



Type Approval Rules

Communications Commission of Kiribati

As amended 16 May, 2025



Preliminary

1. These rules are made pursuant to Sections 61 and 62 of the Communications Act of 2012. These sections provide that the Commission may specify technical standards for the customer equipment permitted to be attached to licensed communications networks and prohibit persons from selling, or offering for sale, and/or attaching equipment to a communications network that does not meet these standards.
2. The purpose of these Rules is to ensure that the communications equipment used in Kiribati does not:
 - a. cause harmful interference or degradation of service to other users of the radio spectrum
 - b. adversely affect the operation, reliability, or integrity of a communications network or other communications equipment
 - c. cause a health or safety risk to any person.

Definitions

‘Certificate of Compliance’ means a document issued by a Conformity Assessment Body stating that a specific type of equipment complies with one or more technical standards;

‘Communications network’ means a system that uses electricity or electromagnetic energy for providing communications services between network termination points;

‘Customer equipment’ means equipment (including cabling) that is on the customer side of the network termination point and intended to be connected to a communications network;

‘Declaration of Conformity’ means a sworn statement issued by an equipment manufacturer declaring that a type of equipment complies with one or more technical standards;

‘Equipment’ includes any appliance, apparatus, device or accessory used or intended to be used for communications purposes.



Scope

3. The list of equipment that is required to be type approved before use in Kiribati can be found in Appendix A and is also published on the CCK website. CCK reserves the right to amend this list from time to time at its discretion.
4. CCK authorizes the use of equipment in Kiribati, where it is in compliance with the international technical standards for radio, telecommunications, electromagnetic compatibility (EMC), and safety recognized by the ACMA (Australia Communications and Media Authority), the CE



(European Commission), the FCC (Federal Communications Commission, USA), and the ITU (International Telecommunication Union).

5. A specific type of equipment only needs to be authorized once. The CCK will maintain a Type Approval Register on its website that lists the types of equipment that have been approved. Applicants should check this Register prior to applying for Type Approval to avoid submitting an application for equipment that has already been authorized.
6. Communications equipment imported for use in Kiribati prior to the publication of these Rules is considered type approved. However, in cases where the CCK discovers that this equipment does not comply with Rule 2 above, owners of the equipment will be required to dispose of it.
7. Communications equipment purchased outside of Kiribati and imported personally for private use does not require CCK type approval. However, it must have a compliance mark/label indicating that it meets the technical standards of:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Regulatory Compliance Mark</u>
a. the ACMA (Australia Communications and Media Authority)	
b. the CE (European Commission)	
c. the FCC (Federal Communications Commission, USA)	
d. the ITU (International Telecommunication Union).	

Application Process

8. Applications for Type Approval shall be submitted to CCK either in person at our offices, by post, or electronically by email at typeapproval@cck.ki.
9. A separate application must be completed for each type of equipment.
10. An application for Type Approval must be made using the Type Approval Application Form, which is available for download on the CCK website.



11. The following supporting documentation must be included as part of an application for Type Approval:
 - a. A Declaration/Certificate of Conformity
 - b. Test reports issued by a testing laboratory accredited by ACMA, the CE, the FCC or the ITU demonstrating that the equipment complies with standards related to the effective use of radio frequency spectrum for radio communications equipment, safe interconnection with public telecommunication networks, the protection of the health and the safety of the user, and electromagnetic compatibility as applicable
 - c. An original catalogue/manual that provides a basic understanding of the equipment, its operation, technology, and use
 - d. A copy/photo of the Type Approval compliance label/markings placed on the equipment
 - e. Description of any repair services offered for the equipment in Kiribati
 - f. Proof of payment of the Type Approval application fee.
12. Applicants shall provide all supporting documentation in English in hard copy format, PDF file, or as a CD-ROM. Electronic submissions are preferred.
13. CCK will not process applications unless and until all required supporting documents are submitted.
14. Applications for Type Approval will be processed during a period not to exceed 7 calendar days from the date upon which the complete application package was received by the CCK.
15. If an application is approved, the CCK will update the Type Approval Register on its website with the entry of the equipment that has been approved for use and issue an Approval Certificate to the applicant. Subsequent importers of the same equipment type are required to purchase an Approval Certificate from the CCK to be kept at their place of business. The CCK may request to see this Approval Certificate during any surveillance activities.
16. An Approval Certificate shall be valid for all batches of a given type of equipment and remains in force as long as the equipment complies with Rule 2 above.
17. In the case where CCK is not satisfied in respect to any aspect of the application, it reserves the right to reject the application with explanation. The Applicant may, however, address the non-compliance and submit a new application for Type Approval. In case of rejection, the application fee will not be refunded.



Type Approval Fees and Classification

18. An application fee is required for the processing of all Type Approval applications. This fee is non-refundable and must be paid in full prior to submission. The fee covers administrative processing, technical evaluation, and record-keeping for Type Approval applications. The fee structure is based on the intended use of the equipment:
 - a. Domestic Use Equipment: AUD 50
 - b. Non-Domestic / Commercial Use Equipment: AUD 600
19. Application fee for Type Approval is AUD 10. This fee covers the costs associated with processing Type Approval applications. It is nonrefundable and must be paid before applying for Type Approval.
20. The Commission retains the authority to classify any application as either Domestic Use or Non-Domestic / Commercial Use, based on its intended end use:
 - a. Domestic Use Equipment refers to equipment that is intended solely for importation, distribution, or use within the territory of Kiribati
 - b. Non-Domestic / Commercial Use Equipment refers to equipment that is submitted for Type Approval in Kiribati primarily for use outside of Kiribati, or for the purposes of using Kiribati's Type Approval as a basis for regional or international recognition, resale, or certification.
21. The Commission reserves the right to determine appropriate classification of any application. The determination shall be made at the Commission's sole discretion, based on a reasonable assessment of documentation, declarations, or any other information provided by the applicant. The Commission may request additional information to verify the intended use of the equipment.
22. For equipment that has already been type approved, a fee applies for the issuance of an Approval Certificate, including for re-issuance and additional copies:
 - a. Domestic Use Equipment: AUD 20
 - b. Non-Domestic / Commercial Use Equipment: AUD 250
23. All fees may be paid by check, cash, or bank transfer, in Australian Dollars (AUD).



Cancellation of Approval

24. The CCK may cancel a Type Approval in the event that:
- a. any information provided as part of the application is found to be counterfeited or false;
 - b. it forms the opinion that the equipment does not comply with Rule 2 above.
25. Any approval that has been cancelled will be published on the CCK website and deleted from the list of approved equipment in the Type Approval Registry.

Surveillance of Equipment

26. CCK will perform market surveillance activities from time to time to ensure that communications equipment used in Kiribati is compliant with these Rules.
27. In the case of non-compliance, the CCK may confiscate the equipment and/or require persons to take corrective actions at their own expense, including ceasing to sell the concerned equipment and ensuring that the equipment is disposed of or otherwise not in use in Kiribati.
28. Those who use, sell, or connect equipment to communications networks in breach of these Rules shall be punished in accordance with the provisions of the Communications Act of 2012.



Appendix A

Types of Equipment Requiring Type Approval in Kiribati

Types of Equipment Requiring Type Approval in Kiribati

1. Radio and Wireless Communication Equipment

Covers all radio transmitting and wireless communication devices, including but not limited to:

- Mobile phones (GSM, 3G, 4G, LTE, 5G)
- WLAN, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, Zigbee, LoRa devices
- GPS tracking and navigation systems
- Wireless headsets, earbuds, and audio transmitters
- Laptops, tablets, and handheld devices with embedded wireless technologies
- Vehicle multimedia/audio systems with integrated wireless modules (e.g., Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, GPS)
- Wireless microphones, walkie-talkies, and other handheld transceivers
- Smart home and IoT devices with wireless capabilities

2. Fixed Telecommunications Equipment

Includes all equipment designed for stationary operation in telecommunications infrastructure:

- Telecommunications switching equipment (e.g., PBX)
- Satellite earth stations and fixed satellite services equipment
- Fixed microwave and point-to-point radio links
- Broadcasting transmission equipment

3. Fixed Wireless Terminal Equipment

Includes user-end devices that connect via fixed wireless technologies:

- GSM/CDMA desktop phones and gateways
- Cordless phones
- Telex and fax equipment
- Telephone terminals and intercom systems



4. Broadband Terminal Equipment

Includes devices providing or accessing broadband internet services:

- ADSL/HDSL/VDSL modems and routers
- Wi-Fi access points and repeaters
- WiMax and LTE CPEs (Customer Premises Equipment)
- ISDN terminal adapters
- USB or PCMCIA data modems for 3G/4G/5G

5. IoT (Internet of Things) and Smart Devices

Includes consumer and industrial devices that use wireless communications for remote control, monitoring, or data transmission:

- Smart meters, smart appliances, and home automation controllers
- Wearables (e.g., fitness trackers, smartwatches)
- Industrial telemetry and sensor equipment
- Remote monitoring or M2M communication devices

6. Automotive Communication and Infotainment Equipment

Covers devices installed in vehicles that provide communication, navigation, or entertainment services using wireless technology:

- In-vehicle infotainment systems with Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, or GPS
- GPS navigation units
- Vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) or vehicle-to-infrastructure (V2I) communication devices
- Dashcams with wireless communication features

Types of Equipment Exempt from Type Approval in Kiribati

The following equipment types are **exempt** from type approval, provided they do not include transmitting functions or are regulated under a separate licensing framework:

1. Personal computers and standard laptops without embedded wireless modules
2. Receiver-only equipment for sound and television broadcast reception
 - FM/AM radios
 - Television receivers
 - Satellite dishes and passive aerials



3. Infrared-only remote-control devices

- TV remotes
- Toys
- Garage door openers

4. Terminal equipment used by licensed radio amateurs for **personal, non-commercial** use

5. Wired-only audio or video equipment with no wireless or RF capabilities