



Introduction to APEC TEL MRA

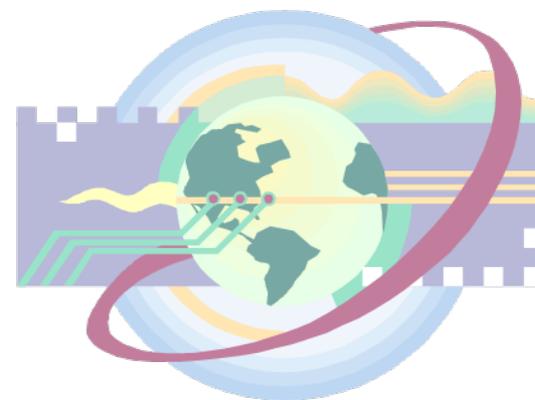
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MRA Introduction

- Purpose of MRA -- To facilitate trade by allowing Conformity Assessment Bodies (CAB) in one economy to test (Phase I) and/or certify (Phase II) products to the Technical Regulations of another economy.
- Participation in a MRA is voluntary -- however, if a economy agrees to participate in either Phase I and/or Phase II certain rights and obligations in accordance with the terms of the MRA apply.
- Government to Government
- Use of harmonized technical standards is not part of an MRA





Benefits of MRAs

- Products May be shipped directly to foreign economies without any further requirements for testing and/or certification thereby reduced costs and time to market
- Facilitates trade by promoting market access and competition
- Reduces and minimizes non-tariff trade barriers
- Shortens time for manufacturers to introduce their products into the importing economies



APEC Economies

- Australia
- Brunei
- Canada
- Chile
- China
- Chinese-Taipei
- Hong Kong, China
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Mexico
- Malaysia
- New Zealand
- Papua New Guinea
- Peru
- Philippines
- Russian Federation
- Singapore
- South Korea
- Thailand
- United States
- Vietnam



APEC MRA for Conformity Assessment (MRA-CA)

- Intended to streamline conformity assessment process.
- Provides guidelines to establish confidence in competence of stakeholders and CABs.
- Allows recognition of test results & product approvals by the importing economy.
- Allows importing economy to recognize CABs of exporting economy.
- Products are tested and certified to importing economies regulations.
- Limits scope.
- Preserves regulatory authority.
- Outlines process for recognizing & monitoring CABs.



APEC MRA-CA

- Adopted by APEC Tel Ministers on June 5, 1998
- Multilateral
- Single Sector
- Scope includes:
 - Electromagnetic Compatibility
 - Telecommunications Equipment
 - Electrical Safety
- MRAs are limited to conformity assessment procedures
 - Does not harmonize standards
 - Does not harmonize regulations



APEC MRA-CA

- Participation in APEC MRA
 - Participation is voluntary
 - If an economy decides to participate, it
 - notifies APEC Tel Chair
 - agrees to follow the text of the MRA
 - identifies various players (Regulatory Authority, Designating Authority, and Accreditors) and technical regulations
 - U.S. requires an Exchange letter



MRA for Equivalence of Technical Requirements (MRA-ETR)

- Provides a procedure for recognizing that multiple economies technical requirements are equivalent.
- Can be used in conjunction with MRA CA to further reduce cost and time to get products to market in multiple economies.



MRA-ETR Overview

- Voluntary
- Economy to Economy Arrangement
- Regulatory authority (RA) in importing economy determines equivalence
- Equivalence does not mean harmonization
- Minimize burden on RA on analyzing equivalence by requiring entity requesting equivalence to submit analysis and justification of equivalence
- Possible outcomes of RA review:
 - Full equivalence
 - Not equivalent
 - Differences which are acceptable



Questions and Answers

Thanks!