognition agreements and further details about the EFSG is provided on our website: www.efsg.org.

Benefits of working with an EFSG member certification body

Underpinning the mutual recognition agreements are extensive inter-laboratory comparison exercises, witness testing 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 for the test standards. This work helps to improve the quality and consistency of testing which in turn, leads to better product conformity.

Assured by the comprehensive verification undertaken by EFSG, specifiers, end users, regulatory authorities widely accept the certificates issued by EFSG members as evidence of compliance with the appropriate standards. Products bearing the certification marks of EFSG members are universally recognised by users as being of high quality.

Some markets have additional requirements to which products must comply. EFSG through its network of members can help ease customers into these markets by ensuring the additional requirements are included within the certification process and managed by the certification body of choice. Thereby removing the need for further compliance testing and duplication that would otherwise be required.

Product certificates issued by members of EFSG provide confidence in the use of the products and the companies that place them on the market.

Customer Guide

Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) Safes and Strongrooms

About this guide

This guide is for those seeking multiple certification of products using the mutual recognition agreement published by EFSG covering safes, ATM-safes, strongrooms and strongroom doors according to EN 1143-1, deposit systems according to EN 1143-2 and secure safe cabinets according to EN 14 450. Its purpose is to inform Applicants (normally manufacturers of secure storage units for resistance to burglary) about the process associated with multiple certification and explain what further testing (if any) is necessary.

Multiple certification can be obtained via any EFSG member that is signatory to the EFSG MRA applicable to the product type.

EFSG mutual recognition agreements (MRA) are in place for each of the areas where the EFSG is active.

Terms and definitions

A2P	Certification mark of CNPP Cert. for products of fire protection, intruder alarm systems and physical security
Applicant	A legal entity requesting multiple certification (normally a product manufacturer)
ATL	Associated Test Laboratory; A testing laboratory nominated by an EFSG member and that is signatory to a Mutual Recognition Agreement
pATL	Primary Associated Test Laboratory; The pATL is mandated by the pCB to perform the necessary tests.
CB	Certification Body which is member of EFSG
pCB	Primary Certification Body; The pCB is the certification body (CB) to which an applicant has first applied for mutual certification.
CNPP	French Certification Body and Test Laboratory; Member of EFSG
EFSG	European Fire and Security Group
FS-XXX-EFSG	Form sheet number; the respective form sheets are available as downloads on the EFSG website (www.efsg.org)
MRA	Mutual recognition agreement; The documented voluntary acceptance of test and audit results between ATLs and CB EFSG members in the respective fields of activities
SBSC	Svensk Brand- och Säkerhetscertifiering; Swedish Certification Body member of EFSG
VdS	VdS Schadenverhütung GmbH; German Certification Body and Test Laboratory; Member of EFSG

EFSG mutual recognition agreement safe and strongrooms

This agreement specifies the conditions for the mutual recognition of test and audit results used for the certification of safes and strongrooms (in general: Secure storage units for resistance to burglary) for the purposes of granting permission to use the certification marks of the certification body signatories. The individual certification body takes the full responsibility for the certification of conformity, including the acceptance of the tests and assessment results. Therefore testing and certification under the umbrella of EFSG is performed only where a signed EFSG MRA exists.

The content of the MRA is primarily intended to assist the certification body member of EFSG and their associated testing laboratory but copies can be viewed publically and freely downloaded from www.efsg.org.

The EFSG MRA Safes and Strongrooms covers the mutual recognition of test results based upon the EN 1143-1 and EN 1143-2 and EN 14450 requirements. The test result can be used in support of multiple certification.

To obtain certification via the members of EFSG, compliance with additional requirements is also necessary especially for HSL. The additional requirements exist to address the risks faced by the different prescribers.

Details of the additional requirements can be found as follows;

CNPP Certification:	A2P H0	General reference document for A2P mark
	A2P H71	Special reference document for A2P mark
	A2P T71-1	Technical rules – Technical specifications and test methods (Safes, strongroom doors, strong rooms, deposit safes and night deposit safes)
	A2P T71-3	Technical rules – Technical specifications and test methods (ATM safes)
	A2P T71-4	Technical rules – Technical specifications and test methods (Secure Safe Cabinets)
VdS Certification:	VdS 2344	VdS guidelines: Procedure for the testing, approval and certification of products and systems for fire protection and security technologiesVdS 2450
	VdS 2450	VdS guidelines: Safes, ATM safes, strongroom walls and strongroom doors, Requirements, classification and test methods
	VdS 2528	VdS guidelines: Deposit systems, Requirements, classification and test methods
	VdS 2862	VdS guidelines: Secure safe cabinets, Requirements, classification and test methods
SBSC Certification:		Certification Rules for Product Certification

For special applications of secure storage units that are not covered by the secure storage units defined in the standards, it is up to the individual certification bodies to decide whether to take into account work carried out by other EFSG certification bodies.

Important - The acceptance of test results relies on the defined processes being followed. Applicants are advised that deviations from the defined process can lead to the refusal to accept results and subsequently repeat testing.

How to apply for multiple certification

To apply for multiple certification using the EFSG process the Applicant shall initiate the following steps:

1. The Applicant shall choose a certification body and the associated test laboratory (ATL) to perform the part of the testing programme covered by the MRA by completing form no. FS-145-EFSG ' Multiple certification procedure enquiry form', (available from www.efsg.org).

   The chosen certification body (referred to as the primary certification body [pCB]) will inform the Applicant about the details of the process and the need to approach the other CBs at the beginning of the project.

   A list of EFSG member certification bodies and their associated testing laboratory together with their testing capabilities is available in Appendix A of this guide.

2. The Applicant needs to apply to only those certification bodies where their certification marks are required.

   To be sure of a smooth process it is essential for the Applicant to first declare an intention to apply for multiple certification when first contacting the certification body. This can be done by declaring the intention on the enquiry form (FS-145-EFSG).

   If the customer requires multiple certification but no intention has been declared prior to the start of the testing programme it may be necessary to include additional tests or to repeat tests in order to satisfy all the requirements of each certification body involved. In this case, the reasons for the additional tests shall be justified in writing to the Applicant and the other certification bodies involved in the process shall be informed.

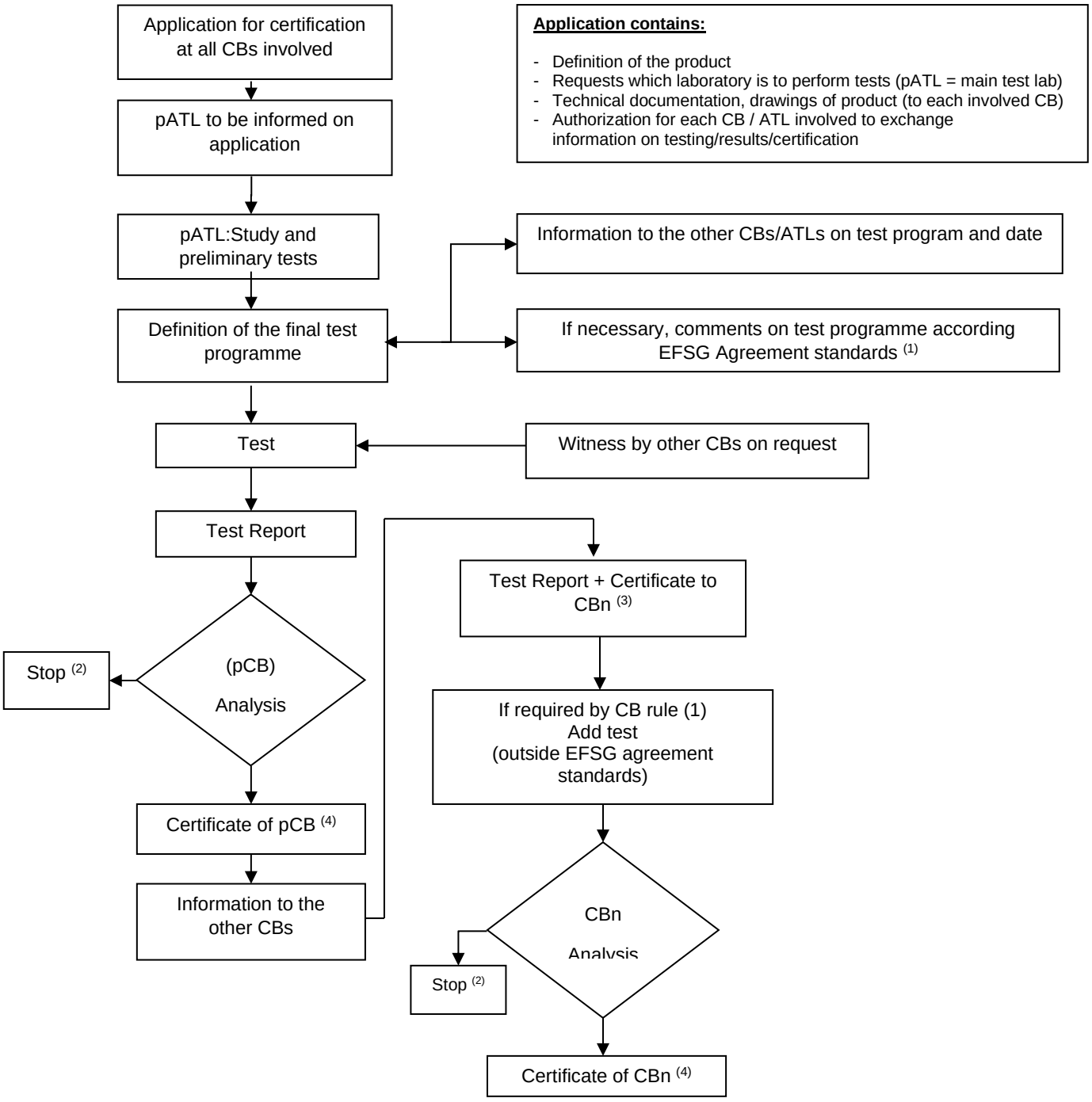
   Although the testing and certification process is managed by the primary certification body, the International rules governing certification requires that a formal contract must exist between each certification provider and the Applicant. There may also be specific rules associated with the use of each of the certification marks.

   Application forms can be obtained from the following certification bodies;

   I www.cnpp.com
   II www.sbsc.se
   III www.vds.de

The process to support multiple certification

Taking the technical documentation and the test sample(s) as a basis, the laboratory and the primary certification body proceeds as follows:



(1) *NOTE: If the certification rule or national requirements asks for other requirements than EN standard or if the test programme 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.*

Upon the successful completion of the testing the primary certification body finalises the certification process and issues a product certificate. The product certificate, the approved technical documentation and the test report can also be shared by the pCB with the other certification bodies for acceptance in accordance with the EFSG mutual recognition agreement to support multiple certification. In this case the pCB will inform the Applicant.

If the Applicant applies for the Harmonized Audit Procedure, it will be performed as described in the following chapter.

The harmonized audit procedure

EFSG operates a harmonized audit procedure to reduce the burden for the Applicant that is associated with multiple inspections of the manufacturing plant(s).

The Audits will be carried out according the accreditation rules described in ISO/IEC 17065.

The first audit is performed by the primary certification body (pCB) within 6 months of the Applicant's request. Successive audits will be performed by one of the involved certification bodies on a one year rotation basis (i.e. January to December). The normal frequency of the audit is once per year; further audits might be necessary by the same certification body depending on the audit results, e.g. to address non-conformities.

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

Normally the manufacturer will be notified of an audit in advance, but the certification body reserves the right to perform an audit unannounced.

The Audit Report and related records will be provided in English language.

To benefit from the harmonized audit procedure, the Applicant shall respect the following conditions:

- The quality management system operated by the manufacturing site(s) and which must be related to the scope of the EFSG agreement, is in accordance with ISO 9001.

  The quality management system must be registered with a certification body accredited by an organisation recognised by the EA[2)] and having signed the EA's Multilateral Agreement (MLA).

- At least one of the Applicant's products has been (or will be) certified after testing according to the mutual recognition test procedure stated in the MRA Safes and Strongrooms and the test sample was produced exclusively in the factory which will benefit from the harmonized audit procedure.

The harmonized audit procedure can be applied, if the requirements above are fulfilled.

2) The European co-operation for Accreditation or EA is an association of national accreditation bodies in Europe that are officially recognised by their national Governments to assess and verify—against international standards—organisations that carry out evaluation services such as certification, verification, inspection, testing and calibration (also known as conformity assessment services).

The following three case scenarios may occur for the performance of the initial audit:

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 CB is chosen by the applicant.

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 CB is chosen by the applicant amongst the Certification Body(-ies) having already approved the applicant. The chosen CB will transfer the relevant information regarding the applicant to other CB(s).

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 CB who will conduct an initial audit (before certifying the product) is the Certification Body whom the applicant has asked for the first type test.

How to apply for the harmonized audit procedure

The Applicant shall make a formal request to each certification body with whom a certificate is held (or will be held) using form no. FS-102-EFSG available from www.efsg.org or the pCB.

The Applicant must also agree to the signatories of the agreement exchanging the necessary information about the audit. The harmonized audits may incorporate other products covered by the scope of the MRA Safe and Strongrooms but certified outside the MRA as may exist in the first and second case scenarios above.

Validity of the harmonized audit

The harmonized audit shall be valid for:

- Products which are certified by the certification bodies within the framework of the EFSG MRA Safe and Strongrooms.
- Other products covered by the scope of the EFSG MRA Safe and Strongrooms but certified outside this MRA by any of the signatories to the agreement.

Common certification plate

In recognition of the high level of quality of the product and its compliance with the applicable standards, the certification bodies offer a common certification plate. The use of the common plate can help to increase the acceptance of the product by prescribers across the various markets.

One common certification plate is applied to each certified product sold and can be used instead of multiple individual certification plates or the multiple markings of each certification body.

General rules

The common certification plate can be issued if the certification process of a particular secure storage unit has been carried out according to the MRA Safes and Strongrooms and at least two certification bodies have issued a certificate for this particular secure storage unit.

Design of the common certification plate

Example for ATM Safes:

Figure 1: Common certification plate for an ATM safe

Note. The common certification plate is only available in English language.

Inscription

Each common certification plate will be issued by VdS Schadenverhütung GmbH to ensure that the ID-Code is a unique code able to provide traceability and counterfeit protection.

Following information are engraved on each plate:

- Identification-Code
- Grade / Standard
- VdS Approval-N°
- SBSC Certificate-N°
- A2P Certificate-N°

The certificate holder of the certified product is responsible for completing the following details at the time of production. When added the details shall be permanent:

- Serial-N°
- Weight (kg)
- Year of manufacture

Where the certification bodies have additional information requirements for the designation of a certified product, the additional marking shall be added to each secure storage unit by the certificate holder.

Order processing

The common certification plates shall be ordered by the certificate holder or by a nominated representative from:

VdS Schadenverhütung GmbH
Laboratory Mechanical Security Products and Secure Storage Units
Amsterdamer Straße 172
D-50735 Cologne
Email: label@vds.de

VdS issue a price list which describes the procedure for ordering, production and delivery of the common certification plate. This price list is available to the certificate holder upon request.

To order the common certification plates use the safe plate request form No. FS-121-EFSG available from the EFSG website.

Invoicing

EFSG is an association of legally independent testing and certification bodies. In accordance with European competition law EFSG members are unable to share pricing information with each other. Each testing laboratory and certification body therefore issues the applicant with separate invoices for the services they perform. (e.g. ATL will invoice the testing, pCB will invoice the certificate from CB1, each CB will invoice the certificate from CB(n), audit service will invoice the audit and annual fees will be requested when applicable).

The applicant can obtain the costs for the services from the respective testing and certification bodies on request to each.

Complaints and appeals

Complaints from users

Complaints from users or authorities relating to certified products, systems or services received by the EFSG shall be immediately referred to the appropriate member certification body(ies) for attention under their specific complaints procedure.

Complaints from customers

Complaints from customers relating to EFSG procedures shall be immediately referred to the Board of Management for attention under the EFSG complaints procedure.

Contact with the Board of Management can be made by writing to the secretary at the address given below.

Appeals

Where a customer wishes to challenge a decision taken by an EFSG member certification body or an associated test laboratory, an appeal must be registered in the first instance with the EFSG member in accordance with the specific appeals procedure of that member.

It is expected that the appeal will be addressed within one month of receipt and resolved within the shortest time.

European Fire and Security Group

The Secretary
European Fire and Security Group
Route de la Chapelle Réanville
F-27950 Saint-Marcel
France

Appendix A

Member certification bodies and the testing capabilities of the associated testing laboratories

Certification bodies and their associated testing laboratories			Certification bodies			
			CNPP Certification	VdS	SBSC	
Associated Testing laboratories	**Standards**	**Remarks / Limitations to tests**				
CNPP Entreprise	EN 1143-1	-- None --	●		●	
	EN 1143-2	-- None --	●		●	
	EN 14450	-- None --	●		●	
VdS Schaden-verhütung	EN 1143-1	-- None --		●		
	EN 1143-2	-- None --		●		
	EN 14450	-- None --		●		