

The TRA is the responsible body for approving the telecommunications equipment used in the Kingdom of Bahrain. To protect the interests of users and maintain integrity of networks, it is important that all equipment connected meets certain specifications. However the small size of the Bahrain telecommunications market makes it impractical to implement a bespoke equipment approval process or to test every piece of equipment against a standard equipment approval.

The TRA has therefore adopted an approval-by-exception approach, whereby international standards, mutual recognition agreements and self-regulation by manufacturers will be used as much as possible. Certificates from the main equipment approval authorities will be recognized by the TRA. These include:

- ANSI - American National Standards Institute
- BABT - British Approvals Board for Telecommunications
- CEPT - European Conference of Post and Telecommunications
- ETS - European Telecommunications Standards

- ETSI - European Telecommunications Standards Institute, and
- FCC - Federal Communication Commission (USA)

Importers of telecommunications equipment into the Kingdom of Bahrain are responsible for presenting the relevant certificates.

The Authority reserves the right to spot-check equipment if necessary. It also has the right to use a preferred third party to test equipment as it deems necessary. In such instances, the importer wishing to use/sell the equipment that requires testing will be liable for the cost of the tests.

The TRA may also seize or prohibit the use of equipment that does not comply with type approval regulations and levy fines for breaches of regulations.

Approval of telecommunications equipment



The Authority shall have the power to adopt and publish technical specifications and standards for the import and use of telecommunications equipment, and for connecting telecommunications equipment to telecommunications networks and for interconnection. SECTION (3) (c, 15)