

AUSTRALIAN HOMOLOGATION NEWSLETTER

Issue #8

DSL Systems

On 14 December 2001 the ACA registered a code setting out rules governing the deployment of Digital Subscriber Line (xDSL) systems using the Unconditioned Local Loop Service (ULLS).

Broadband systems using the ULLS and other systems in the same cable unit can interfere with each other unless performance requirements are adhered to.

The industry code C559 Unconditioned Local Loop Service (ULLS) - Network Deployment Rules Code (NDR Code): 2001 is the central element in the co-ordinated approach to limiting potential interference.

The code consists of three parts:

1. Performance Requirements
2. Spectral Compatibility Determination Process
3. Requirements for Deployment Class Systems.

R. Medding & Associates

are a firm of Consulting Engineers, whose specialities include providing homologation advice to, and maintaining Compliance Folders for, Manufacturers and Importers of electrical, electronic, radio and telecommunications equipment sold in Australia and New Zealand.

All information published in this newsletter was correct at the date of publication.

EMC Requirements

Recently there have been significant changes to the ACA's Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) scheme. The changes are an outcome of an extended review into the EMC requirements with the aim of improving the compliance arrangements and harmonising the EMC schemes of Australia and New Zealand.

The major changes to the scheme are:

1. New Standards.

The ACA EMC scheme now recognises over 100 standards, including AS/NZS, EN, IEC and CISPR standards. Products which fall within the scope of the standards must comply with the mandated requirements of the appropriate standard(s).

2. Voluntary Labelling Requirements.

For products which fall into the Compliance Level 1 category, the Scheme's labelling and Compliance Folder requirements are now voluntary.

3. Inclusion of Equipment.

Products which fall within the scope of AS/NZS 4051 and AS/NZS 1044 and are battery powered or two/three phase equipment are now included in the regulations.

4. Compliance Level Reclassification.

Telecommunications Customer Equipment has been reclassified from Compliance Level 3 to Compliance Level 2.

5. Scope Amendment.

The scope has been changed from 'first offered for sale' to 'first supplied'.

The major benefit resulting from the above changes is that the Australian and New Zealand arrangements are now aligned. Electrical and electronic products which meet the compliance arrangements of either country can be supplied to both countries without additional regulatory processes.

The ACA have released an information booklet entitled "Information for suppliers of electrical and electronic products in Australia and New Zealand".

This booklet can be downloaded from the ACA Website:

www.aca.gov.au/standards/emc/emc.htm

or from the NZ Ministry of Economic Development Website:

www.med.govt.nz/rsm/standards/index.html

Telecommunications Labelling Notice 2001

The consolidated Telecommunications Labelling (Customer Equipment and Customer Cabling) Notice 2001, can be downloaded from the ACA website: www.aca.gov.au/legal/notice/TLN2001.htm

This document includes 2001 Amendments Nos. 1, 2 and 3 and 2002 Amendments Nos. 1 and 2. The latest Amendment came into effect 4 July 2002.

FAQ Who is responsible for reviewing and publishing new telecommunications standards in Australia?

The Australian Communications Industry Forum (ACIF) is the body responsible for producing Technical Standards, Industry Codes, Guidelines, Specifications and other documents for the Australian telecommunications industry.

ACIF is an industry owned, resourced and operated company established in 1997 to implement and manage communication self-regulation within Australia.

ACIF's role is to develop and administer technical and operating arrangements that promote both the long term interests of end-users and the efficiency and international competitiveness of the Australian communications industry.

This primarily involves

- developing Standards and Codes to support competition and protect consumers; driving widespread compliance; and
- facilitating the co-operative resolution of strategic and operational industry issues.

The ACIF Standards and Codes Development Process involves the ACIF Board, Reference Panels, Working Committees and the ACIF Executive. Reference Panels and Working Committees must be representative of interested or affected industry and community sectors to ensure outputs reflect the needs and concerns of all stakeholders.

More information on the ACIF can be obtained from their website:

www.acif.org.au/acif/index.cfm

EMR Standard

The scope of the EMR standard has again been revised. As of 1 January 2002 the scope includes most radiocommunications devices with integral antennas.

The extended regulatory arrangements include RF EMR human exposure limits, mandatory test methods and labelling requirements.

Customer Cabling New Compliance Procedure.

The ACA have announced an alternative compliance arrangement for customer cabling products.

As of 18 June 2002, suppliers of cabling products will be exempt from labelling their product with the A-Tick and supplier identifier if they:

- Register with the ACA by lodging a "Notice of intention not to apply a compliance label to exempt items".
- List their products, together with unique manufacturer type numbers, on an Internet register.

Only those products which are installed by a licensed or registered cabler are eligible for listing. Products sold direct to consumers are ineligible.

The change affects products specified in the standards ACA TS008: 1997 or AS/ACIF S008: 2001 including cable, connectors, distributors and patch panels.