

**RADIO SPECTRUM AND TECHNICAL STANDARDS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Proposed Revision to HKCA 2001 Compliance Test Specification
For Safety and Electrical Protection Requirements
For Subscriber Telecommunications Equipment**

Introduction

This paper proposes the adoption of the following revised HKCA specification:

HKCA 2001 Issue 13	Compliance Test Specification for Safety and Electrical Protection Requirements for Subscriber Telecommunications Equipment
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Background

2. The current version of HKCA 2001 draws reference to IEC 60950-1¹ and its European and American equivalent (EN 60950-1 and UL 60950-1) for electrical safety of subscriber telecommunications equipment. In this connection, IEC 60950-1 and IEC 60065² are international safety standards for information and communication technology (“ICT”) and audio-visual (“AV”) equipment respectively. As the demarcation between ICT and AV equipment has been becoming blur, a more generic and technology-independent standard (i.e. IEC 62368-1³) was developed and first published in 2010 to cover AV/ICT equipment in general. Since then, more and more economies have adopted IEC 62368-1. In particular, most economies decided to change the safety standard from IEC 60950-1 and IEC 60065 to IEC 62368-1, and set the transition date on 20 December 2020. An overview of IEC 62368-1, including its comparison with IEC 60950-1, was given in SSAC Paper 7/2018⁴ and presented at the SSAC meeting of August 2018.

¹ IEC 60950-1 entitled “Information technology equipment – Safety – Part1: General requirements”

² IEC 60065 entitled “Audio, video and similar electronic apparatus – Safety requirements”

³ IEC 62368-1 entitled “Audio/video, information and communication technology equipment – Part 1: Safety requirements”, first published in 2010 with later editions in 2014 and 2018

⁴ See https://www.ofca.gov.hk/filemanager/ofca/en/content_751/SSAC_Paper_7_2018.pdf

Current Situation

3. In Europe, either EN 62368-1 (i.e. the European version of IEC 62368-1) or EN 60950-1 can be used to assess conformity of electrical equipment with the safety objectives of Directive 2014/35/EU of the European Union (“EU”), commonly known as the Low Voltage Directive⁵. As set out in the EU Official Journal⁶, use of EN 60950-1 for this purpose shall cease on 20 December 2020 from which only EN 62368-1 can be used for the relevant electrical equipment.

4. In the United States, the date from which UL 62368-1 (i.e. the American version of IEC 62368-1) will replace UL 60950-1 is also set at 20 December 2020. New submissions for certification on or after that date will be evaluated against UL 62368-1.

5. In Hong Kong, the current version of HKCA 2001 makes reference to IEC/EN/UL 60950-1 and sets out the technical and evaluation requirements for electrical protection, among others. Over 50 other HKCA specifications including HKCA 1033, HKCA 1048, HKCA 1057 covering 2G, 3G and 4G mobile phones respectively, and HKCA 1039 covering digital radio equipment operating in the 2.4 GHz or 5 GHz band, e.g. Wi-Fi equipment, make reference to HKCA 2001 for electrical protection. Being a transitional measure since 2017, certification bodies and testing laboratories are permitted to assess electrical safety for compliance with HKCA 2001 by either IEC/EN/UL 60950-1 or IEC/EN/UL 62368-1 until 20 December 2020.

Proposed Revisions to HKCA 2001

6. To align with the international standards, the Office of the Communications Authority (“OFCA”) proposes that IEC/EN/UL 60950-1 under reference in HKCA 2001 be replaced by IEC/EN/UL 62368-1. Editorial amendments to HKCA 2001 (mainly in the foreword) are also made to reflect the changes since the establishment of OFCA in April 2012. As international standards can be conveniently accessed or purchased from the relevant standards development organisations, in line with the practice of other HKCA specifications, clause 3 of HKCA 2001 about obtaining specifications and regulation is deleted, with the hyperlink to the Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation moved from clause 3 to clause 2.1.2 of HKCA 2001. Taking into account the timetable adopted by major economies for transition to

⁵ See <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014L0035&from=EN>

⁶ See [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52018XC0615\(04\)&rid=9](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52018XC0615(04)&rid=9)

IEC/EN/UL 62368-1 on 20 December 2020, the revised HKCA 2001 will enter into force on the same date. A copy of the revised HKCA 2001 (Issue 13) is given in the **Annex**.

WTO Notification

7. As the revision to HKCA 2001 is based on open standards, notification to the World Trade Organisation (“WTO”) is not necessary.

Recommendation

8. It is recommended that HKCA 2001 Issue 13 (**Annex**) be submitted to the Communications Authority for adoption.

Advice Sought

9. Members are invited to offer comments on the recommendation above.

Office of the Communications Authority
October 2020