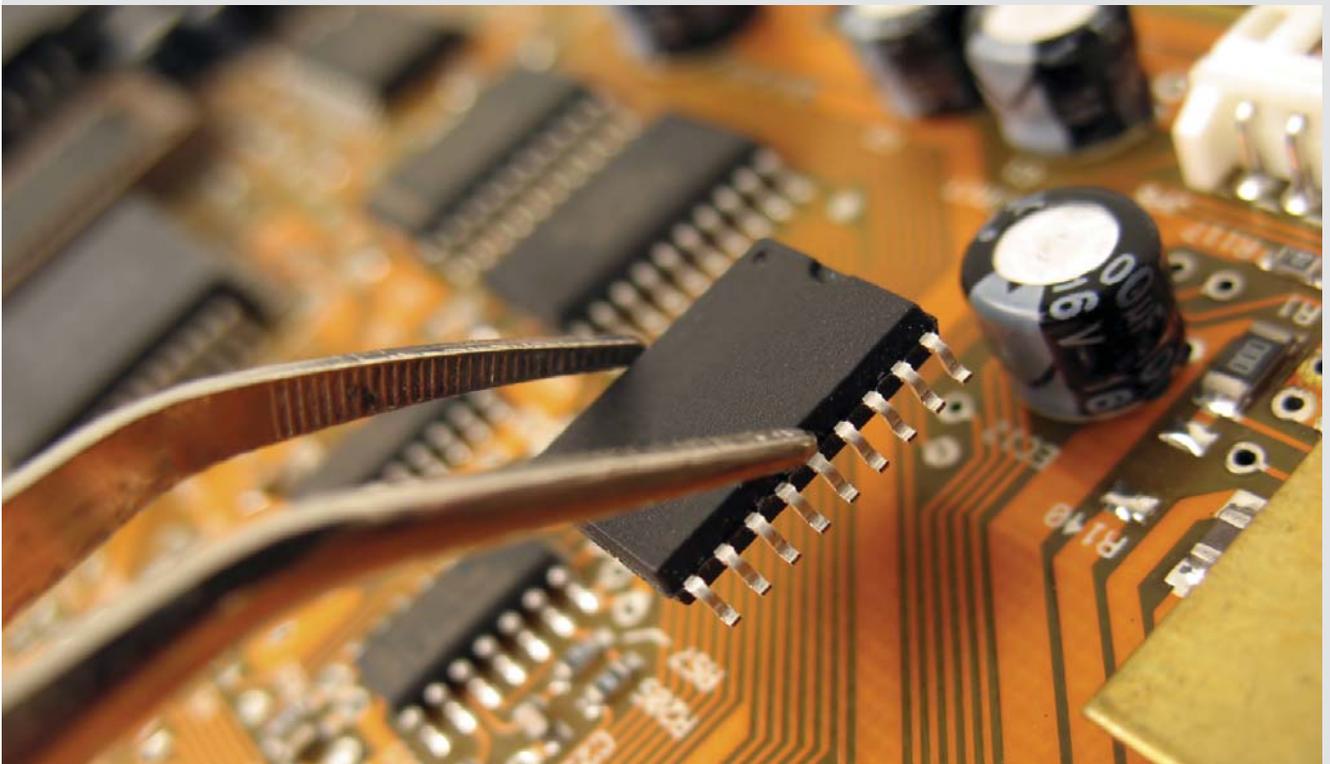




IECQ APPROVED PROCESS SCHEME

IEC QUALITY ASSESSMENT
SYSTEM FOR ELECTRONIC
COMPONENTS (IECQ)



IECQ APPROVED PROCESS SCHEME

IECQ is a worldwide certification system covering the supply of electronic components and associated materials and processes. It uses quality assessment specifications that are based on national, regional, international or industry standards. The IECQ is about assurance and cost-cutting. Electrical and electronic products comprise many, sometimes hundreds of individual components and sub-assemblies. The well-known brand manufacturers and their purchasing managers want to be assured that the electronic components used in their products are of the required quality and reliability. To minimize inspection costs and eliminate the quality auditing of suppliers, they can choose component suppliers who hold IECQ certification for approved component products, related materials and assemblies.

Electronic components covered by IECQ

At present there are eight families of electronic components covered by the IECQ:

- active components, including integrated circuits;
- electromagnetic components;
- electromechanical components;
- electro-optic components;
- hybrid integrated circuits;
- passive components;
- printed wiring boards; and
- wires and cables.

IECQ AP (Approved Process) Certification

IECQ Approved Process Certification may be applied to any process which may affect conformity or compliance of electronic components, related assemblies or services. It covers, but is not limited to, product engineering, printed wiring board manufacturing, electronic component manufacturing, printed circuit board assembly, ESD (electro static discharge) controls, distribution or even supply chain management.

Additionally, as a part of its manufacturing infrastructure, the electronic component industry relies on a series of supporting companies and organizations providing a wide range of specialized services, processing, and manufacture of piece parts and materials.

Approved Process vs. Approved Component

The IECQ Approved Process Scheme permits companies and organizations to certify their specialized services or processes. For their part, manufacturers of finished electronic components can obtain certification to the IECQ Approved Component Scheme if they wish to qualify finished electronic components. However, such manufacturers may also seek certification for specific services or processes or for the manufacture of piece parts and materials in accordance with the IECQ Approved Process Scheme.

This approach recognizes the diverse infrastructure of the electronic components industry and makes it possible for a total electronic component



manufacturing capability to be assessed as a totality taking into account the separate operations of several companies, each of which contributes piece parts, materials, processing or technical services to the final product.

Examples of supporting industry organizations are design bureau, packagers, electroplaters, PCB mass laminators, sub assembly board loading, and distribution of components.

Organizations that are holding IECQ Approved Process Certification demonstrate to the international market place that their organization and facilities comply with the requirements of the IECQ System and the relevant declared technical International Standards and specifications for their scope of activity. IECQ Approved Process Certification mandates that the organization's quality system must satisfy the requirements of ISO 9001 and the additional requirements of the IECQ System. Where design is necessary, it must be claimed in the scope of activity.

Obtain IECQ Approved Process Certification

Organizations that are interested in obtaining IECQ Approved Process Certification can contact the IECQ CB (Certification Body) of their choice or the IECQ Secretariat. For the complete list of IECQ CBs, please go to: www.iecq.org/members/.

How can I find out more?

Visit the IECQ website at www.iecq.org.

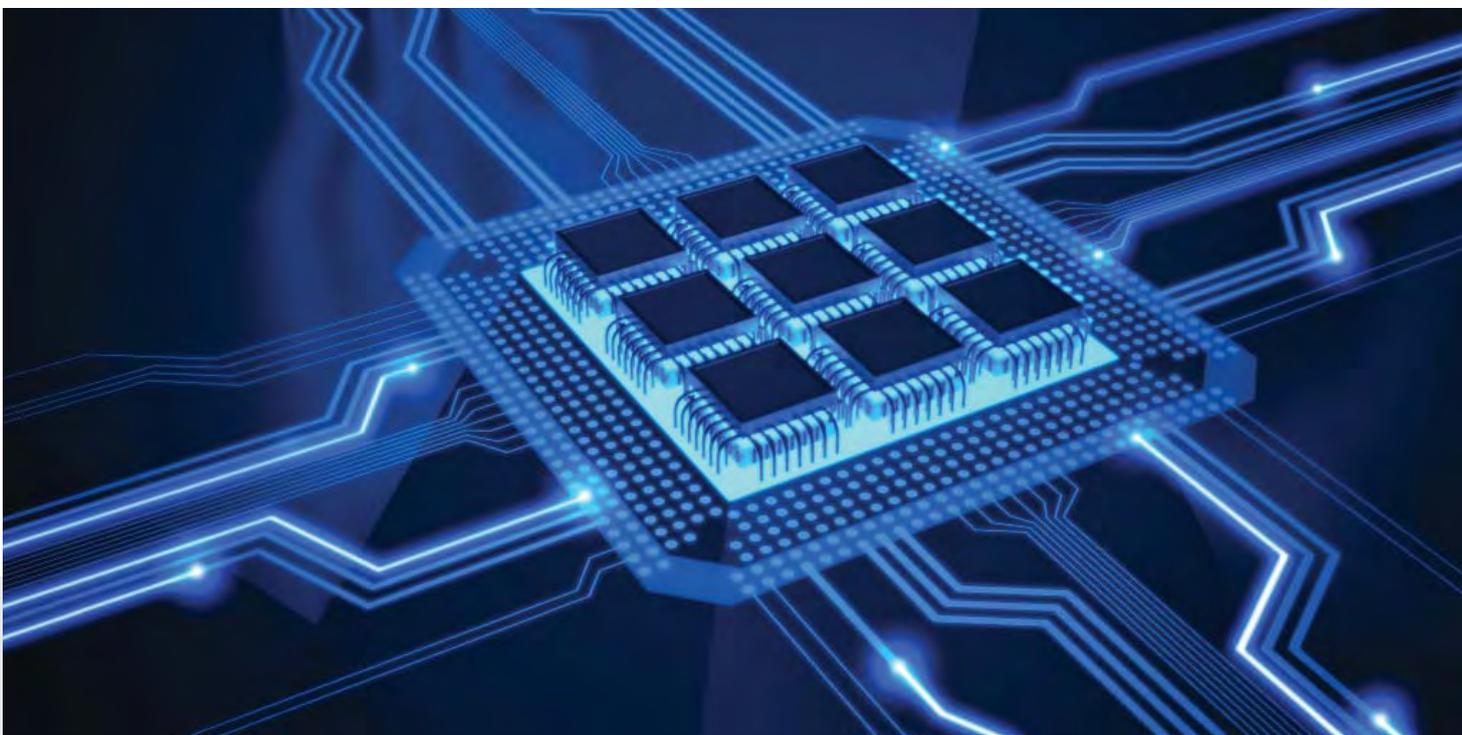
You may also wish to contact the IECQ Secretariat:

286 Sussex Street
Sydney, NSW 2000
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Tel: +61 2 8206 6940

info@iecq.org

www.iecq.org





IEC QUALITY ASSESSMENT SYSTEM FOR ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (IECQ)

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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.
www.iec.ch