



China Certification of Information Security

When does the CC-IS apply?

The CC-IS (*China Certification of Information Security*) is a compulsory conformity requirement that applies to information security products for the Chinese government procurement market. The certification is voluntary in all other cases. The Chinese Certification and Accreditation Authority (CNCA) has published a catalogue of CC-IS certification. The catalogue currently contains 8 broad categories. The broad categories are further broken down into 13 products categories.

Product category	Specific product types
1. Border security	(1) <i>Firewalls</i> (2) Network security separated cards and line selectors (3) Security isolation and information exchange products
2. Communication security	(4) <i>Secure routers</i>
3. Authentication and access control	(5) <i>Smart card chip operating systems</i>
4. Data security	(6) Data backup and recovery products (7) <i>Secure operating systems</i> (8) <i>Secure database systems</i>
6. Content security	(9) Anti-spam products
7. Valuation, audit and control	(10) Intrusion detection systems (11) Network vulnerability scanning products (12) Security audit products
8. Application security	(13) Web site recovery products
* Above list is for reference only	
** Products shown in italic requires cipher testing	

Within the 13 products types, 6 of them are subject to cryptography certification - cipher test certification, conducted by the *Office of the State Commercial Cryptography Administration* (OSCCA).

In addition to the CC-IS certificate other certificates may apply to the product categories such as the Network Access Licence (NAL) and Radio Type Approval (SRRC). The CC-IS is equivalent to the CCC certification.

What are the technical requirements of the CC-IS?

There are essentially two basic requirements for technical conformity of products entering China, namely Chinese standards and implementation regulations – these documents define the implementation of certification procedures applying to the product.

Chinese national standards (GB standards) define the technical requirements for information products to be put on the Chinese market. The Standardisation Administration of China (SAC) provides a **national standards enquiry** service searchable by standard number, title, ICS code, etc.

To learn more about Chinese GB standards please visit our [standardisation section](#).

The CNCA has published 13 implementation rules for CC-IS certification. The implementation rules detail the technical requirements for each of the 13 product types. The implementation rules can be accessed from the [Chinese Information Security Certification Centre's \(ISCCC\) website](#), however no English versions are currently available:

The ISCCC is the organisation assigned by the CNCA to accept and process CC-IS applications.

Meanwhile, within the 13 CC-IS product types, 6 products need cryptography testing. For products needing cryptography testing, the Commercial Cryptogram Inspection and Testing Centre of the State Cryptogram Administration Bureau is the organisation responsible for accepting and processing the Cipher test. OSCCA has published cipher test criteria for all of the 6 products. It can be accessed freely on the [OSCAA website](#) however no English versions are currently available.

How to apply for the CC-IS?

The CC-IS certification application procedure is similar to the China Compulsory Certificate (CCC) and can generally be divided into a 6 step process. Summarised below, the standard operating procedure involves:

1. **Application** – The required documentation is submitted to the competent authorities.
2. **Type testing** – A designated test laboratory in China will test a sample of the product.
3. **Factory inspection** - ISCCC will send representatives to inspect the manufacturing facilities. Each factory producing parts for the final exported product needs to be inspected.
4. **Evaluation** – Decision is made if CC-IS certificate is granted or not.
5. **Product Marking** – Marking of product and packaging.
6. **Follow-up factory inspection** - Manufacturing facilities need to be re-inspected by the ISCCC every 12 months.

1. Application

Completing the CC-IS application form

The first step to getting your product CC-IS certified begins by filling in the application form. The application form can be downloaded from the ISCCC website. A number of supporting documents are required for this step. The application can only be submitted in Chinese language.

The detailed list of supporting documentation is listed in the product implementation rule and will vary according to the specific products. It will generally include:

- ✓ CC-IS application form and application material list;
- ✓ Copy of business licence of applicant/manufacture;
- ✓ Copy of organisation chart of applicant/manufacture;
- ✓ Power of attorney;
- ✓ Certification of products cryptogram testing issued by OSCCA (if applicable);
- ✓ List of test equipment used by manufacturer;
- ✓ Product literature translated into Chinese;
- ✓ Product Chinese name, warning labels translated into Chinese (if applicable);
- ✓ Introduction of key modules with security function;
- ✓ Quality standards adopted by the product;
- ✓ Primary raw material used and a detailed list of components outsourced;
- ✓ Copy of relevant certification;
- ✓ Product security capability documents;
- ✓ Other certification relevant documents (if any).

Products needing cryptography testing should obtain the cipher test from the Commercial Cryptogram Inspection and Testing Centre.

If the ISCCC finds that the application is consistent, it will proceed to issue a “sampling notice”. After receiving the “sampling notice”, the applicant needs to deliver the samples to the testing laboratory. Applicants can choose a designated test laboratory based on the testing scope of the laboratory. A detailed list of designated testing laboratories for CC-IS is published in the *CNCA regulation No. 2 (2009)*.

The number of samples will be determined in the implementation rule. Generally, 2 samples are required to be sent to test laboratory, however, this may vary according to the product.

2. Type testing

When the applicant has successfully identified an accredited laboratory suitable for testing the product, the contract and testing fees should be confirmed. The laboratory will then proceed to carry out the investigation of the product and its conformity with applying Chinese standards and implementation regulations. The product implementation rule will specify the different test items and basis standards.

Once the evaluation and testing are completed, the laboratory will submit the test report to the ISCCC for final review and approval and the applicant will be asked to settle applicable fees.

3. The factory inspection

After approving the test report, the ISCCC will schedule an **initial factory inspection** of the manufacturing facility. The inspection includes product information security guarantee, product quality guarantee and product conformity. The product implementation rule will define the requirement for inspection and the check list that the inspectors will work their way through.

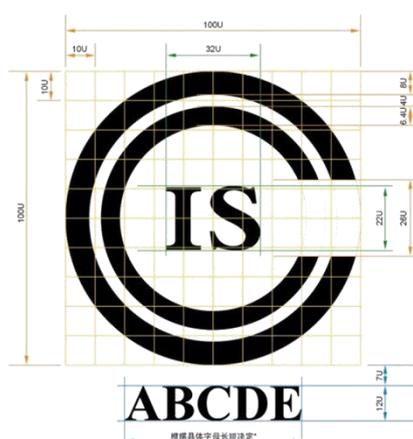
The factory inspection is carried out by ISCCC designated staff. The applicant is obliged to cover the travel expenses, per diem and man day fees of the inspectors. Generally the initial factory inspection takes less than a week, and involves 2 ISCCC inspectors.

4. Evaluation

The factory inspection report together with the sample test report and application materials are submitted to the ISCCC for final review and evaluation. On the basis of the above reports, the ISCCC will sign and approve the CC-IS certification. The CC-IS certification is valid for 5 years.

5. Product marking

Having been approved for CC-IS certification, the product must now be marked.



The manufacturer is free to use original authorised CC-IS stickers purchased directly from CNCA or may submit its own drawings for approval.

6. Follow-up factory inspection

The follow-up factory inspection is carried out every 12 months by ISCCC assigned inspectors. The follow-up inspections are carried out following the same guidelines as the initial inspection, confirming that the manufacturing facility is still following applied standards and regulations for product information security guarantee, product quality guarantee and product conformity.

The follow-up inspection generally takes around 3 days and should be limited to 1 inspector. The ISCCC maintains the right to conduct unannounced inspections without prior notice. If necessary, the ISCCC can pick up samples from the production line, factory store or market for re-testing. In case of sampling, testing will be carried out by ISCCC designated testing laboratories and will be completed within 20 days.

The final assessment report is submitted to the ISCCC. The ISCCC will review and evaluate; if no discrepancies are found the CC-IS licence will be continued.

The CC-IS mark is valid for 5 years. The manufacturer should re-submit the application before the certificate expires.

What does the CC-IS cost?

The cost of the CC-IS certification is based on the same standards as the CCC certification (not including cryptography testing) and can therefore be divided into *administrative costs* and *service fees*.

Administrative costs

Administration fees represent a flat fee rate for the administrative service and are minor in nature. They usually represent several hundred EUR and are fixed through a central pricing policy. The test fee will depend on the complexity of the product and the nature of the test involved.

In addition, the applicant will be charged a registration fee as well as an approval fee for being authorised to affix the actual CC-IS mark.

Services fees

Service fees are more costly in nature. They include fees for factory inspection, travel cost, per diem for inspectors, etc. The applicant is responsible for man day fees for inspectors and all their associated costs. In addition, it is recommended that first time applicants use a consultant, and depending on the service required this can also run up costs. Associated costs can run up into the several thousand EUR.

The basic cost can be calculated by the following form, not including travel, per diem or consultant services:

	Steps	Standard price	Note
1	Application	500 CNY/ per application	1000 CNY translation fee if not in Chinese
2	Type testing	Depending on product type	CNCA publish price list (in Chinese only)*
3	Factory inspection	2500 CNY man day fee	Additional cost: Return ticket Per diem
4	Approval and registration	800 CNY/ per application	
5	Follow up inspection	2500 CNY man day fee	

* Product test fee depends on type of product. CNCA publishes the price list on its [website](#) (in Chinese only)
Exchange rate (for reference only): 1 EUR = 9 CNY

Source: [Charging standard for compulsory product certification](#)

List of important regulations:

Announcement for compulsory product certification of part information security products [No27, 2008]

CC-IS catalogue (2008)

Announcement for adjust implementation requirements of information security product compulsory certification [No33, 2009]

Announcement for implementation requirements of information security product compulsory certification [No26, 2010]

Designated certification organisation and test laboratory of information security product compulsory certification [No7, 2008]

Charging standard for compulsory product certification [No1034, 2009 SDPC]

Regulation on commercial encryption codes [1999/ OSCCA]

Administration rule of commercial encryption codes [No.273 1999 State Council of PRC]

Certification body

China Information Security Certification Centre (ISCCC)	
Address:	Zhong Ren Tower, No. 10 Chao Wai Street, Chaoyang District, 100020 Beijing
Contact Details	[Phone] +86 10-65994322/65994330
Web	www.isccc.gov.cn
scope	all

Testing laboratory

MIIT Computer Security Technology Testing CENTRE	
Address:	No. 211 Bei Si Huan Zhong Road, Haidian District, 100083 Beijing
Contact Details	[Phone] +86 10 51616107
Web	http://www.ctec.com.cn
Testing Scope	all

Information System Security Testing and Evaluation Centre of State Security Administration	
Address:	No. 56 Jiao Da Dong Road , Haidian District, 100044, Beijing
Contact Details	[Phone] +86 10 82210931
Web	http://www.isstec.org.cn/
Testing Scope	Security information system

Computer Information System Security Product Quality Inspection Testing Centre	
Address:	No. 76 Jiao Yue Yang Road, 200031, Shanghai
Contact Details	[Phone] +86 21 64335070
Web	http://www.mctc.gov.cn/
Testing Scope	All

State Cryptogram Administration Bureau Commercial Cryptogram Inspection and Testing Centre	
Address:	No. 7 Dian Chang Road , Feng Tai District, 100036, Beijing
Contact Details	[Phone] +86 10 59703695
Web	http://www.oscca.gov.cn/
Testing Scope	cryptogram

China Information Technology Security Evaluation Centre /Information Security Laboratory	
Address:	No. 8 Shang Di Xi Road, Haidian District, 100085, Beijing
Contact Details	[Phone] +86 10 82341588
Web	http://www.itsec.gov.cn/
Testing Scope	All

Beijing Information Security Testing and Evaluation Centre	
Address:	No. 12,Bei Chen Xi Road , Chaoyang District, 100101, Beijing
Contact Details	[Phone] +86 10 84371806
Web	http://www.bjtec.org.cn
Testing Scope	All

Shanghai Information Security Testing and Certification Centre	
Address:	No. 1308, Lu Jia Bang Road, 200011, Shanghai
Contact Details	[Phone] +86 21-63789038/63789900 ext.211
Web	http://www.shtec.gov.cn
Testing Scope	All



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The Centre's range of free services cover:

- Business Development – provision of market information, business and marketing advice
- Legal – legal information, 'ask the expert' initial consultations and practical manuals
- Standards – standards and conformity requirements when exporting to China
- HR and Training – industry and horizontal training programmes
- Access to a service providers directory and information databases
- Hot-desking – free, temporary office space in the EU SME Centre to explore local business opportunities
- Any other practical support services to EU SMEs wishing to export to or invest in China.

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