

## 1. Scope

These rules regarding use of certification, certificate and certification mark are part of mdc's general terms of business.

## 2. General

In case a certification regarding the quality system and/or the products of the manufacturer issued by mdc is valid, the manufacturer is authorized to use this fact considering the legal, normative and contractual obligations. The following requirements of the certification body are mandatory for the applicant.

## 3. Use of certification

The use of the certification encloses:

- statements in written, visual or oral ways about the fact of the certification,
- use of original certificates, copies of certificates and further ways of depictions of the certificates,
- use of certification mark with mdc-Logo.

General regulations for the above mentioned use are:

- it is allowed to use the actual certification basis, scope and the meaning of certification only,
- any use of the fact of the certification as well as of certificates and signs, which mdc could consider misleading or not justified is not allowed,
- the applicant is obliged not to use his certification in a way which contradicts mdc's objectives or which disregards mdc,
- the applicant is obliged not to make any statements concerning the certification which mdc cannot regard as being authorized,
- if the applicant is not sure about the use of the certification concerning these regulations he is obliged to ask mdc for the agreement to the planned use of the certification,
- promotional use of the certification of a quality system according to standards in brochures, on letter heads, on web sites and other carriers of advertising is allowed. mdc does not recommend to use the certification according to European Directives for promotional purposes because in this case the fulfillment of legal requirements, which is not allowed for promotional use in some legal fields, is concerned,
- all rights for the use of the certification (including certificates and certification marks) expire together with the certificate or with a declaration of invalidity (e. g. cancellation of the certification contract, suspension or withdrawal of the certificate). After declaration of invalidity or expiry of the certificate a promotional use is not allowed and any impression of an existing certification has to be avoided. If the scope of the certification has been reduced, all promotion materials have to be changed accordingly,
- it is not permitted to use the certification of a quality system and the certificate as well as the certification mark in a way that allows the conclusion that a product or service fulfills certain quality requirements. In particular all statements in connection with the certification mark, which give the impression that the products or the service are certified by mdc, are not allowed. Permitted however are statements that explain that certain products or services are offered by a company or organization that operates under a certified quality system,
- it is neither allowed to transfer the certification, a certificate or the certification mark without the authorization through mdc to a third party or a legal successor nor can they be subject of ceding, disposal or other enforced legal measures.

## 4. Use of certificates

The use of certificates by depiction of original certificates, copies and further visual ways are allowed. The depiction may only be in original colors, black and white or in shades of grey. The applicant has to make sure that all elements of the certificate are legible or that all non legible contents in very small depictions are explained separately.

It is mandatory to depict any annexes of certificates. If a certificate with reference to an annex is provided to a third party this annex has to be included.

Certificates which are in possession of the applicant are still property of mdc and must be returned to mdc or their destruction has to be confirmed in writing immediately after declaration of invalidity if they did not become invalid because of their expiry.

## 5. Use of certification mark with mdc-Logo

All owners of mdc-certificates which comprise the certification of a quality system can receive our certification mark with mdc-logo and are allowed to use it according to the existing regulations.

- the right to use the certification mark is strictly limited to the subject of certification (e. g. fields of activity, certified parts of the company, branches),
- the certification mark must be used like the pattern shown below. Changes except scaled extensions or reductions or changes into all in one color or shades of grey depictions are not allowed. Other changes of colors must be authorized by mdc,
- it is prohibited to fix the certification mark to products, product packaging, laboratory inspection reports, calibration certificates, inspection reports or the declaration of conformity
- it is not allowed to use the certification mark affixed together with the CE marking.



**6. Use of CE marking in connection with EC identification number 0483**

The CE marking is a legal mark based on a European Directive. The CE marking with mdc's Notified Body number 0483 may only be used for products declared on the relevant certificate. Further marks or declarations must not be used in direct connection with the CE marking. The CE marking has to be affixed to the product, the labeling, the instructions for use and the sales package. mdc does not recommend the use of the CE marking for promotional purposes because it means the fulfillment of legal requirements.

The requirements of European Directives 93/42/EEC (here especially Article 17 and Annex XII) and/or 98/97/EC (here especially Article 17 and Annex X) are to observe. Further information can be found in the "Blue Guide" issued by the European Commission.

In case of suspension, withdrawal or other declaration of invalidity of the certificate the applicant must immediately stop placing products on the market which bear the CE marking with identification number 0483. After a declaration of invalidity or expiry of the certificate a promotional use is not allowed and any impression of an existing certification has to be avoided. If a certification is taken over by a different Notified Body, the use of the identification number has to be agreed with mdc and the new Notified Body.

**7. Use of marks of bodies granting authorisation**

The use of marks and numbers of mdc's accreditation bodies, designating authorities and other bodies granting authorization is not allowed.

**8. Incorrect use**

Violations of these regulations are violations of the certification regulations and the general terms of business. For the holder of certificates measures, which may include suspension or withdrawal of the certificates, may follow.

If a company notices a use of certification, certificate, certification mark or CE marking which is against the rules, or it is accused of a use of his certification against the rules, it is obliged to inform mdc immediately. Staff involved in using the certification in companies (e. g. marketing) should be trained about the importance of the correct use of the certification, the certificates, the certification mark and the CE marking.

Every misuse of certification, certificate, certification mark or CE marking by holders of certificates or third parties can be prosecuted by mdc. mdc is authorized to publish incorrect use in any form.

**9. Further information**

- Publicizing your ISO 9000 or ISO 14000 certification
- ISO/IEC Guide 23  
Methods of indicating conformity with standards for third-party certification systems. ISO/IEC publication
- Guide to the implementation of directives based on the New Approach and the Global Approach