

Reform to people and business-centered broadcasting and communications device certification system

- Certification exempted for one broadcasting and communications device brought in from abroad -

In order to satisfy people's needs for using new technology devices, to minimize users' inconvenience and to support increasing competitiveness of domestic industries, Korea Communications Commission (KCC) announced to reform the broadcasting and communications device certification system from government regulatory system to people and business friendly and therefore to effectuate the system from January 2011.

At present, broadcasting and communications devices not certified in Korea are prohibited to be brought into and used in Korea. However, in the future, one device will be limitedly allowed of use as long as it is not brought into the country for the purpose of sale by submitting import declaration reports (listing product type, personal information and contact information, etc.) to Radio Research Agency.

In addition, while even a previously certified broadcasting and communications device needed to be certified again individually when brought in from abroad, one device will be limitedly allowed of use without certification from this year if it is brought into the country not for the purpose of sale.

In case wireless modules (Wi-Fi and Bluetooth, etc.) verified through testing at certification of other products are used in other products, they are to be repetitively verified under the same testing items. However, from this year, the repetitive testing will be exempted to lower applicant's costs and to shorten the time required in certification.

Reflecting demands from the industrial circle and considering cases abroad, KCC will increase the exemption quantity of broadcasting and communications devices for testing and research purposes limited to 5 at the moment so that not to disrupt research activities.

At the same time, based on the Radio Waves Act (amended on Jul. 2010) and Enforcement Decree of the same Act (amended on Dec. 2010), the system will be improved to allow voluntary registration of some broadcasting and communications devices and instruments that are not directly in contact with network and are low in risk after testing by a designated testing organization or independent testing by the companies concerned. In addition, for new products lacking technology standards to be promptly released into the market, a provisional certification system will be introduced considering domestic and international standards applicable.

KCC forecasts that, through the system reform, certification cost for people and businesses will be reduced by approx. KRW 12 billion and certification period will be shorted by 30 days per device. Also, KCC expects lowering of tangible and intangible indirect costs that are required in preparations for the certification.

KCC will strive to minimize inconveniences by continuously improving the system and will support wireless Internet industry activation and the advanced needs of users.