

Proposal for Amendments to the Inspection Requirements for Polyvinyl Chloride Pipes

By the Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection (BSMI), Ministry of Economic Affairs

Background:

1. With a view to enhancing the performance of unplasticized polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipes, which are currently subject to mandatory inspection, to meet the needs of consumers, the Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection (BSMI) proposes to update the inspection standards CNS 1298 (PVC pipes) and CNS 4053-1 (PVC pipes for water supply) to their current versions (published on 18 February 2017).
2. PVC pipes are conducted in two kinds of conformity assessment procedures, namely Batch-by-Batch Inspection or Registration of Product Certification (Modules II+IV, II+V, or II+VII). To speed up customs clearance, BSMI modifies Batch-by-Batch Inspection to Type Approved Batch Inspection.

Proposed date of implementation: 1 March 2022

Products (HS/CCCN codes) covered and their applicable inspection standards:

Draft amendments			Current regulations		
Description of Goods	Inspection Standards	Inspection schemes	Description of Goods	Inspection Standards	Inspection schemes
Unplasticized polyvinyl chloride pipes	CNS 1298: <u>2017</u>	Type Approved Batch Inspection or Registration of Product Certification (Modules II+IV, II+V, or II+VII)	Unplasticized polyvinyl chloride pipes	CNS 1298: <u>2007</u>	Batch-by-Batch Inspection or Registration of Product Certification (Modules II+IV, II+V, or II+VII)
Unplasticized polyvinyl chloride pipes for water supply	CNS 4053-1: <u>2017</u>	Type Approved Batch Inspection or Registration of Product Certification (Modules II+IV, II+V, or II+VII)	Unplasticized polyvinyl chloride pipes for water supply	CNS 4053-1: <u>2006</u>	Batch-by-Batch Inspection or Registration of Product Certification (Modules II+IV, II+V, or II+VII)
Unplasticized polyvinyl chloride pipes for electric conduit use	CNS 1302: 2014	Type Approved Batch Inspection or Registration of Product Certification (Modules II+IV, II+V, or II+VII)	Unplasticized polyvinyl chloride pipes for electric conduit use	CNS 1302: 2014	Batch-by-Batch Inspection or Registration of Product Certification (Modules II+IV, II+V, or II+VII)
Reference C.C.C. Code (the first 6 digits are the same as HS Code):					
1. Unplasticized polyvinyl chloride pipes: 3917.23.00.00-9A					
2. Unplasticized polyvinyl chloride pipes for water supply: 3917.23.00.00-9B					
3. Unplasticized polyvinyl chloride pipes for electric conduit use: 3917.23.00.00-9C					

Inspection standards:

CNS 1298, CNS 4053-1 and CNS 1302.

Description of the two kinds of conformity assessment procedures

1. Registration of Product Certification (RPC) Scheme: Modules II+IV, II+V, or II+VII

- (1) For product subject to Modules II+IV, II+V, or II+VII procedures, not only the products shall be type-tested in advance (Module II) by the BSMI or BSMI-designated testing laboratories, but the quality management systems of the production premises must be in conformity with Module IV (Full Quality Management System), Module V (Production Quality Management System) or Module VII (Factory Inspection).
- (2) For Module IV and Module V, a registration certificate in accordance with the CNS 12681 (ISO 9001) series of standards is required to be obtained from the certification bodies recognized by the BSMI. As for Module VII, a factory inspection report issued by the BSMI or BSMI-recognized factory inspection bodies is needed.
- (3) In addition, a declaration of conformity-to-type is also required to ensure that the mass-produced commodities are in conformity with that shown in the type-test report.
- (4) After being certified and registered by the BSMI, products will be allowed to use the Commodity Inspection Mark with the letter 'R' and the identification number given by the BSMI. Additionally, these products can clear the customs directly without any further inspection if not being sampled by RPC border check procedures. The application fee and annual fee for RPC are both NT\$5,000 (about US\$170) for each certification, and a RPC certificate is valid for three years. If there are any serial products, an extra NT\$3,000 (about US\$100) of application fee will be charged for every application in each certification. The fees for type testing vary by products and depend on the fee policies of the testing laboratories.

2. Type Approved Batch Inspection

- (1) Under this procedure, the manufacturer or importer shall have their products type-tested by the BSMI or designated testing laboratories, and then file an application for Type Approval with the BSMI.
- (2) After manufacturers or importers obtain Type-Approval certificates, they are required to file an application for inspection with the BSMI before their products are to be released from the production premises or arrive at the port of entry. The BSMI will then review the application and accompanying documents according to simplified procedures, and additional samples may be required for further testing. The fees for type testing vary by product and depend on the testing laboratory. The fee for a Type Approval is NT\$3,500, and a Type Approval certificate is valid for three years.

Locations to apply for Type Testing:

Tainan Branch of the BSMI or the BSMI-designated testing laboratories.

Related requirements:

1. The listed products that are composite products or multifunctional shall comply with the respective inspection standards. Where the components are subject to legal inspection, they shall also comply with relevant inspection standards.
2. The inspection standards of the polyvinyl chloride pipes listed in the table shall be the version published in this announcement. If any updated version is available, the BSMI shall publish the implementation date of the updated version in further announcements.
3. The C.C.C. Codes listed in the table are used for reference only. Polyvinyl Chloride Pipes shall be complied with the inspection procedures and standards before entering into the market, even though their C.C.C. Codes are identified differently by the Customs Administration, Ministry of Finance or Bureau of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Economic for tariff.