

# approval SOLUTIONS

**Electricity is dangerous**, and that is why strict laws and standards govern the sale of electrical appliances in Australia. Because unsafe electrical products have the potential to harm people and damage property, it is illegal in Australia to supply electrical equipment that does not comply with the minimum safety standards or meet the essential safety requirements set out in AS/NZS 3820. Appliance types deemed as posing the greatest safety risk to users have been identified by the government organizations who exercise control over the sale of electrical products as 'declared' articles, and CANNOT be sold legally until after they have been approved by an electrical regulator or certifier.

In order for a product to be approved, the manufacturer, supplier or importer must be able to provide evidence that the appliance is safe, and meets the requirements of the applicable Australian standard/s. Due to the complex and extensive nature of these requirements, proving compliance to them can be a time consuming, costly and complicated exercise without the right guidance.

Adding to this complexity are the mandatory requirements of the EMC framework, which was established by federal authorities to protect the viability of the radio communications spectrum. Whilst the regime allows for self-declaration if supported by testing and technical construction files, the C-Tick scheme is randomly audited and fines up to \$31,000 may be levied for non-compliance.

## HOW WE CAN HELP

Since its inception, Black and White Engineering Solutions through its division **Approvals & Certification (A&C)** has been providing clear and comprehensive solutions to the compliance needs of importers, manufacturers and suppliers of electrical products in both Australia and New Zealand.

The company aims to assist manufacturers and importers meet regulatory requirements in the most expedient and cost efficient manner by guiding them through the entire process from initial assessment of prototypes to product certification and through-life compliance. A&C will work with your internal quality assurance or product development personnel to ensure that each stage of the compliance process is properly managed, and problems at the testing and certification stage minimized.

'for all your  
product  
compliance  
needs'



## OUR SERVICES

The company's team of highly qualified electrical engineers and support staff can offer the following services necessary to bring your electrical product from design concept to the marketplace in an expedient and cost-efficient manner:

■ **Initial Product Viability Report:** offered at the commencement of the product development process and conducted on initial samples or prototypes, this report provides an assessment of the product's suitability for sale in terms of its compliance to standards and the quality of its construction. With A&C's extensive industry experience, and detailed knowledge of the certification process and its requirements, this report will provide valuable recommendations for improvements at a time when they are most effective.

■ **Pre Compliance Report:** prior to the commencement of SAA assessment and testing for regulatory approval, A&C can provide a clause by clause analysis of the product's compliance or non-compliance to the applicable standard/s and provide guidance as to whether the appliance is ready to be submitted for testing and approbation. By utilizing this service at such a critical point in the design process, delays in marketing plans caused by unexpected non-compliances can be minimized, creating considerable savings.

■ **Co-ordination and Consultation for Regulatory Compliance:** offered after any necessary changes suggested in the first two steps have been rendered, this service includes:

- Initial examination of latest product sample and supplied test reports
- Assessment of compliance needs including testing requirements
- Organization of product testing
- Analysis of test reports
- Submission of documentation to the relevant certification bodies
- Assessment of the product for EMC compliance
- Creation and maintenance of compliance file

■ **Through Life Compliance:** Organisation of approval modifications for product variants and line additions and renewal of approval certificates can also be provided.

Naturally, if you do not need assistance with each of these steps, A&C can also provide assistance in only those areas where it is needed.

By engaging us to support your product compliance needs, you will be able to:

**Benefit from our specialist skills and extensive experience**

**Ensure the extensive requirements for regulatory compliance are met**

**Avoid costly delays by identifying compliance issues before the product's design is finalized**

**Concentrate your efforts on more important business activities as the test laboratory and regulatory submissions are all made by us on your behalf**

 **APPROVALS & CERTIFICATION**

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