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# *Roundup of New Radio Approval Procedures Introduced in 2025*

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# 01. About The Author



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Aaron is a Senior Regulatory Compliance Specialist with the Global Regulatory Compliance Team at Compliance & Risks, where he has been based in Cork, Ireland since 2008.

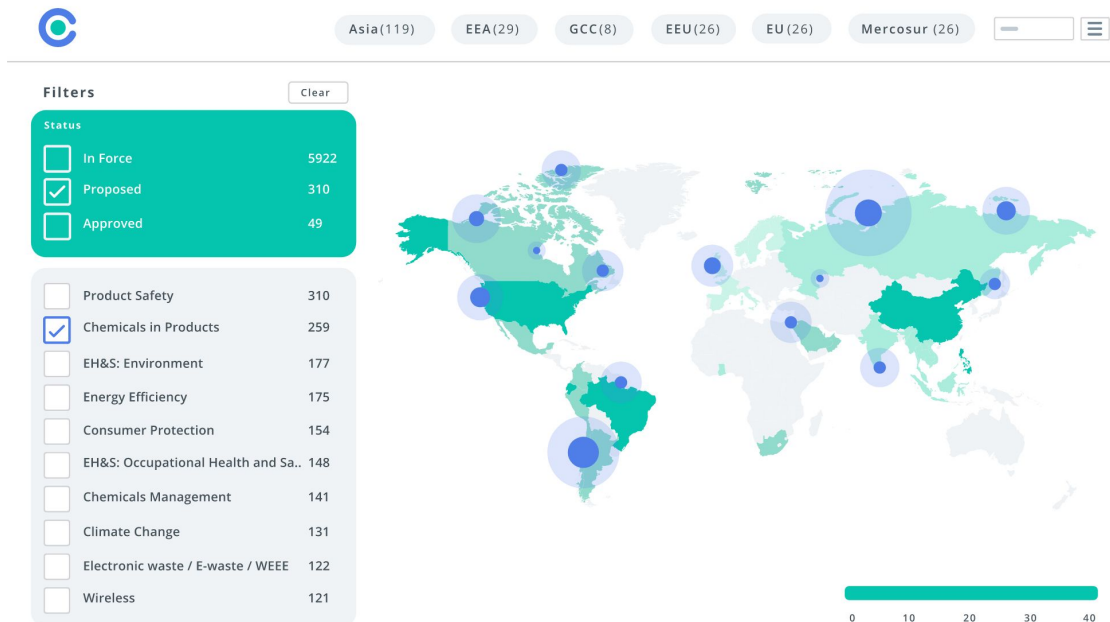
Before starting with Compliance & Risks, he worked as a judicial law clerk and practicing lawyer in Minnesota, USA, with a focus on environmental and property matters.

Aaron's experience managing C2P's "data in/Information-out" was incorporated into his PhD research investigating the limits of categorical representations in semantic communication.

His expert regulatory areas include Automotive, Cybersecurity, Electromagnetic Compatibility and Wireless.

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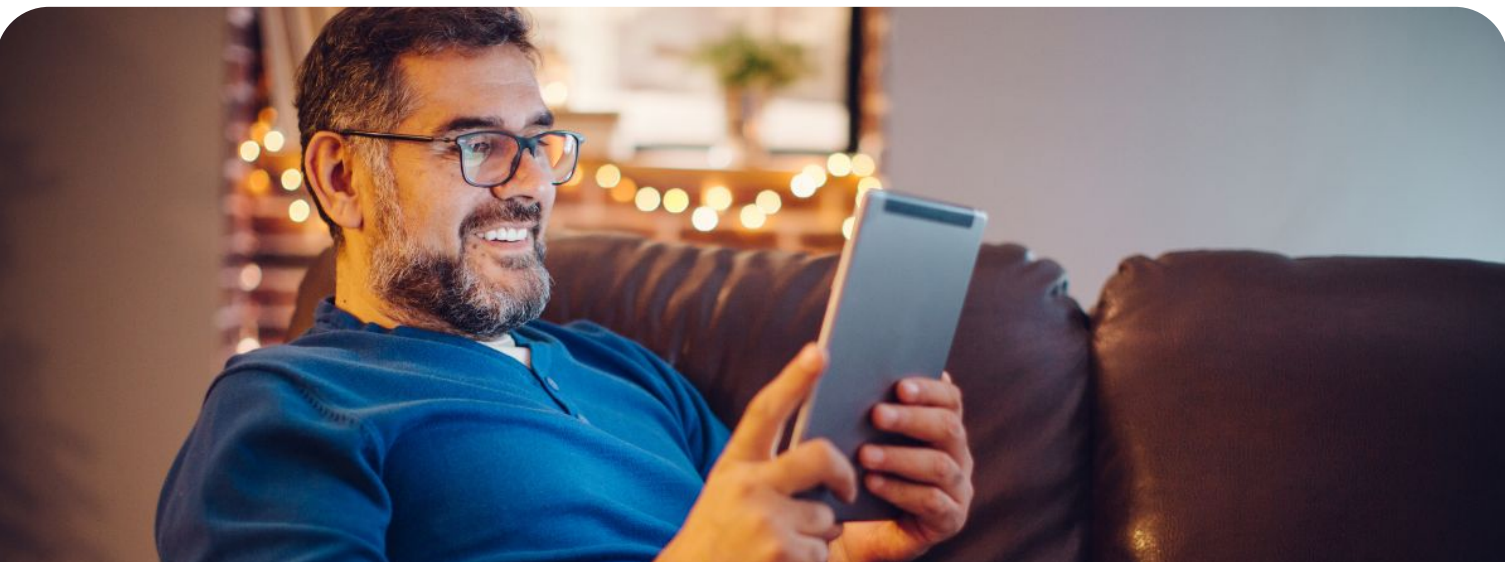
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## 03. Introduction

In 2025, the global landscape for radio equipment type approval regulations was marked by a continued shift towards a hybrid approach, combining national approval requirements and alignment with international standards.

This whitepaper analyzes the new and updated type approval requirements for radio frequency equipment in 2025 across twenty major jurisdictions, highlighting a move toward automated digital systems, heightened national security oversight, and stricter alignment with international standards such as ETSI, IEC, and CISPR.

This whitepaper provides a roadmap for manufacturers, importers, and compliance officers to navigate complex new requirements, categorizing developments into five primary regions, including:

1. Middle East
2. Asia-Pacific
3. Europe
4. Africa
5. The Americas



## 04. Middle East: Safety and Integration

The Middle East has prioritized the harmonization of ICT equipment with broader consumer safety laws.

### 4.1. Saudi Arabia: The New Product Safety Paradigm

In July 2025, the Saudi Arabian Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO) notified the WTO of a draft Technical Regulation for ICT equipment.

This regulation is a direct extension of the Saudi Product Safety Law (Royal Decree No. M/36 of 2024). The law explicitly defines the liabilities of manufacturers vs. distributors in the event of non-compliance.

Manufacturers must now submit comprehensive risk assessment documentation detailing potential electromagnetic and electrical hazards. Equipment used by military and security authorities remains exempt.

### 4.2. Iraq and Jordan: Refining Spectrum Use

**Iraq (CMC):** In September 2025, Iraq approved a regulatory framework for Short-Range Devices (SRD) and Ultra-Wideband (UWB). The regulation adopts ETSI EN standards, simplifying the path for European-certified devices.

**Jordan (TRC):** New import instructions issued in September 2025 mandate that all cellular-enabled devices must possess a GSMA IMEI registration certificate. This is part of a broader "national whitelist" initiative to curb the grey market. These Instructions outline the conditions and procedures for obtaining approval to import, use, and possess telecommunications terminal devices operating via electronic, optical, wired, wireless, or radio systems.



## 05. Asia-Pacific: 5G Expansion and Digital Portals

The APAC region is leading the shift toward automated, online-only approval systems and the technical standardization of 5G.

### 5.1. Papua New Guinea

The National Information and Communications Technology Authority (NICTA) wishes to advise the general public that NICTA has officially activated the [Type Approval Online System](#).

This new platform is now mandatory for the registration, certification, and import of ICT equipment into Papua New Guinea. Type Approval is required for all ICT products - such as mobile phones, radios, broadcasting devices, drones, and smart technology devices - before they can be sold or used in PNG.

This ensures that products are safe, meets standards, and does not harm public networks or users.

### 5.2. Indonesia: Multi-Layered Reform

The Indonesian Ministry of Communications and Digital (Komdigi) issued a series of decrees:

- Decree No. 204 establishes technical standards for wireless broadband access (WBA) telecommunications equipment and/or devices based on the International Mobile Telecommunications-2020 (IMT-2020) technology standard. The Decree prescribes the technical standards for both WBA subscriber stations based on IMT-2020 (Annex I) and WBA base stations based on IMT-2020 (Annex II), and provides for the applicable testing methods.
- Decree No. 469 from Indonesia's Ministry of Communication and Digital Affairs establishes a list of telecommunications equipment

and/or devices that must comply with technical standards, including computers, smartphones, smartwatches, routers and data management devices.

- Decree No. 13 lists approved foreign labs for RF, EMC, and safety testing, distinguishing between HKT (mobile/handheld) and non-HKT equipment.

### 5.3. Malaysia: Baseline Safety and Functional LMR

The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) and MTSFB introduced a new Technical Code (TC TXXX:2025).

- Land Mobile Radio (LMR): The second revision of MCMC MTSFB TC T012:2025 updated the UHF frequency range to 400–450 MHz.
- Interoperability: Certification now requires connectivity test demonstrations to ensure devices function correctly on local network infrastructure.

### 5.4. India: Provisional MTCTE Certification

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) issued a June 2025 circular targeting high-powered equipment (routers, switches, satellite gear). For equipment operating on three-phase current ( $\geq 32A$ ) or 48V DC ( $\geq 100A$ ), provisional 2-year certificates are now issued based on ILAC accredited lab reports or OEM Self-Declarations (SDoC).

### 5.5. Pakistan

In July, Pakistan released Type Approval Procedure User Guidelines. The major objectives of the guidelines are to certify interoperability to national and international standards, to prevent harmful interference, and ensure health and safety through compliance to electromagnetic and specific absorption rate (SAR) limits. The Guidelines apply to a broad range of terminal equipment, including SIM/IMEI-type devices such as mobile phones, tablets, dongles, and smartwatches, short-range equipment, IoT and M2M communication devices, satellite terminals, wireless modules, and IP-based communications systems.

### 5.6. Vietnam

In November, Vietnam issued a proposed Circular that provides for methods of assessing conformity with standards and technical regulations, making conformity declarations and conformity marking. It applies to organizations and management agencies involved in conformity assessment and conformity declaration.

### 5.7. Kiribati

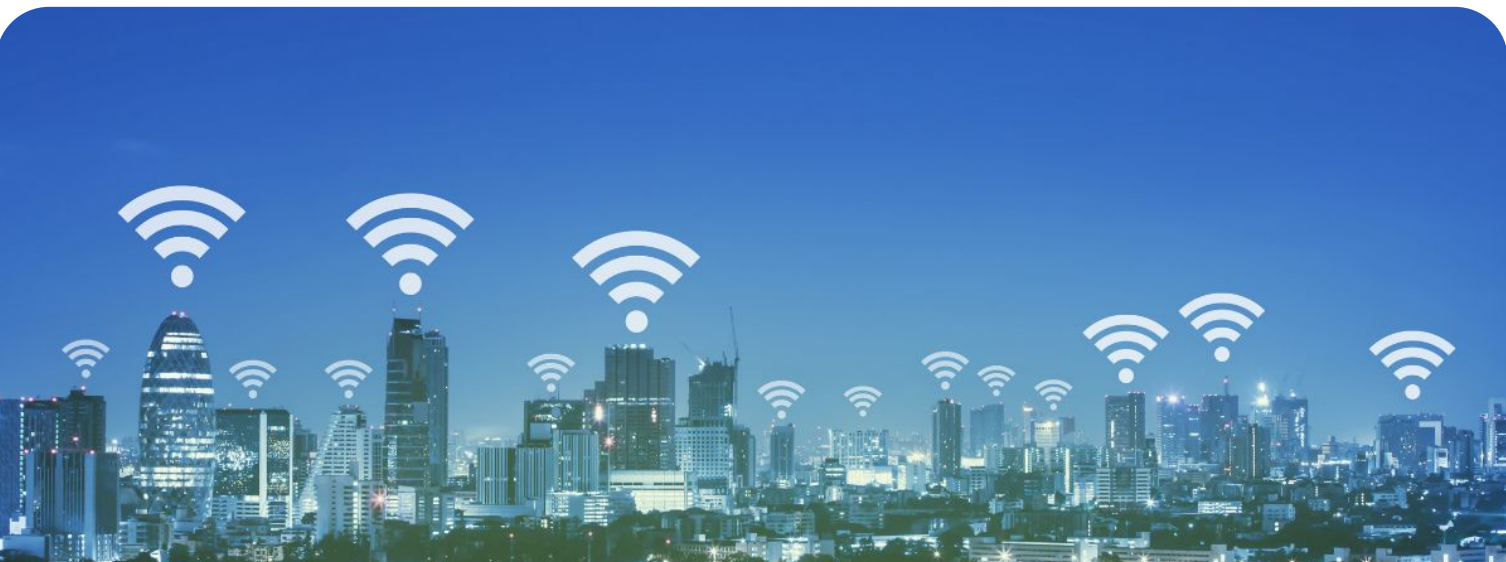
On 16 May 2025, the Communications Commission of Kiribati published type approval rules to specify technical standards for the customer equipment permitted to be attached to licensed communications networks and prohibit persons from selling, or offering for sale, and/or attaching equipment to a communications network that does not meet these standards.



## 06. Europe: Ukraine's Comprehensive Spectrum Management

Despite geopolitical challenges, Ukraine continues to modernize its spectrum regulations to align with the European Union's Radio Equipment Directive (RED).

- Decision No. 81: Outlines general conditions for a wide range of devices, from RFID to Medical Radio Devices.
- Local Networks: Decree No. 610 provides specific technical and operational conditions for equipment intended for "Local Radio Networks," emphasizing the use of ETSI EN standards.



## 07. Africa: Strengthening Regulatory Oversight

African nations are increasingly formalizing the "type-approval" process to ensure the quality of imported technology.

### 7.1. Morocco (ANRT)

Decision 16/24 (January 2025) mandates prior approval for any terminal equipment connecting to public networks.

This includes smartphones, tablets, and wireless routers.

### 7.2. Niger (ARCEP)

Niger's ARCEP adopted a decision establishing the content and conditions for issuing the type-approval certificate for radio equipment.

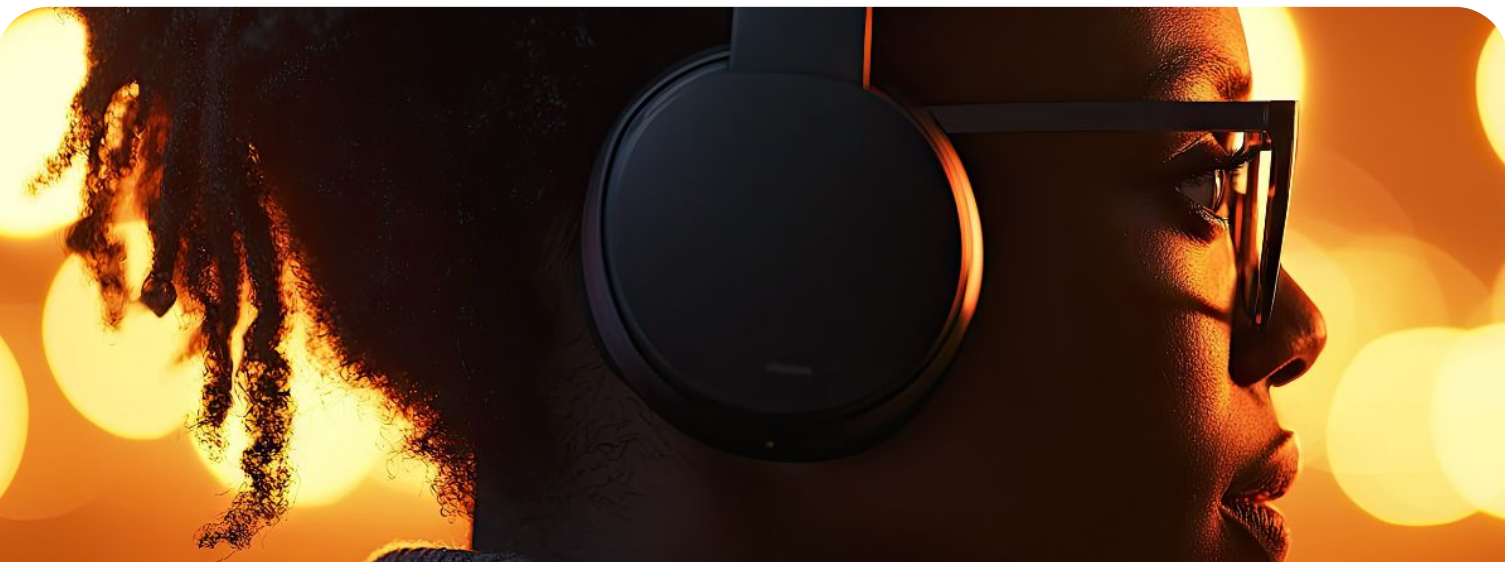
It defines the type-approval procedure for terminal and/or radio equipment, as well as the procedure for issuing the installer's accreditation.

### 7.3. Burundi (ARCT)

Order No. 580/01 requires that all radio equipment be approved prior to being placed on the market.

All importers, ICT dealers, and overseas agents must now register online and use the system to submit applications, request import permits, and make payments online.

The platform connects with PNG Customs for ICT products clearance at entry points in Papua New Guinea.



## 08. The Americas: Security and Modernization

The Americas have seen a dual focus: streamlining for consumer devices while tightening the security of the testing ecosystem.

### 8.1. USA: FCC Integrity and Ownership Rules

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued a Report and Order (ET Docket No. 24-136) in May 2025 requiring all recognized TCBs (Telecommunication Certification Bodies) and labs to certify they are not owned or controlled by "prohibited entities." Entities must report all equity or voting interests of 5% or greater. The FCC established a 10% threshold for defining "ownership" by a prohibited entity, leading to immediate revocation of recognition.

- Aligns 6 GHz testing with FCC practices and introduces a bandwidth-dependent power formula.
- Introduces specific vertical radiation limits for 5 GHz outdoor use to protect satellite and aeronautical services.

### 8.2. Brazil

ANATEL's Act No. 14158 (October 2025) amends the Annex to Act 14448 with significant technical updates:

- New sections for systems operating between 116 GHz and 246 GHz.

### 8.3. Nicaragua: Restricted Equipment Controls

Nicaragua's **TELCOR** issued Agreement No. 004/2025 (Homologation) and 005/2025 (No Objection Certificate).

These regulations clarify that all equipment using the radio spectrum must bear a special label with the assigned approval number.

## 8.4. Bermuda

Bermuda issued type approval exemptions for Bluetooth & Wi-Fi devices in February.

As a result, individual applications for Type Approval of Bluetooth and/or Wi-Fi only devices are no longer required.

Nevertheless, manufacturers and importers are responsible for ensuring that such devices fully comply with all applicable technical and regulatory standards established by the US FCC, Canadian ISED or EU ETSI.



## 09. Conclusion

In 2025, global radio equipment type approval regulations continued to evolve towards a combination of national approval requirements and conformity with international standards.

2025 saw several small nations introduce type approval requirements based on ETSI, FCC, or GSMA frameworks to simplify cross-border trade while maintaining high safety benchmarks.

This technical openness is balanced by a significant tightening of national security protocols and continued reliance on national type approval requirements.

Over the next year or so, we expect to see these trends continue along with additional cybersecurity standardization.

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