



# Benefits of using services of accredited certification bodies for construction product certification

Hong Kong Accreditation Service  
香港認可處

13 November 2015





## What is product certification (產品認證)?

✦ ‘Product certification (產品認證)’ -

A third party certification body (CB) issues a certificate to confirm that a product of a given supplier satisfies the requirements of a specified certification scheme

(由第三方認證機構發出證書以證明經審核的產品符合特定的產品認證計劃所規定的要求)





## What is product certification (產品認證)?

- Product certification is carried out by product certification bodies which should conform to ISO/IEC 17065
- Certified products may bear a certification mark to demonstrate their quality, which can directly link to the conformity of the product with specified requirements





# Why do we use product certification?



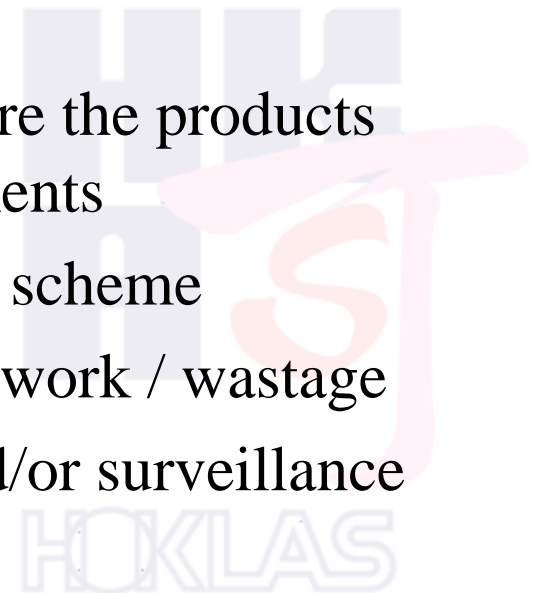
## Benefits for users

- Confidence (e.g. products fulfill specified requirements)
- Reliable quality of products
- Better traceability of products
- Further test not required

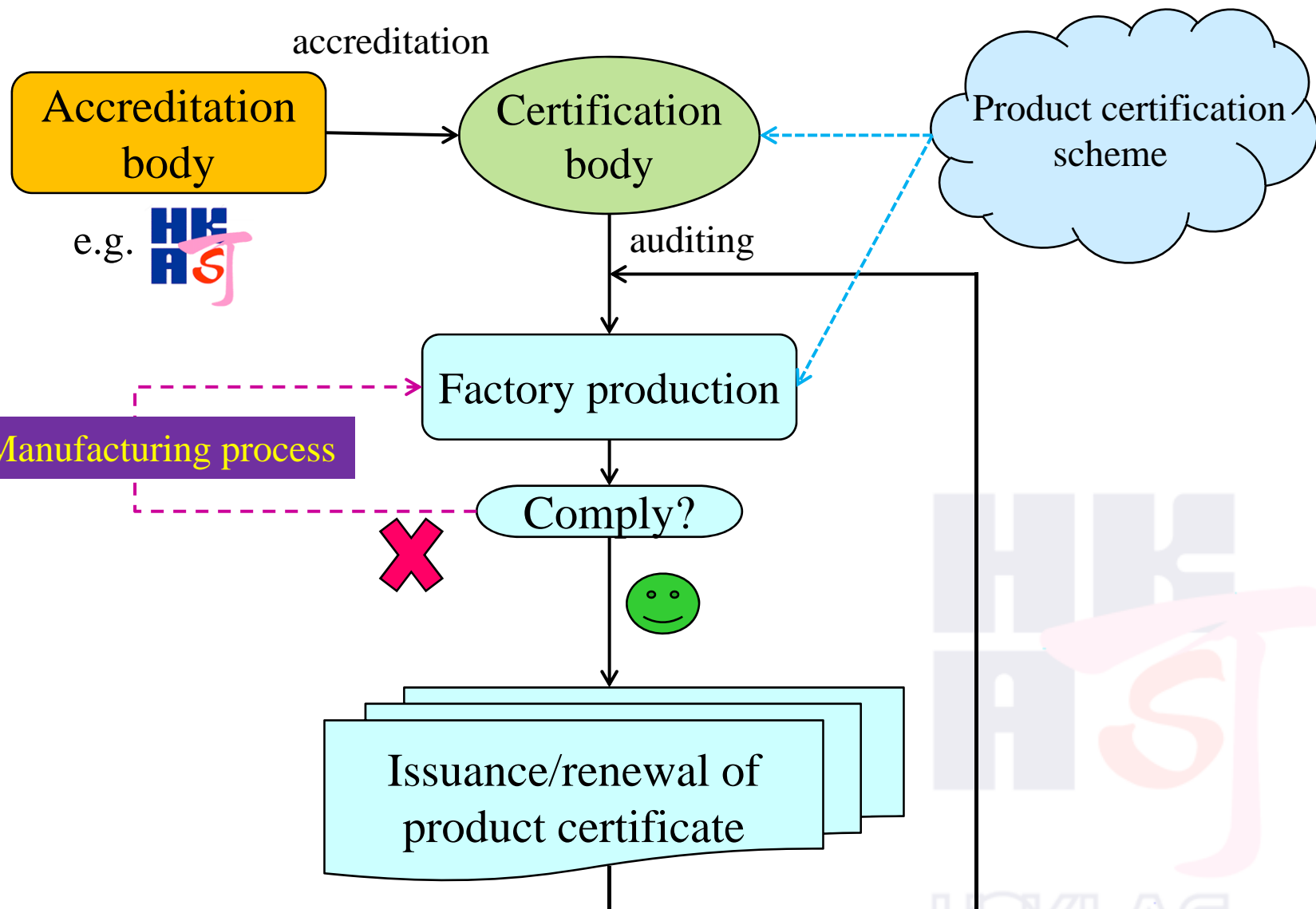


## Benefits for manufacturers

- Third party certification body to assure the products complied with the specified requirements
- Product requirements well defined in scheme
- Reducing risk of non-compliance / rework / wastage
- Through rigorous process control and/or surveillance



# Accreditation of product certification





## Benefits of accreditation for product certification



✓ Provide enhanced confidence

➤ Ensure certification body conforming to ISO/IEC 17065, e.g.

- Impartiality (公正性)
- Confidentiality (保密性)
- Competent demonstration
- Openness
- Access to information
- Responsiveness to complaints and appeals
- Responsibility





## Benefits of accreditation for product certification



- ✓ Assess product certification body regularly by Accreditation Body (e.g. HKAS)
- Monitor the performance of accredited certification bodies and indirectly the performance of product manufacturers





## Benefits of accreditation for product certification



- ✓ HKAS policy on product certification schemes







# HKAS policy on product certification scheme

## HKCAS Supplementary Criteria No. 11

e.g.

HKAS Executive will not accept certification schemes which **imply or claim** that certified products have functions or properties that **may be misleading or potentially misleading**.

HKCAS SC-11
Issue No. 1
Issue Date: 4 July 2013
Implementation Date: 4 July 2013
Page 1 of 6

### HKCAS Supplementary Criteria No. 11

#### HKAS Policy on Product and Management System Certification Schemes

##### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document details HKAS policy on product and management system certification schemes that HKAS Executive grants accreditation under HKCAS. HKAS grants accreditation to certification bodies only for those certification schemes that satisfy the criteria set out in this document.
- 1.2 An applicant certification body shall ensure that a certification scheme it uses for seeking HKCAS accreditation satisfies the criteria set out in this document. To apply for accreditation, the applicant certification body shall provide details of the certification scheme and submit all relevant supporting documents to HKAS Executive. HKAS Executive will accept accreditation applications if the certification scheme satisfies the criteria set out in this document.
- 1.3 An accredited certification body shall ensure that a certification scheme it is accredited for continues to satisfy the criteria set out in this document. The accredited certification body shall inform HKAS Executive in writing immediately of any changes or proposed changes of the certification scheme that may affect its continuing conformity with the criteria set out in this document. Though it may be outside its reach, the accredited certification body shall make every effort to discuss with the parties concerned and come up with an action plan proposing measures to resolve the non-conformity or anticipated non-conformity. Normally, accredited certification bodies shall resolve any non-conformity arising from the changes within 6 months. Accreditation may be suspended or terminated when the certification scheme no longer satisfies the criteria set out in this document.
- 1.4 The criteria in this document do not immediately apply to existing schemes, i.e. schemes which had already been within the accreditation scopes of certification bodies under HKCAS at the time this document was issued. However, an existing scheme not

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## Guidelines for product certification schemes

ISO/IEC 17067







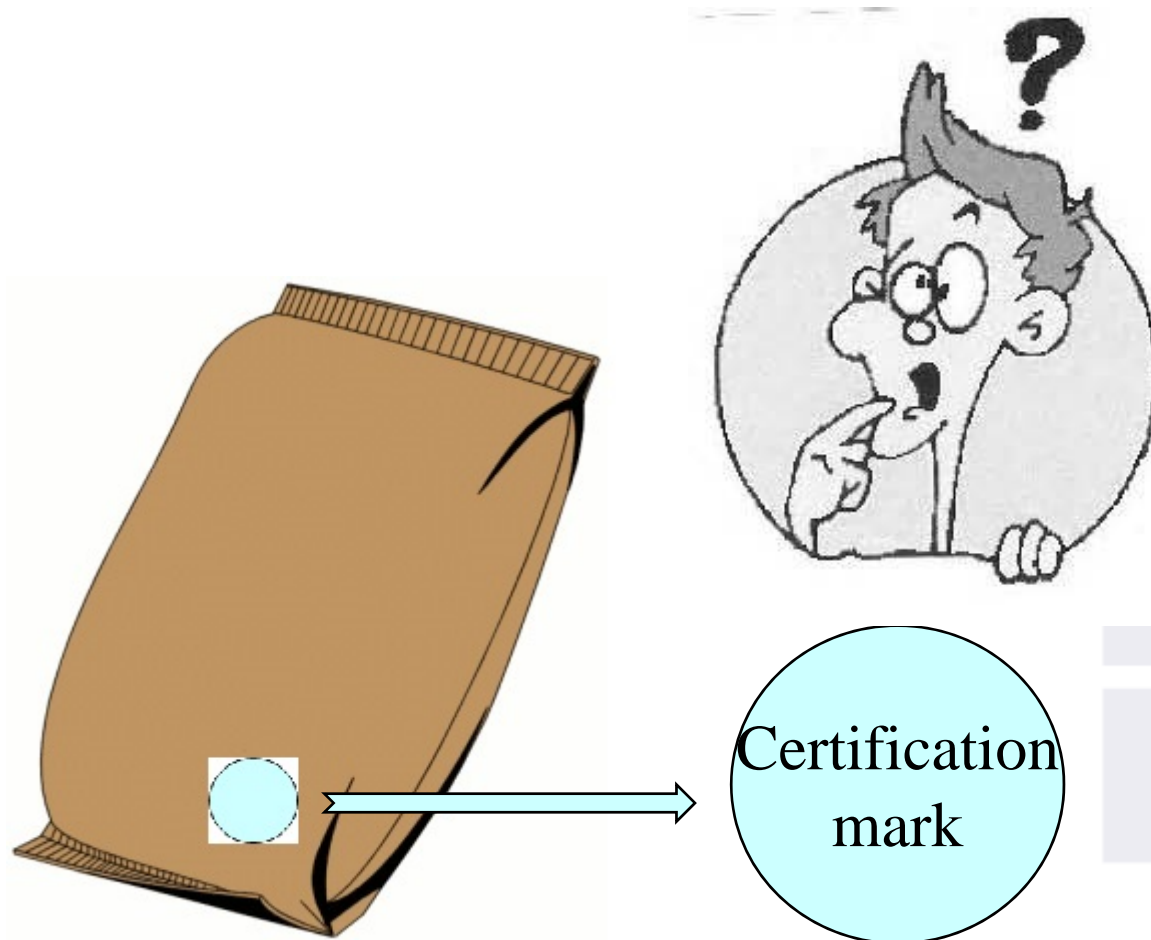
## Test reports & certificates recognised internationally 測試報告及證書獲國際承認

- ✦ HKAS is signatory to the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) and International Accreditation Forum (IAF) Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA)  
香港認可處 (HKAS) 是國際實驗所認可合作組織 (ILAC) 及國際認可論壇 (IAF) 等機構的多邊互認協議簽署成員
- ✦ Endorsed test reports and certificates issued by HKAS accredited organisations are recognised by HKAS's MRA / MLA partners (involving 91 accreditation bodies in 73 economies in the world)  
香港認可處的多邊互認協議夥伴 (當中包括73經濟體系共91個認可機構) 均承認獲香港認可處認可機構所發出的認許測試報告及認許證書，促進跨境自由貿易

(as of 1 November 2015)



Is the product certified by an accredited certification body?





## Product certificate issued by an accredited certification body

### *Product Certificate*

CB name & address

Client name & address

Scope of certification (e.g. product, scheme)

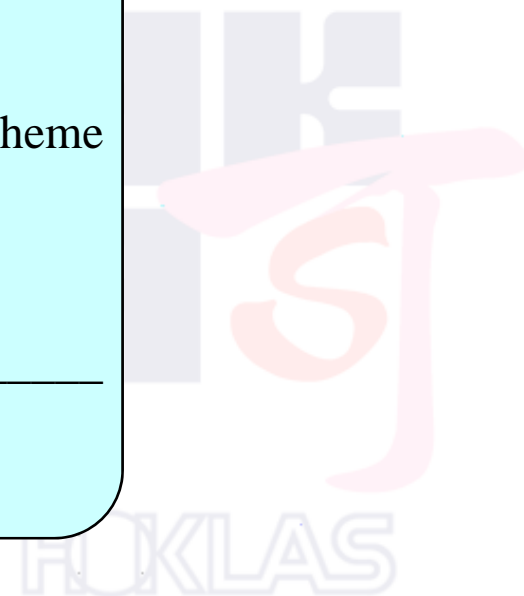
Date of certification granted

Expiry date of certification

Other information required by the certification scheme



Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



# Scope of accreditation 認可範圍

## Certification body

Accredited Certification Body  $\neq$  Endorsed certificates

### Example

ABC Certification Limited  
ABC 認證有限公司

Product certification (Type 5 certification scheme to ISO/IEC 17067:2013)	
Area : Building Components	
Scheme	Description
PCCS-TA	Product certification for <u>cementitious</u> adhesives for tiles in accordance with Hong Kong Concrete Institute scheme PCCS-TA Issue 1 (2010) “Product Conformity Certification Scheme for Tile Adhesives” <div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> <i>&lt;excluding the following&gt;</i>            Clause 5.4 – Reaction to Fire         </div>
Area : Concrete and Similar Construction Materials/Products	
Scheme	Description
QSPSC	Product certification for ready mixed concrete in accordance with Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency QSPSC Issue 7 (2009) “Quality Scheme for the Production and Supply of Concrete”





# Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS)

## 香港認可處







# Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS)

- HKAS is part of Innovation and Technology Commission (創新科技署) of the Hong Kong Special Administration Region (HKSAR) Government.



香港特別行政區政府  
創新科技署

- Established in 1985 (formerly named as HOKLAS), HKAS is the official accreditation body (認可資格頒授機構) in Hong Kong.
- Provides independent and impartial accreditation services.





- ✦ HKAS provides accreditation services to laboratories (實驗所), proficiency testing providers (能力驗證提供者), reference material producers (標準物質生產者), certification bodies (認證機構) and inspection bodies (檢驗機構) under 3 schemes:

- HOKLAS (香港實驗所認可計劃)

- HKCAS (香港認證機構認可計劃)

- HKIAS (香港檢驗機構認可計劃)



HOKLAS



HKCAS



HKIAS

HOKLAS

HOKLAS



HKCAS



HKIAS

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## HKCAS (香港認證機構認可計劃)



### Product Certification

Application for accreditation is open to any certification body which provides a third-party product certification services of the following product areas:

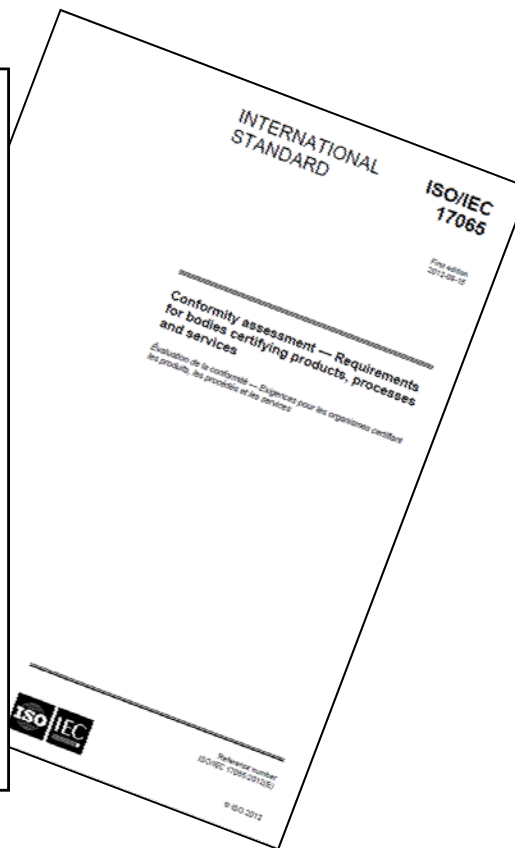
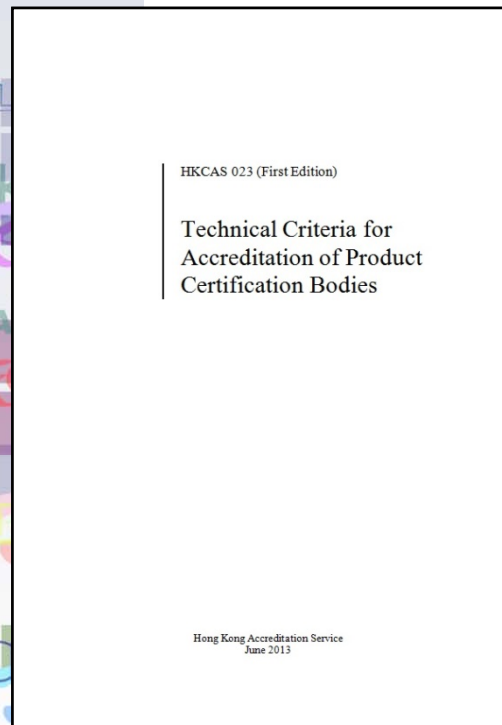
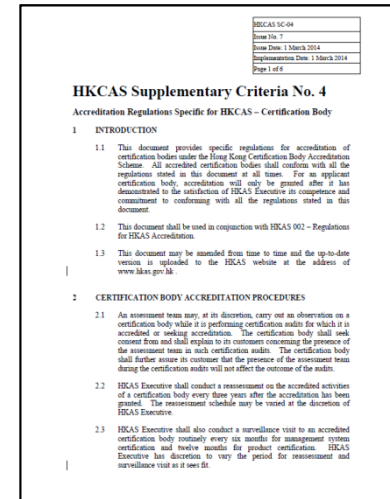
- (a) Chinese medicine
- (b) Construction materials and products
- (c) Consumer products
- (d) Food





# Accreditation criteria for product certification body

HKCAS 023 (ISO/IEC 17065 + HKCAS Policy)  
HKAS 002 (Regulations for HKAS Accreditation)  
Relevant HKAS/HKCAS Supplementary Criteria





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HOKLAS

HOKLAS

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## Number of accredited certification bodies (Construction Products) (as at 1 November 2015)

6 accredited certification bodies for product certification

### Construction Products 建築材料及產品

Aluminium window (鋁窗)

Cement (水泥)

Ceramic tile (磁磚)

Fire doors and fire partitions (防火門及間隔牆)

Frictional hinges (鉸鏈)

Mesh reinforcement (網狀鋼筋)

Ready mixed concrete (預拌混凝土)

Repair mortar (修補砂漿)

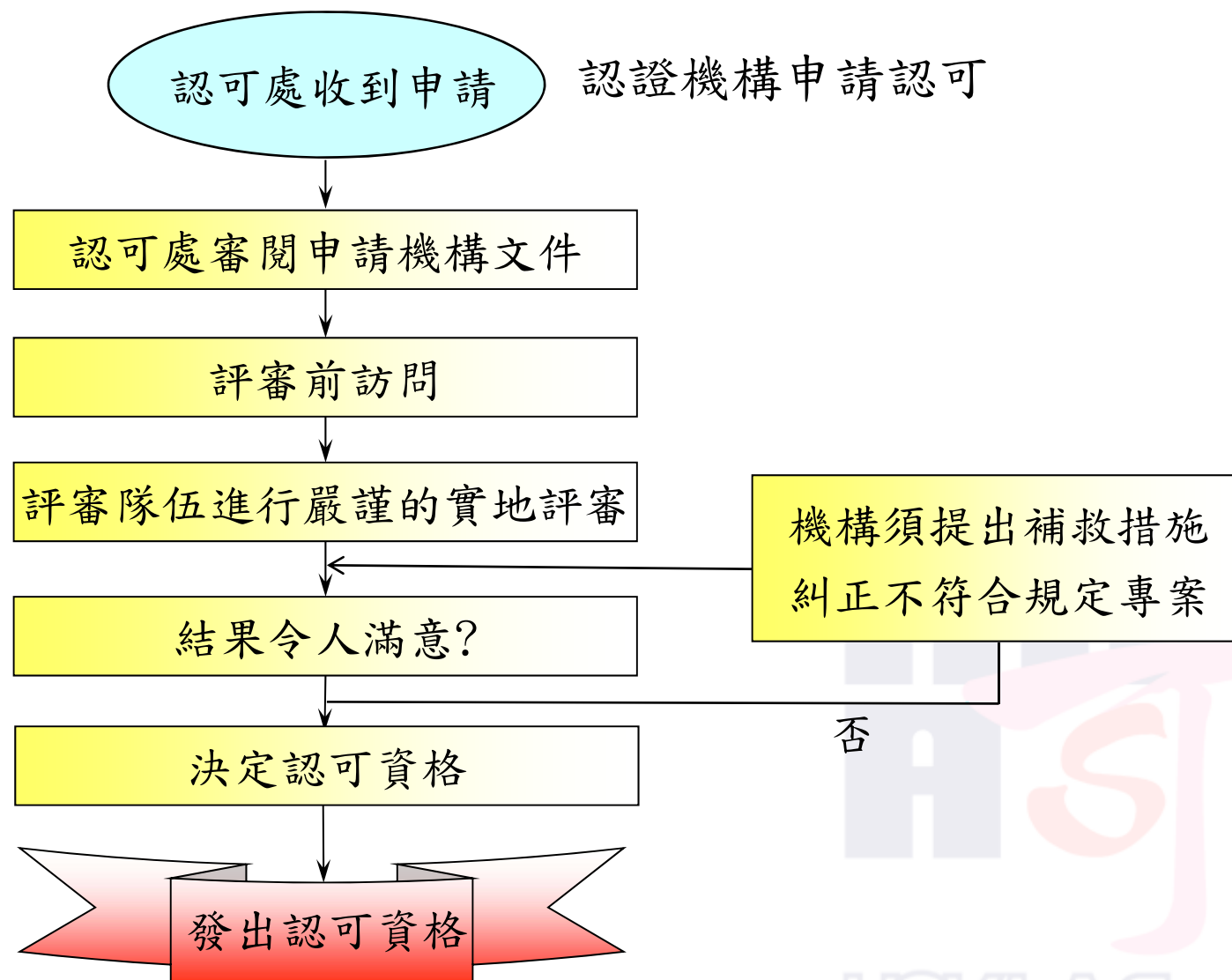
Replacement sands (替補沙)

Standard sands (標準沙)

Tile adhesives (磁磚黏合劑)

HOKLAS

# Accreditation process flow chart 認可流程圖





## Features of HKAS Accreditation


- ◆ Voluntary
- ◆ Based on international standards
- ◆ Rigorous assessment and monitoring
- ◆ Independent and impartial
- ◆ International recognition







# HKAS website


**Innovation and Technology Commission**  
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

GovHK 香港政府一站通

TEXT ONLY 繁體版 简体版

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**What's New**

- [Accreditation for testing of lead content in solder or filler metal](#)
- [The Accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA Mark – Ready to receive application from interested accredited inspection bodies](#)
- [30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hong Kong Accreditation Service – Launching of Webpage of "Milestones of HKAS"](#)
- [Testing of lead and other heavy metals in water](#)
- [Implementation arrangements for ISO/IEC TS 17021-3: 2013 and](#)

**About Accreditation**

Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS) provides accreditation for conformity assessment bodies located in Hong Kong, through the following schemes:

- [Hong Kong Laboratory Accreditation Scheme \(HOKLAS\)](#) - for laboratories, reference material producers and proficiency testing providers
- [Hong Kong Certification Body Accreditation Scheme \(HKCAS\)](#) - for certification bodies, and greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies
- [Hong Kong Inspection Body Accreditation Scheme \(HKIAS\)](#) - for inspection bodies

**Publications**

- [HKAS General Publications](#)
- [HOKLAS Publications](#)
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**Thank you**  
**([www.hkas.gov.hk](http://www.hkas.gov.hk))**

