PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT, REDUCE YOUR LIABILITY

IECQ Counterfeit Avoidance Programme: Leads the way in avoiding counterfeit and recycled electronic components

IEC QUALITY ASSESSMENT SYSTEM FOR ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (IECQ)
Why are counterfeit parts a problem?

Over the past decades there has been a significant number of counterfeit electronic parts entering the supply chain, posing performance, reliability and safety risks.

Counterfeit electronic components can be dangerous due to the fact that they often use cheap raw materials, have poor assembly, lack original manufacturers’ dye, and/or third party testing and qualification, which could mean catastrophe for a manufacturer or distributor.
Counterfeit electronic components include those that were removed from discarded devices and then cleaned, re-labeled and presented to the market as new. This takes place in uncontrolled environments and it uses methods that are likely to result in either the destruction or degradation of the electronic components. It leaves you little assurance of the electronic components’ compliance with the specification provided by the original manufacturer or distributor.
Counterfeit components can have catastrophic consequences for the aerospace, avionics and military industries

Counterfeit electronic products can generate significant safety hazards for you and, left undetected, can cause death, injuries and substantial property loss in your manufacturing plants. These fraudulent products also increase liability because they can void the guarantee of the whole device or system into which it is mounted.

The aerospace, defence and high performance industries are addressing this problem in part by using IECQ CAP (Counterfeit Avoidance Programme).

This first Programme of its kind uses a number of new standards that have been developed to avoid, detect, mitigate and dispose of counterfeit parts for manufacturers or distributors.
These standards have been created in response to the growing number of fraudulent electronic parts entering the aerospace, avionics and military supply chains, posing considerable performance, reliability and safety risks.
What is the Counterfeit Avoidance Programme?

IECQ CAP allows an organization, including any equipment manufacturer or subcontractor the organization uses, to develop and implement the systems required to obtain an IECQ CAP Certificate of Conformity.

This provides confidence internationally that this organization has processes for managing counterfeit avoidance in the selection and use of components according to IECQ CAP technical and quality management system requirements. This is ensured through independent conformity assessment and ongoing surveillance by an IECQ Certification Body (IECQ CB).
The organizations will then be able to get Approved Process Certification under the IECQ Approved Process Scheme.

IECQ CAP based on these standards will subsequently be expanded to address fraudulent risk mitigation on a global scale across multi-sector electronic supply chain industries. It will provide uniform requirements, practices and methods to mitigate the risks of receiving and installing counterfeit electronic parts.
Reducing risk and liability

With IECQ CAP, manufacturers and distributors will be able to:

• Promote their products and services with greater confidence as the Certification will be internationally recognized;
• Obtain independent monitoring and verification of their components and your systems, including their auditing system;
• Benefit from advanced detection of potential technical problems in the supply chain;
• Eliminate duplicate testing; and
• Achieve easier acceptance by regulators and others in the supply chain in many countries.

The Programme, based on these standards will subsequently be expanded to address fraudulent/counterfeit risk mitigation on a global scale across multi-sector electronic supply chain industries and to provide uniform requirements, practices and methods to mitigate the risks of receiving and installing fraudulent/counterfeit electronic parts.
In the future

IECQ CAP addresses the needs of the aerospace, defence and high performance industries; however, IECQ CAP will be developed to allow other industries to participate, noting that different industries may require different criteria. Other industries may include telecommunications, biomedical and automotive sectors.
Certified with confidence

You and your customers can trust that your products are genuine and perform as they should because IECQ CAP ensures that sampling, test processes, test results, along with production controls are monitored and verified by an impartial third-party certification body.

Who issues certification?

Manufacturers and distributors who are interested in applying for IECQ CAP can contact the IECQ Secretariat.

IECQ Secretariat
286 Sussex Street
Sydney, NSW 2000
Australia
Tel: +61 2 8206 6940
info@iecq.ch
www.iecq.org

Quality control, more than just a visual test

The IEC Conformity Assessment Systems are the largest and best known multilateral agreements that are based on one time testing of products globally. With hundreds of Certification Bodies and Testing Laboratories participating across the various IEC CA Systems and Schemes and in some areas operating dedicated Counterfeit Avoidance Programmes e.g. the IECQ CAP for electronic components and assemblies, IEC is well positioned to assist the global industry in this fight.
IECQ

IECQ (IEC Quality Assessment System for Electronic Components) is a worldwide approval and certification system that covers the supply, assembly, associated materials and processes of a large variety of electronic components that are used in millions of devices and systems.

The IECQ Certification System provides manufacturers with independent verification that IEC International Standards and other specifications were met by suppliers who hold an IECQ certification.

The avionics and increasingly other industries depend on the IECQ Electronic Component Management Plan to assess suppliers and safely manage their components' supply chain also to avoid counterfeit merchandise. IECQ also allows manufacturers to more easily comply with increasingly strict hazardous substances regulations.

IECQ operates five certification schemes: HSPM (Hazardous Substances Process Management), ECMP (Electronic Component Management Plan), AP (Approved Process), AC (Approved Component) and ITL (Independent Testing Laboratory). www.iecq.org
About the IEC

The IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is the world’s leading organization that prepares and publishes International Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies and administers Conformity Assessment Systems that certify that components, equipment and systems conform to them.

The IEC brings together 165 countries, and over 13,000 experts cooperate on the global IEC platform to ensure that products work everywhere safely with each other. IEC work enables global value chains; allows industry and companies of all sizes to access global markets faster and at less cost, and permits nations to better protect their citizens.

IEC work covers a vast range of technologies: power generation (including all renewable energy sources), transmission, distribution, Smart Grid, batteries, home appliances, office and medical equipment, all public and private transportation, semiconductors, fibre optics, nanotechnology, multimedia, information technology, and more. It also addresses safety, EMC, performance and the environment.

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