SASO Overview
&
Conformity Assessment activities

April 25th, 2013 – Jumada 1434
Background

• SASO was established in 1972 as an Independent Government Body Responsible for all Standardization Activities, under the Name of Saudi Arabian Standards Org. (SASO)

• In Feb, 2009, SASO Name has been changed to Saudi Standards, Metrology, and Quality Org., which extends SASO’s responsibilities to cover the supervision of Introducing/Executing Quality initiatives to/in the Kingdom.
Vision & Mission

• Our Vision

“To be a Distinguished Body in all fields of Standardization and Quality at the National, Regional, and International levels.”

• Our Mission

“To Protect the Consumer and Ensure the Public Interest by Issuing and Applying Standards and Quality Systems.”
SASO Responsibilities

Standards

Quality

Metrology

Testing

Conformity

King Abdulaziz Award for Quality

Saudi Accreditation Committee

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SASO in Figures

- **628** Employees
- Developed/Adopted ≈ **27,818** Standards/Technical Regulations
- Granted ≈ **270** factories the **Saudi Quality Mark**
  (among which 15 in UAE, 4 in Qatar, 4 in Bahrain, 12 in Egypt, 2 in Jordan, 4 in China, 1 in Italy, 1 in India, 1 in Thailand).
- Tests about **4,000** samples annually
- Technical Committees: **6** Main Comm., **32** Technical Sub-Comm. with **350** members
SASO in Figures (Cont’d)

- SASO has signed Technical Cooperation Programs with about 40 SDO’s all over the world.
- 14 Mutual Recognition Programs (MRP’s), signed with:
  Turkey, Malaysia, Tunisia, South Africa, Jordan, Egypt, Argentina, South Korea, China, Germany, Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore and Pakistan.
- In addition, 61 Laboratories have been Accredited by the Saudi Accreditation Committee (SAC).
SASO at the Regional and International Level

SASO is a Member of the following Orgs.:

- SASO has recently become a Board Member of SIMIC
- SASO is an Affiliate Member in ILAC
Conformity Assessment

- **Conformity Assessment**: a Process whereby a Product, Service, or System is Evaluated against Standard or Technical Regulation Requirements.
- Procedures are used - directly or indirectly - to determine the extent of compliance with related technical regulations and standards, including sampling, testing, inspection, verification of conformity, registration, accreditation, certification, or all of them.
Basic elements of conformity assessment

Since its establishment, SASO has focused on the implementation of the infrastructure necessary to verify the conformity assessment procedures, such as:

- Adopting Standards and technical regulations (Adoption of international standards has become one of the major SASO activities).
- Building Laboratory capacity for examination and testing.
- Provision of Measurement and calibration Services
- Promoting Quality Systems (for products, management, services .....).
SASO’s Conformity Assessment programs:

The conformity assessment procedures is verified through any of the following programs:

- Products Conformity Certification
- Mutual Recognition
- Certification of Management Systems
- Accreditation for testing labs
- The Saudi Quality Mark
The main objective of CAP’s is to give consumers confidence that products/services meet all requirements related to Standards/Technical Regulation.

WTO encourages members to sign Mutual Recognition Agreements and acceptance of one another's conformity assessment procedures.
Conformity Assessment Procedures (CAP’s) through MRP’s & RP’s

- These "recognition and acceptance" can be based on:
  - Government-to-Government (G2G) – MRP’s
  - Government-to-Private Bodies (G2P) – RP’s
  - Bilateral or Multilateral Agreements.

- The basic activities of CAP’s are: Testing, Certification, and Inspection.
- Testing & certification are mostly done by CB's outside the importing countries (Need to ensure that CoC’s are not fake.)
Why MRP’s & RP’s?

- MRP’s and RP’s are has increasingly become a popular mechanism worldwide, for protecting the interest of both: manufacturer & consumer.
- Resolves the Lack of confidence in CoC’s because of the qualification variances of the Certification bodies.
- Reduces the risk of fake CoC’s.
- Shorten the time to market cycle (no retesting is needed).
- Fulfill WTO TBT requirements, to facilitate trade between Members Countries.
The 1-1-1 Dream

- 1 Standard
- Accepted everywhere
- 1 Test
- Conformity Assessment

Done once for all!
SASO Experience with RP / MRP

- SASO signed MRP’s with Certification Bodies (CB’s) and some standards organization bodies in the following 14 countries:

  Turkey, Malaysia, Tunisia, South Africa, Jordan, Egypt, Argentina, China, South Korea, Germany, Philippines, Indonesia, Pakistan, and Spain,
SASO Experience with RP / MRP (Cont’d)

- SASO signed RP’s of CoC's with well known (Third Party) International Testing and Certification bodies: Intertek, Tuv Sud, SGS, VDE NEMKO, BV, Applus+, Tuv Rhineland, JQA, CQC
- SASO is working on signing more of such programs in the near future with other international reputable Testing Labs/Certification Bodies.
Conformity Assessment - Quality Mark

- SASO started the application procedures for Quality Mark for the first time in Saudi Arabia in 1987 with the adoption of Quality Mark guideline to be used for the manufacture which implement the Technical Regulations, Standards.
- The Quality mark granted by SASO to products that comply to Saudi standards and/or technical regulation & their producers adopt quality management systems.
- 258 factories granted the Saudi Quality Mark (for a variety of products: electrical, household, chemical, mechanical, construction, textiles, agriculture,..etc ).
SASO Quality Mark Symbol

www.saso.gov.sa
Procedure for granting SASO Quality Mark

1. Application Submission/Review
   - Initial inspection
     - Factory initial inspection.
     - Examining records concerning production and quality,
     - Review of test results and ensuring its compliance with its own quality manual.
   - Drawing up samples from the product
   - Examining the records of measurement and testing instruments and checking their accuracy, calibration and maintenance.
   - Producing the Inspection report including test results and a recommendation

2. Granting of the License to use the quality mark

3. Periodic inspection
Quality Mark License Certificate

The Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization Certify that: are licensed to use the quality mark on its following product:

According to SASO Standards No:  /  ,  /  .

For only one year starting from  /  /  H, coinciding with  /  /  A.D.

Dr. Saad O. AlKasabi

Licence No:

Nabil A. Molla
SASO Governor
SASO Quality Mark Benefits

For Consumers:

- Maintains Consumers health and safety
- Simple method for guidance to safe & good quality products.
- Better consumer trust in the products
- Protection from falling into the clutches of fraud and deception
SASO Quality Mark Benefits

For Producers

- Tool to Empower Consumer confidence
- Better chances for Market Penetration
- Better Competition Power
- Shorten the Cycle to market
Conformity Assessment - Certificate of Conformity

- **CoC** is a certification procedure for a particular product, to demonstrate the compliance of the consignment with the related Standards and Technical Regulations.

- SASO prepared and approved guideline for the procedures of issuing CoC’s for commodities and products to be exported to KSA through **Mutual Recognition Programs**

- SASO grants CoCs for exported products
Steps for Granting a CoC

SASO performs the following steps to grant a CoC:

- Application revision & data review
- Consignment inspection & Sample Drawing
- Sample testing
- If sample complies to the relevant technical regulations or standards, CoC will be granted
- If not, SASO shall inform the applicants in writing, with sufficient reasoning
تشهّد الهيئة السعودية للمواصفات والمعايير والجودة بأن دفعة الإنتاج ( ) رقم تسليحي بتاريخ / 11/2011 م عدد رقم المنتجة في مصنع 1402 مملوKIعلي تقرير مختبر الهيئة رقم ( ) بتاريخ / 1432 الموافق / 2011م وتنتهي في / 1432 الموافق / 2012م ولا تستعمل هذه الشهادة إلا مع هذه الإرسالية فقط المقدم للهيئة طلب بشأنه.

حافظ الهيئة

د. سعد بن عثمان القصبي

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Accreditation activities

Saudi Accreditation Committee

A decision was made by SASO Board of Directors in its meeting No. 126 dated 1-12-1428 AH to establish the Saudi Accreditation Committee SAC

SAC has accredited:

- 61 Laboratories
- 2 Inspection bodies
Accreditation activities (Cont’d)

- Third party certification for CA Bodies which indicates that a body offers conformity assessment services in a certain field, and that it is legally qualified to do specified tasks according to international Standards and Guidance requirement (ISO 17025, ISO 17020, ISO 17021, etc.)

- Accreditation supervises the following CA bodies:
  - Labs (Testing and Calibration)
  - Inspecting bodies
  - Certification bodies
Accreditation activities (Cont’d)

Benefits from Accreditation

- Empowers Consumer Protection
- Provides more trust in the certificates issued by the accredited bodies.
- International recognition of the certificates issued by the accredited bodies.
- Facilitates trade between international markets
- Promotes better confidence & quality level of the products
Energy Efficiency certification

- SASO’s new energy labeling program took effect on April 27, 2010.
- Since that date, all products being sold in KSA (within the program scope) must comply to mandatory energy efficiency standards.
Energy Efficiency certification (Cont’d)

Products Covered Under KSA's Energy Labeling Program

1. Air conditioners: Window/split type air-cooled Air Conditioner with cooling capacity less than 70 000 Btu/h
2. Washing machines: Electric washing machines for household and similar use, including machines with or without heating devices and supplied by cold and/or hot water, washers with water extraction by centrifugal force (Washer-Dryer) in single bowl or twin tub, and either horizontal or vertical axis (SASO 2683/2007, SASO 2693/2007, SASO 2692/2007)
Energy Efficiency certification (Cont’d)

Products Covered Under KSA's Energy Labeling Program

3. Refrigerators, refrigerators-freezers and freezers: household refrigerators and refrigerator-freezers and freezers and compact refrigerators, refrigerator-freezers and freezers employing compressor type refrigeration system. The capacity for refrigerators and refrigerator-freezers is up to 1100L (39ft) and for Freezers is up to 850 L (30ft) *(SASO 2664/2007)*
**Products Distribution**

- **Refrigerators and freezers**: 2150 Certificates
- **Air conditioners**: 14535 Certificate
- **Washing machines**: 1435 Certificates

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Air conditioners: 14535 Certificate  
Washing machines: 1435 Certificates  
Refrigerators and freezers: 2150 Certificates
Thank you