



Type Approval Frequently Asked Questions

1. WHICH EQUIPMENT NEEDS TYPE APPROVAL?

All Telecommunications Equipment which connects directly /or seamlessly to a Public

Telecommunications Network and / or which is an intentional transmitter of radio waves shall be subject to the BTA's Type Approval requirements. Such equipment with an intentional transmitter of radio waves is referred to collectively as Radio and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment (RTTE).

2. WHO CAN APPLY FOR TYPE APPROVAL?

Any of the following parties may apply for equipment registration of RTTE:

- Local or international manufacturers.
- Authorized Importers.
- Licensed Operators.
- Resellers

3. An application to register equipment must be made in the official application form. The following document should be submitted on application for type approval

- Type Approval form.
- Technical data sheet
- List of standards (ITU, ETSI, ... etc)
- Signed 'declaration of conformity'
- Proof of payment (application fee).
- Type approval certificate mainly from region 1/ and or other region where there is proof of compatibility with region1
- Test reports from recognized acclaimed laboratories

4. WHAT ARE THE FEES FOR TYPE APPROVAL?

- Refer to type Approval guidelines

5. HOW SHOULD FOREIGN COMPANIES OR MANUFACTURES SEND AND

RECEIVE THEIR APPLICATION PAPER FOR TYPE APPROVAL PROCESS?

- If they have local office/representative in Botswana, local office should apply for registration on behalf of company or manufacture.
- If they don't have local office, they can do all process by themselves and they have to send and receive all application paper to BTA office via email.

6. HOW DOES THE CONSUMER KNOW WHETHER THE SUPPLIER HAS REGISTERED THE EQUIPMENT WITH BTA

- Through an Authority label which must be attached to the equipment by the supplier.

7. WHAT ARE THE LABELING REQUIREMENTS FOR TELECOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT?

- Equipment or its packaging and user documentation shall be clearly labeled with the label as specified in the type approval guidelines unless otherwise agreed with the BTA.

8. WHAT IS THE TIME LIMIT TO THE VALIDITY OF A TYPE APPROVAL CERTIFICATE FOR EQUIPMENT?

- The time limit for any Type Approval is one (1) year, renewable.

9. WE HAVE ORIGINAL FAMILY MODELS. THE ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MODELS IS THE SOFTWARE, NO OTHER DIFFERENCE IN RF CHARACTERISTICS. IS IT POSSIBLE TO APPLY FAMILY APPROVAL?

- Family model can be submitted in one form but declaration of similarity should be obtained from the manufacture proving that the technical specifications of the models are the same.

10. WHAT IS THE REQUIREMENT FOR EQUIPMENT BOUGHT OUTSIDE BOTSWANA AND IMPORTED BY AN INDIVIDUAL FOR PERSONAL USE?

- For equipment brought from outside Botswana by individuals, the importer shall ascertain that the equipment is of a type eligible for registration in Botswana and comply with all the relevant technical requirements. Equipment imported for personal use shall not be sold, hired or otherwise disposed of to any other parties

11. WHAT ARE YOUR STANDARDS AND HOW CAN I OBTAIN COPIES?

- The BTA publishes technical specifications with which RTTE shall comply. In the absence of a suitable relevant specification, the BTA may specify technical requirements on a case-by-case basis.

12. WHAT IS THE TURNAROUND TIME FOR REGISTERING EQUIPMENT WITH BTA

- Depends on type of equipment and the documentation that the customer has provided, delays in providing the required documents may delay the processing of type approval ; under normal condition it should take 5 to 14 working days.

13. AFTER PRODUCTS ARE PLACED IN THE MARKET, IS THERE A MECHANISM TO ENSURE THAT THE PRODUCTS COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE TA SPECIFICATIONS?

- Yes, BTA has a surveillance team which does adhoc checks of equipment regularly.

14. ARE CELL PHONE JAMMERS LEGAL?

- Cell phone jammers are **not** legal in Botswana

15. IS CELL PHONE (GSM) SIGNAL BOOSTER LEGAL?

- Cell phone (GSM) signal booster is allowed only for GSM operators to enhance their signal

16. Is type approval the same as licensing?

- Type Approval is some form certification to acknowledge the presence of certain equipment and allowed them to be used in the Botswana networks, whereas licensing would be specific to service provision.

17. Is type approval necessary for test purposes/license free bands?

- Even during the test period/or for license free bands, equipment is being used therefore it shall be subject to type Approval

18. What is an ISM BAND?

- An ISM band is a dedicated band for Industrial Scientific and Medical usage; it is license free provided it is used within the required power levels. Type approval is obligatory in an ISM band

19. What is an accredited laboratory?

- It is a laboratory that is continually checked for among other compliance to ISO standards and the qualification levels of personnel conducting such test being monitored.

20. Payment methods

- Payment can be made by cash or company cheques at BTA headquarters, plot 206/207, independence avenue, Gaborone.
- Customers within Botswana may Deposit Cash into BTA account number 62011115088, First National Bank, The Mall Branch, Gaborone. Deposit may be paid at any FNB Branch in Botswana, Bank charges of P3.00 will be payable by the customer in addition to the invoice amount.
- Customers from outside Botswana are requested to pay fees by means of a bank draft in Botswana Pula. Customers paying through a Bank are requested to fax the deposit receipt to the BTA Fax number +267 3957976. Please indicate your BTA Invoice number in the receipt