







Comparison of the CE Mark and Certification Marks

03
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Name	CE mark	GS mark	DGUV Test mark
			
Introduced	1993	1977	1984 (until 06/2010 - BG mark)
Use of the mark	Obligatory if the product is covered by an EU legislation requiring a CE mark	Voluntary certification mark	Voluntary certification mark
Basic Statement	Manufacturer's declaration that the product complies with the requirements of the EU legislation that calls for a CE mark (e.g. safety requirements but also environmental, EMC or performance requirements)	Confirmation by an independent body (GS body) that the product complies with the safety and health regulations	Confirmation by a DGUV Test testing and certification body that the product meets the specified safety and health requirements
Legal basis	European legislation and transposition thereof into national law	German Product Safety Act (ProdSG)	Agreement between manufacturer and testing and certification body
Product categories	Variety of industrial products	Ready-to-use products	Work equipment. Also certification of specific aspects.
Awarding procedure	The manufacturer is responsible for affixing the CE mark.	An authorised GS body awards the GS mark.	One of the testing and certification bodies in DGUV Test awards the DGUV Test mark.

DGUV Test Information

			
Testing and certification required by an independent body?	Generally not required. Type testing and certification is only compulsory if specified in an EU directive for the product. The CE mark does not indicate whether the product has been type tested by an independent body.	Yes. A certificate based on a type testing is required in order to obtain the GS mark.	Yes. A certificate based on a type testing is required in order to obtain the DGUV Test mark.
Monitoring required by an independent body?	Generally not required. Monitoring is only required if specified in the EU directive. Monitoring is e.g. specified for PPE category III, but not for machinery according to the Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC.	Yes. The testing and certification body uses monitoring measures to ensure that only products which correspond to the type tested is placed on the market. An initial factory inspection is carried out before the mark is granted.	Yes. The testing and certification body uses monitoring measures to ensure that only equipment which corresponds to the tested type is placed on the market.
Instances of misuse published?	Possibly published in the market surveillance authorities' database (http://www.icsms.org)	Misuse of the GS mark is published by the GS body.	Misuse of the DGUV Test mark is published by DGUV Test (" Black List ")
Period of validity	The validity of any certificates the notified body has to issue depends on the legislation covering the product. For instance, EU type certificates issued for products governed by the Machinery Directive are valid for a maximum of five years.	The certificate is valid for max. 5 years.	The certificate is valid for max. 5 years.

More information about CE marking and certification marks:

- Information about CE marking provided by the European Commission: http://ec.europa.eu/growth/single-market/ce-marking/index_en.htm
- Information on the GS mark and the DGUV Test mark: www.dguv.de, web code e566684.

DGUV Test – extensive expertise in product safety

Our customers benefit directly from our wealth of experience, amassed over several decades, in safety testing and design advice. Voluntary testing and certification help manufacturers, importers and vendors meet the requirements of Germany's Product Safety Act ("Produktsicherheitsgesetz") and avoid product liability issues. A list of our testing and certification bodies can be found here: www.dguv.de, web code e24697.