

Regulatory Update - Ecuador

Public consultation on draft for new Type Approval framework

The Ecuadorean Regulator, *Agencia de Regulación y Control de las Telecomunicaciones* (ARCOTEL) have released a statement on their website advising that a public consultation is underway concerning a new draft regulation for “Type Approval Regulations and Terminal Certification for Telecommunications Equipment”

The main proposed changes to the current regulation are:

- Elimination of local testing as a requirement for Type Approval, unless ARCOTEL request samples for exceptional cases.
- An expiration date of 10 years is now being introduced for all Type Approval certificates. Certificates must be renewed before the expiration date.
- ARCOTEL will keep a record of valid Approval certificates, which will be made public through its web page.
- Approval certificates issued prior to the implementation of the new regulation will remain in valid as follows:
 - 1) Certificates issued 10 or more years before the implementation of the new regulation will be valid for 4 years from the regulation implementation date.
 - 2) Certificates issued between 5 and 10 years before the implementation of the new regulation will be valid for 5 years from the regulation implementation date.
 - 3) Certificates issued less than 5 years before the implementation of the new regulation will be valid for 10 years from the regulation implementation date.

- Introduction of the possibility of revoking Approval certificates in cases of technical problems or damage to public networks.

The public consultation officially opened on 22th January 2017 and will close on 1st February 2017. Any interested parties can submit their comments, opinions, or suggestions up until this date to consulta.publica@arcotel.gob.ec, by filling the online form available on ARCOTEL's website, or by sending a letter to the ARCOTEL office at the following address:

Av. Diego de Almagro N31-95
entre Whymper y Alpallana
Quito, Ecuador.

Furthermore, as part of the public consultation process, three public hearings will be held in the Ecuadorian cities of Quito, Guayaquil, and Cuenca on February 7th, 2017.

Please see the below link to draft proposal. The text is in Spanish language:

http://www.arcotel.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/vf_proyecto_de_reglamento_de_homologaci%C3%B3n_consultas_p%C3%ABlicas_q2.pdf

A confirmed date for the implementation of the new regulation is currently unknown. PCS will continue to monitor any further developments and will keep customers updated once more information becomes available.

For additional information regarding this update, please contact:

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