

# PPE Marking Post-Brexit

*All Personal Protective Equipment is marked with official symbols to show it meets the Basic Health & Safety Requirements set out in law.*

- ✓ Unmarked products are illegal to “place on the market” (import or offer for sale).
  - ✓ For basic Category I PPE such as rubber gloves the manufacturer applies the marking. They are solely responsible for testing and quality control.
  - ✓ For Category II and III PPE such as respiratory and fall protection, a government approved laboratory must test and certify the product. The lab’s ID number is always printed next to the symbol.
- *In Europe these are called “Notified Bodies”. In the UK they are “Approved Bodies”.*

The European Union uses the **CE Marking**

- ✓ Products are normally tested against EN standards.
- ✓ The Notified Body must be based within the EU.
- ✓ Many other countries recognize CE Marking.



*After Brexit, the UK Government created two replacement schemes*

**The UKCA Marking**

- ✓ Only for products in *England, Scotland and Wales*.
- ✓ Products with only a UKCA Marking cannot be sold to the EU. The scheme is not recognized by any other country.
- ✓ Normally tested against BS (or BS EN) standards.
- ✓ The Approved Body must be on a UK Government database.



**The UKNI Marking**

- ✓ Only for products in *Northern Ireland*.
- ✓ Must also have a CE Marking.
- ✓ Other rules as for UKCA.



These schemes were due to come into force during 2021-2025, but in August 2023 the UK Department for Business and Trade announced that for all product categories they control\* **the CE Marking will be accepted “indefinitely” for the UK market.**

***This includes all types of PPE, so UKCA-UKNI symbols are NO LONGER required!***

\* PPE, toys, pyrotechnics, watercraft, radios, low voltage electrical devices, lifts, pressure equipment, measuring equipment, medical devices, ATEX equipment, gas appliances, machinery, aerosols and items for use outdoors.  
Construction products are currently set to end CE Marking in June 2025; rule changes for marine and rail equipment have not been announced.

