



**Press Release  
2020-06-19**

## **COPANT AND IEC HELD A VIRTUAL WORKSHOP ON IEC CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT SCHEMES**

The Virtual Workshop on IEC Conformity Assessment Schemes was held in English on May 18, 2020 and in its Spanish version on May 19, 2020, through the Zoom platform.

In both events, 155 people from the following 15 countries and the Caribbean sub-regional organization CROSQ participated: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Suriname, United States and Venezuela.

The workshop was facilitated by Amaury Santos, IEC Regional Director for Latin America, and the English version was also facilitated by Mr. Trond Sollie of Norway, IEC Ambassador for Affiliate Training on Conformity Assessment Needs. The event was also supported by Jan-Henrik Tiedemann, Head of IEC Academy and IEC Capacity Building.

The agenda of the workshop was as follows:

- Introduction to IEC Conformity Assessment
- IECEE - IEC System of Conformity Assessment Schemes for Electrotechnical Equipment and Components
- IECQ - IEC Quality Assessment System for Electronic Components
- IECEX - System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmospheres
- IECRE - IEC System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Renewable Energy Applications
- How to participate?

### **Introduction:**

- Emphasis was placed on the pillars on which IEC seeks to generate value: standardization and conformity assessment; emphasizing that these pillars allow building confidence in electrical and electronic products manufactured around the world.
- The concepts of Conformity Assessment and its main elements were addressed: accreditation, certification, inspection and testing; the impact of certification of electrical and electronic products worldwide; and its importance for decision making by legislators and regulators.
- The IEC structure was detailed, and how it carries out its activities based on this structure.
- The importance of certification, its recognition based on multilateral agreements, and how it helps reduce Technical Barriers to Trade was highlighted.
- The main keys of the IEC Conformity Assessment System, its importance for stakeholders and the third party IEC Conformity Assessment schemes: IECEE, IECEX, IECQ and IECRE were explained.



## IEC Schemes:

- **Scheme IECEE** (System for conformity assessment schemes for electrotechnical equipment and components), details were given on its history, scope, outline, composition (through Certification Bodies and Testing Laboratories), organizational structure and examples of memberships, test reports and certifications. Statistics updated up to 2019 by product category were also shown.



## IECEE

System for conformity assessment schemes for electrotechnical equipment and components



- **Scheme IECEx** (Worldwide system for certification to standards relating to equipment for use in explosive atmospheres), details were provided on its scope, scheme (equipment, conformity marking license, services, certification of personnel and recognized training providers) and examples of certifications issued.



## IECEx

Worldwide system for certification to standards relating to equipment for use in explosive atmospheres



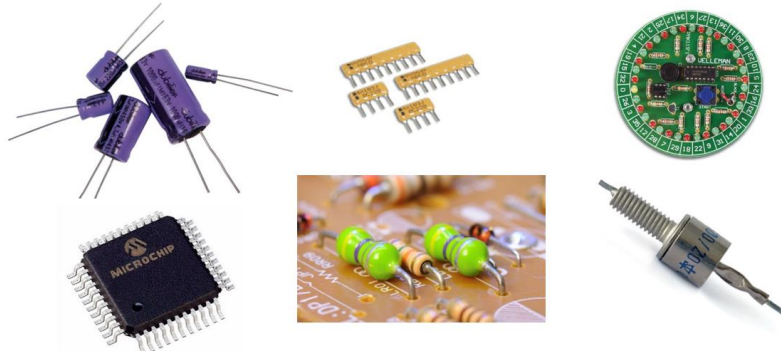


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- **Scheme IECQ** (Quality Assessment System for Electronic Components) and its value proposition. The IECQ HSPM (Hazardous Substance Processing Management) scheme, the "Counterfeit Prevention Program" and the scheme for LED lights were addressed.



### Quality Assessment System for Electronic Components



- **Scheme IECRE** (IEC System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Renewable Energy Applications), its structure and status of activities.



### IECRE

#### IEC System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Renewable Energy Applications



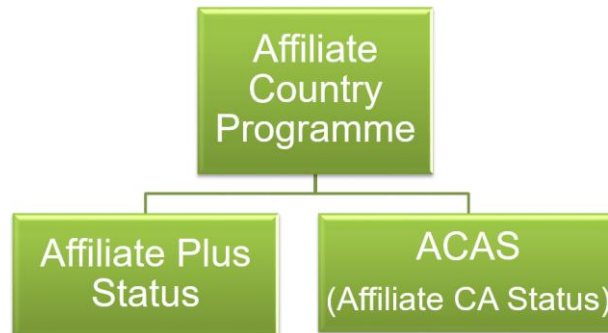
### How to participate?

An explanation was provided on how to access the IEC Conformity Assessment System, membership levels, the Affiliate Country Program, including ACAS (Affiliate Conformity Assessment Status), its benefits, as well as the levels of e-learning available by membership type and modules available.



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## Affiliate Country Programme



**Note:** Both sessions were recorded and are available at the following links:

Spanish:

[https://iee.zoom.us/rec/play/68ElIrr8qmg3TNSc5ASDA6R\\_W9XsLP6s1HIXr\\_cFy0qxUyQGOgaibuESYOAIYNskfwgfyHP4koUCOY0B?startTime=1589896237000&\\_xzm\\_rtaid=rVR--rgRQEqCVaY70EI2YQ.1592609278703.2c1a1aca91c69b67db4dce43fe4247ef&\\_xzm\\_rhtaid=788](https://iee.zoom.us/rec/play/68ElIrr8qmg3TNSc5ASDA6R_W9XsLP6s1HIXr_cFy0qxUyQGOgaibuESYOAIYNskfwgfyHP4koUCOY0B?startTime=1589896237000&_xzm_rtaid=rVR--rgRQEqCVaY70EI2YQ.1592609278703.2c1a1aca91c69b67db4dce43fe4247ef&_xzm_rhtaid=788)

English:

[https://iee.zoom.us/rec/play/v5V8cuig-D83H9yTtwSDBfYvW43vfP-s1CMY\\_fVZnxmzVnAEZIWIM-AVZuQ3SwRjv9JJDku3eb7gDhil?startTime=1589810106000&\\_xzm\\_rtaid=rVR--rgRQEqCVaY70EI2YQ.1592609278703.2c1a1aca91c69b67db4dce43fe4247ef&\\_xzm\\_rhtaid=788](https://iee.zoom.us/rec/play/v5V8cuig-D83H9yTtwSDBfYvW43vfP-s1CMY_fVZnxmzVnAEZIWIM-AVZuQ3SwRjv9JJDku3eb7gDhil?startTime=1589810106000&_xzm_rtaid=rVR--rgRQEqCVaY70EI2YQ.1592609278703.2c1a1aca91c69b67db4dce43fe4247ef&_xzm_rhtaid=788)