

How does a customer apply for an ICASA approval of their product using a pre-approved module?

In order to comply with the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA) regulations, all wireless electronic equipment in South Africa should be registered with ICASA and have a unique Equipment Type Approval number assigned to them.

To acquire an Equipment Type Approval, the supplier must first be registered with ICASA so that the approval can be registered to the specific supplier.

Once registered as a supplier with ICASA, a Type Approval application is submitted with the relevant supporting test reports pertaining to the device. The Radio Frequency Spectrum Regulations outline which supporting test reports are required for different frequency bands which the device may operate within.

The test standards that are adhered to for the 2G SIMCom modules are as follows:

- EN 301 511 (RF Test Report)
- EN 301 489-1,7 (EMC Test Report)
- EN 60950-1 (Safety Test Report)

Provided the host PCB has no other RF parts on it other than the 2G SIMCom module, then the RF Test Report of the module may often be used as the RF Test Report for the finished product. The EMC and Safety Test Reports however will still need to be attained for the finished product and submitted with the ICASA Type Approval Application. The application can be submitted online www.online.iscasa.org.za

Who can perform the testing and provide the relevant test reports for my finished product using a wireless module?

Some institutions focus purely on the RF and EMC or the Safety test services and others offer a full range of test services covering all these requirements. The following list is some of the popular laboratory test companies that can perform your RF, EMC and Safety test requirements:

- Isert
- ITC-Test Services
- Gerotek
- Test Africa
- SABS
- BSI
- TUV SUD South Africa
- SGS

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