

## About ATEX

ATEX is the European Directive (2014/34/EU) that oversees compliance requirements for products that are for use in potentially explosive atmospheres.

Conformity with the ATEX Directive is a mandatory requirement and products shall be certified by a Notified Body and shall be CE marked to enable access of the product to the European Market

## About Nemko

In 1933, Norges Elektriske Materiellkontroll was established as a foundation for mandatory safety testing and national approval of electrical equipment in Norway.

We expanded rapidly to new areas, such as testing of radio interference requirements. It didn't take long for us to become a trusted name in Scandinavia. We became known as Nemko. In the last 20 years, we've recognized the immense opportunities for growth, both in the scope of service and in expanding our presence beyond Scandinavia.

In 1990 we became an independent, self-owned foundation, with a supervising council of representatives from different interest groups, including industry and trade organisations, consumer associations, and utilities. The foundation established and became the sole owner of

Nemko AS, the central operating company responsible for the Nemko Group. Today, Nemko offers [testing](#), [inspection](#), and [certification](#) services concerning products and systems on a worldwide basis. Our global network of experts and partners in Asia, North America, Europe, the Middle East, and Africa helps customers comply with an increasingly complex set of requirements in more than 150 countries. We are proud to serve our customers in a reliable, efficient, and open manner, providing local presence coupled with global knowledge.

Nemko is a Notified Body for the ATEX Directive. As a Notified Body under this scheme, we operate our certification process in accordance with the directive and associated guidance and clarification sheets from the Ex Notified Body coordination group. This documents outlines the key elements of the scheme and how it is implemented within Nemko.

## CERTIFICATION PROCESS

### Application

An application for certification shall be placed with Nemko Group, as ATEX Notified Body (NB0470). This application will describe the key features of the product, the responsible parties and critical facilities that will be part of the quality assurance auditing program

We will then communicate with one of our qualified Laboratories who will perform testing on the products

The laboratory will work with the Manufacturer to establish a test and assessment program and ensure close collaboration with the Notified Body to facilitate the progression through the certification process.

The documentation provided will include technical documentation and an application form. Our standard scheme requirements are located here and are supplemented by Scheme specific requirements as documented in this scheme description. The Application will form the basis of our certification agreement with the Manufacturer.

An application can be processed if Nemko, following review of the application, determines that there is sufficient information to follow a certification process, and that Nemko has the necessary scope of recognition and resources to process the application.

Technical criteria will be published European standards applicable under the ATEX directive.

### Evaluation

Testing and evaluation will be performed by the laboratory in accordance with the test and assessment plan. Where necessary, testing may also be performed by entities who have entered into a testing agreement with Nemko as per our procedures for outsourcing testing. This can be to manufacturers, other laboratories or witnessed by Nemko in accordance with the procedures.

The manufacturer's site, as well as any external manufacturing sites, will be audited by Nemko, as per a defined audit programme, in accordance the requirements given in the EN ISO/IEC 80079-34, resulting in the issuance of a Quality Assurance Notification (QAN) for the production process.

A full re-assessment of the QAN is performed every 3 years, with a surveillance within 18 months for ISO 9001 registered facilities with an appropriate scope, or annually within 12/24 months for non-ISO 9001 registered facilities.

The QAN and type testing can be performed in parallel however the Type Examination shall be issued prior to issue of the QAN.

Results of the Quality Assurance auditing and the type testing will be provided to the NB in Nemko for review and a decision on certification.

If the manufacturer / the manufacturing site(s) already holds a valid QAN covering the same type of product and the same type(s) of Ex protection this will be taken into account.

### **Certification**

After testing the test report will be evaluated to ensure that the product complies with relevant standards and scheme requirements. The evaluation will be followed by a review of the result from the evaluation before a decision of certification is made. The certification procedure

includes aspects of the scheme such as technical review of the test report during evaluation. The review will also document that relevant standards have been used, and that the Test report is according to the scheme requirements. In addition, the review will document that all factories listed have a Quality Assurance Notification.

### **Marking**

Nemko does not authorize a certification mark under the ATEX program. The manufacturer shall apply CE marking in accordance with the requirements of the directive.

### **Maintenance**

To maintain an ATEX certificate, it requires that ongoing Quality Assurance auditing is performed in accordance with the audit programme for the registered manufacturer / manufacturing site(s). In addition, it requires that the manufacturer fulfills its obligations of the scheme and Nemko's certification agreement. This involves ensuring that Nemko is kept informed of proposed changes in the product or facilities. All Nemko scheme requirements are documented here <https://www.nemko.com/about/nemko-scheme-requirements>

### **FEES**

The cost of testing, auditing and initial certification will be quoted before project commences. The fees for maintaining the Nemko Certification, will be paid by the applicant.

### **UPDATES**

A Nemko Type Examination Certificate can be updated for technical or administrative reasons. All updates will be handled according to the certification process above as applicable and will result in the certificates being updated following re-issue by Nemko. Any proposed changes or modifications to the product must be informed to Nemko for evaluation of retesting and re-certification prior to implementation.

### VALIDITY

A Nemko Type Examination Certificate is valid until cancelled/withdrawn by the applicant or by Nemko in accordance with the scheme requirements unless stated otherwise in the certificate. A QAN must be maintained through ongoing auditing and re-certified every 3 years.

### SUSPENSION and WITHDRAWAL

Certificates may be suspended and subsequently withdrawn (Cancelled) or re-instated by Nemko in accordance with the policies and procedures of the scheme. The Certification Manager is responsible for the withdrawal of certificates and reporting procedure towards involved organizations and respective authorities where relevant.

### COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

Nemko does offer a complaints process to customers through which we will actively engage on complaint resolution should the situation arise.

Nemko also offers an appeals process to manufacturers where a disagreement on a decision of Nemko can be heard and acted upon.

Complaints and appeals should be directed to:

*Certification Manager  
Nemko Group AS*

[info@nemko.com](mailto:info@nemko.com)

### Our ATEX Scheme Services:

At Nemko Group we provide all the necessary guidance and support to comply with the requirements for ATEX.

Further information on ATEX services can be found on our [ATEX Certification for Europe | Nemko](#)