



# **CERTIFICATION SYSTEM**

# ***PROCEDURES***

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**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATHLETICS FEDERATIONS**

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

The new Certification System has been developed in response to the need for better quality products in top level competitions and the recent rapid developments in athletics equipment. It also recognises the growing trend towards international standardisation of product specifications, as well as the need to prevent unauthorised usage of the IAAF name.

Designations such as IAAF Approved, Authorised by IAAF or IAAF Official equipment have been used to advertise products which may or may not have been submitted for testing by IAAF. Despite ongoing checks at competitions, many products still appear on the market which do not meet the precise requirements laid down by the International Association of Athletics Federations.

“The IAAF has a world-wide responsibility to guarantee validity and accuracy of performances and to support any initiative to improve athletic goods. The IAAF Certification System raises the standard in athletics, thus it will help improve the level of competitions”, said Lamine Diack, the President of the IAAF.

The IAAF has introduced a certification programme based upon the goal that all facilities, implements and equipment marketed for use in athletic competitions conform to IAAF specifications which will include:

- the specific definition of testing requirements
- tighter controls on the use of the designation officially authorised by IAAF for athletic products, as well as in promotions and advertising
- limiting the duration of agreements for the use of such IAAF designations.

Following the decisions taken by the IAAF Council in November '96 and the amendments to the Rules 140 & 187.1, IAAF introduced compulsory testing and marking of implements and tracks eligible for use in IAAF competitions.

The system will be administered by the IAAF Competitions Department in co-operation with the IAAF Technical Committee.

Not only will the **Certification System** serve and protect athletic manufacturers around the world but the innovation will also give vital support to IAAF's mission in helping and protecting athletes at the top levels of the sport world-wide. This will encourage a higher standard of improving technique through the use of better quality equipment and implements in IAAF competitions.

This brochure explains how the IAAF will implement the new **Certification System**.



## CHAPTER 2

### CERTIFICATION OF SYNTHETIC TRACK PRODUCTS

#### SECTION 1. APPROVAL OF MATERIALS AND BRANDED PRODUCTS

- 1.1 IAAF may, on application by any manufacturer or supplier, and, subject to such tests and certification which IAAF at its discretion require, grant a certificate of product approval in the terms hereinafter described and with such conditions or time limitations as are deemed by IAAF to be appropriate.
- 1.2 All costs associated with the product approval including but not limited to costs of transport of samples, laboratory tests fees, cost of storage of control samples, cost of processing of applications together with a fee to be set by IAAF will be met by the manufacturer or supplier.
- 1.3 No certificate of product approval will be valid for more than four years from the date of issue.
- 1.4 Manufacturers or suppliers shall inform IAAF of any proposed change of formulation or of raw materials which may affect the Performance Standard of any certified product and shall supply such information as is deemed necessary by IAAF to IAAF or to any test institute(s) nominated by IAAF for the purpose of ensuring that the product still conforms with IAAF Performance Specifications.
- 1.5 IAAF will publish a list of all approved products annually showing all products approved. This list will be circulated to all Member Federations and will be available on request from IAAF.

#### SECTION 2. METHOD OF APPLICATION

- 2.1 Each application will be on IAAF application form and will give full details of the product including materials specifications for tracks cast on site. Where it is deemed necessary for evaluation of materials details of suppliers must be supplied.
- 2.2 Each application will be accompanied by four samples of the product to be sent directly to the laboratory - one sample will be retained by the control laboratory designated in consultation with IAAF and the other samples will be retained under the direct control of IAAF. In the event of subsequent dispute over any matter concerning product alleged to be covered by an IAAF product certificate these samples will be reference samples.



### SECTION 3. APPROVAL PROCEDURE

- 3.1 An IAAF approved test institute will assess and test a control sample reporting directly to IAAF. All tests will be conducted in the laboratory under normal laboratory conditions and on the apparatus specified in the IAAF Performance Specifications for Synthetic Surfaces. Any changes or proposed changes in procedures will be notified to all participating companies and shall only be effective ninety (90) days after the date of issue of such notification by IAAF.
- 3.2 In the event of any product failing to meet the required standard the applicant will be afforded the opportunity of a hearing and of a further test. All costs will be discharged by the applicant.
- 3.3 From time to time IAAF may require the applicant to supply samples from facilities under construction for the purpose of monitoring the continuing conformity with the approvals granted.
- 3.4 List of IAAF approved laboratories for synthetic surface testing:

**Centre for Sports Technology**  
Unit 3,  
Greenwich Centre Business Park  
53 Norman Road  
London SE10 9QF  
Great Britain & N.I.  
Tel: **(44 20)** 8293 6655  
Fax: **(44 20)** 8269 0440

**Institut für Sportbodentechnik**  
Hauptstrasse 34  
CH-8264 Eschenz  
Switzerland  
Tel: **(41 52)** 740 30 05  
Fax: **(41 52)** 740 30 09

**FMPA Baden-Württemberg OGI Sportboden**  
Pfaffenwaldring 4  
D-70569 Stuttgart  
Germany  
Tel: **(49 711)** 685 3379  
Fax: **(49 711)** 685 2765

**Labosport**  
Technoparc du circuit des 24 heures  
Chemin aux Boeufs  
72100 Le Mans  
Tel: **(33 2)** 43 47 08 40  
Fax: **(33 2)** 43 47 08 28

**Norwegian Building Research Institute**  
PO Box 123 Blindern  
N-0314 Oslo 3  
Norway  
Tel: **(47 22)** 96 55 00  
Fax: **(47 22)** 96 55 42

**United States Sports Surfacing Laboratory**  
506 Cedar Lane  
Hopewell, VA 23860 USA  
Tel: **(1 804)** 541 7212  
Fax: **(1 804)** 541 7207

**Österr Institut für Sporttechnologie**  
Arsenal, Objekt 213  
A-1030 Wien  
Austria  
Tel: **(43 1)** 798 160154  
Fax: **(43 1)** 798 160148

**Sport Testing International Pty Ltd**  
380 Pennant Hills Road,  
Pennant Hills, NSW 2120  
Australia  
Tel: **(61 2)** 9980 9800  
Fax: **(61 2)** 9980 2556



#### **SECTION 4. CONTROL AND MONITORING PROCEDURE**

- 4.1 IAAF will monitor all tracks for which compliance with the IAAF Performance Standards is obligatory (IAAF Rule 140) and will ensure that any product certificate issued for the system used is consistent with the in situ test results.
- 4.2 Any test results submitted to IAAF in support of any track certification will be compared with product certification issued to ensure continuing conformity with that product certification.
- 4.3 In any case where the monitoring procedures indicate that a product certificate is not longer appropriate to the product the holder of the product certificate will be notified and will have the opportunity within thirty (30) days of the date of the notification to show reason why the certificate should not be withdraw by IAAF.
- 4.4 Product certificates may be renewed on payment of the appropriate fee and with a single control test in any case where the applicant certifies that the product is unchanged and where this is confirmed by monitoring during the four previous years.
- 4.5 Any holder of a product certificate may be required to supply samples for the purpose of round robin test of IAAF approved test institutes.

#### **SECTION 5. ROLE OF IAAF**

- 5.1 The purpose of this system is to ensure compliance with IAAF requirements for competition surfaces and thereby to safeguard the health of the athletes and to guarantee the integrity of the performance in so far as it is related to the track surface. The product certificate is not intended as a product endorsement beyond one of suitability and acceptability for competitions under IAAF Rules.
- 5.2 IAAF accepts no responsibility or liability for any damage or injuries caused or alleged to have been caused in any manner whatsoever by any product for which an IAAF product certificate has been issued.

#### **SECTION 6. FEE**

- 6.1 The cost of certification for a track product has been set at US\$ 25,000.
- 6.2 The first 3 products of the same company at 25,000\$ each, the next 3 at 20,000\$ and then 15,000\$ thereafter. A fee of 1,000\$ for the renewal of a track product certificate will be charged every 4 years.



## CHAPTER 3

### CERTIFICATION OF TRACK AND FIELD FACILITIES

#### SECTION 1. SCOPE OF THE SCHEME

- 1.1 IAAF Rule 140 require that competition facilities intended for use for competitions under IAAF Rule 12.1 (a), (b), (c) and (d) and for competitions under the direct control of IAAF are only held on synthetic surfaced tracks conforming to IAAF Performance Specifications for Synthetic Surfaces and which hold a current valid IAAF certificate of approval (CLASS 1 Certificate).
- 1.2 It is also recommended that when such tracks are available, competitions under IAAF Rule 12.1. (e), (f), (g) and (h) should also be held on such tracks.
- 1.3 IAAF Rule 140 also impose that all tracks intended for use for competition under Rule 12.1(a) to (h) must conform to the stringent requirements for accurate measurement contained in IAAF rules and, more specifically, in the IAAF Manual on Track and Field Facilities (CLASS 2 Certificate).
- 1.4 Some IAAF Member Federations have already put technical certification procedures in place which regulate and certify facilities in their own countries. Where these procedures are considered adequate IAAF may recognise certificates issued by these Member Federations as adequate for issue of certificates but IAAF reserves the right to re-evaluate such facilities.

#### SECTION 2. THE CERTIFICATION

- 2.1 IAAF will issue two forms of Certificates:

##### Class 1 Track

for competition technical facilities conforming in all respects with the requirements of Rules 140.

##### Class 2 Track

for competition technical facilities in which the in situ tests for compliance with the IAAF Performance Specifications for Synthetic Surfaces have not been performed but where the track surfacing has a valid IAAF product certificate and where the homologation of the facility is certified to be fully in accordance with IAAF Rule 134.

In each certificate, reference to the synthetic product and survey report will be listed.



### **SECTION 3. APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION**

- 3.1 All applications for IAAF certification of technical facilities shall be on forms approved by IAAF and shall be accompanied by the relevant original reports:
- **Class 1 Track:** Measurement/Survey + In-Situ Test Report
  - **Class 2 Track:** Measurement/Survey + Synthetic Product Test Report
- 3.2 Application forms for both classifications may be made by an agent on behalf of the track owner but should be signed by the track owner as IAAF will require an undertaking that any changes, (relining etc.) will be immediately notified to IAAF.
- 3.3 Each Measurement Report shall be on the form approved by IAAF. The measuring apparatus used shall be stated and certificates as to its accuracy shall be provided.
- 3.4 The full names, addresses and qualifications of all persons signing the form shall be provided.
- 3.5 Where Official National Standards exist these shall be included with the application and the persons providing the certificates shall be required to provide evidence that their certificates are acceptable under those National Standards.
- 3.6 Certificates of conformity with IAAF Performance Specifications shall only be accepted from accredited IAAF Test Institutes. All procedures and tests must conform to IAAF Performance Standards for Synthetic Surfaces.
- 3.7 The IAAF Member Federation in the country in which the facilities are located shall be supplied with a full copy of the application.

### **SECTION 4. CERTIFICATION**

- 4.1 Certificates issued under this scheme will normally be valid for not more than four years. In the event of track remarking IAAF shall be informed and new measurement certificates must be provided.
- 4.2 Certificates may be withdrawn, revoked or suspended by the IAAF if there is reasonable doubt as to the accuracy of any application or if the facility is altered in any way which materially affects the accuracy of the facility.
- 4.3 Certificates issued under these procedures shall apply only to the technical suitability of the track and field competition. The requirements of specific competition regulations where appropriate must be met for those competitions.



## SECTION 5. FEE

5.1 The cost of certification for a track facility has been set as follow:

- Class 1 Track US\$ 10,000
- Class 2 Track US\$ 1,000



## CHAPTER 4

### CERTIFICATION OF IMPLEMENTS & COMPETITION EQUIPMENT

#### SECTION 1. APPROVAL OF IMPLEMENTS & COMPETITION EQUIPMENT.

- 1.1 Only certified implements may be used at all international competitions (See IAAF Rule 187.1 & 12.1).
- 1.2 IAAF may, on application by any manufacturer or supplier, and, subject to such tests and certification which IAAF at its discretion require, grant a Certificate of Approval of implement or competition equipment in the terms hereinafter described and with such conditions or time limitations as are deemed by IAAF to be appropriate.
- 1.3 All costs associated with the implement or competition equipment approval including but not limited to costs of transport of samples, laboratory tests fees, cost of processing of applications together with a fee to be set by IAAF will be met by the manufacturer or supplier.
- 1.4 No certificate of implement or competition equipment approval will be valid for more than four years from the date of issue.
- 1.5 Manufacturers or suppliers shall inform IAAF of any proposed changes which may affect the approval of any approved implement or competition equipment and shall supply such information as is deemed necessary by IAAF to IAAF or to any test institute(s) nominated by IAAF for the purpose of ensuring that the implement or competition equipment still conforms with IAAF specifications.
- 1.6 IAAF will publish a list of all approved products annually showing all implements and competition equipment approved. This list will be circulated to all Member Federations and will be available on request from IAAF.
- 1.7 The manufacturer or supplier may market an IAAF Certified product as “Certified by IAAF - certificate number....” The certificate number must be quoted.
- 1.8 In the case where the marketed product is clearly that of another manufacturer and is identified as such then the approval certificate issued to that manufacturer could be validly used in the suppliers catalogue and marketing materials. Where however the supplier wishes to market the product under any name or description other than that of the manufacturer to whom an approval has been given then a separate and distinct approval is necessary.
- 1.9 Naturally equipment and implements will be subject to periodic testing by federation, area and IAAF technical delegates to verify weights, accuracy etc. It is envisaged that, following an introductory period, equipment not in possession of



current IAAF Certificate of Approval may not be used at certain international competitions.

## **SECTION 2. METHOD OF APPLICATION**

- 2.1 Each application will be on IAAF application forms and will give full details of the product including materials and technical drawings.
- 2.2 Each application for implement approval will be accompanied by two samples of the implement. Each application for competition equipment approval will be accompanied by detailed technical description and full technical scale drawings. In the event of subsequent dispute over any matter concerning implement alleged to be covered by an IAAF implement certificate these samples and/or drawings will be reference material.

## **SECTION 3. APPROVAL PROCEDURE**

- 3.1 IAAF will assess and test products according to the IAAF regulations in force.
- 3.2 IAAF could, at the applicant's cost, arrange inspection of equipment and/or implements at the manufacturers premises bearing in mind, of course, that reference samples of implements must be transported to IAAF.
- 3.3 In the event of any product failing to meet the required standard the applicant will be afforded the opportunity of a hearing and of a further test. All costs will be discharged by the applicant.
- 3.4 From time to time IAAF may require the applicant to supply additional samples for the purpose of monitoring the continuing conformity with the approvals granted.

## **SECTION 4. CONTROL AND MONITORING PROCEDURE**

- 4.1 Each item approved would be allocated a unique approval number, which should be used in all materials relating to that item and to that item only.
- 4.2 In any case where the monitoring procedures indicate that a product certificate is not longer appropriate to the product, the holder of the product certificate will be notified and will have the opportunity within thirty (30) days of the date of the notification to show reason why the certificate should not be withdraw by IAAF.
- 4.3 Product certificates will be valid for four years.
- 4.4 Any holder of a product certificate may be required to supply samples for the purpose of verifying continuing conformity with IAAF regulations.

## **SECTION 5. ROLE OF IAAF**

- 5.1 The purpose of this system is to ensure compliance with IAAF requirements for implements and competition equipment and thereby to guarantee the integrity of



the performance. The certificate is not intended as a implement endorsement beyond one of suitability and acceptability for competitions under IAAF Rules.

- 5.2 IAAF accepts no responsibility or liability for any damage or injuries caused or alleged to have been caused in any manner whatsoever by any implement for which an IAAF implement certificate has been issued.
- 5.3 Only implements for which a current IAAF Certificate of approval exists will be acceptable in all competitions under IAAF rule 12.1 (a) to (g). A World Record may not be ratified if implements and competition equipment used is not covered by a current IAAF Certificate of Approval.

## SECTION 6. FEES

6.1 The cost of certification for a track facility has been set as follow:

- Implements: US\$ 500 per type
- Equipment:

Landing area	US\$ 2,000
Throwing cage	US\$ 1,000
Uprights	US\$ 1,000
Hurdles	US\$ 1000
Steeple barriers	US\$ 500
Starting block	US\$ 500
Fixed equipment	US\$ 250
Cross-bar	US\$ 100
Other Equipment	US\$ 50

6.2 Fixed equipment consists of the take-off board, pole vault box, stop board, throwing circle and inside kerb.

6.3 The certification fee covers one model of implement or equipment only. Different weight, size or name of implements are considered as different types therefore will require another certificate. Different colours of the same implement will obviously be identical and no fee will be charged.