

# STA contactless interface certification for public transport products – Certification overview

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## REVISION LIST

Version	Date	Comments
V1.0	October 2016	First version of the document
V1.1	February 2026	Add ISO/IEC TS 24192 reference

## ACRONYMS

CB	Certification body
CICPTP	Contactless interface certification for public transport products
CWG	Certification working group
EU	European Union
GCB	Group of certification bodies
ICS	Implementation conformance statement
ILAC	International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
PCD	Proximity coupling device
PICC	Proximity integrated circuit card
STA	Smart ticketing alliance

## TERMS AND DEFINITION

**Accreditation body:** External authority that acknowledges entities that are allowed to perform certification.

**Certification body:** Third-party entity, member of the STA, in charge of the certification process as described in the ISO/IEC 17065 [REF2].

**Evaluation:** Process defining compliance level of the product or functional system, based on the laboratory test, audit or analysis report, laboratory explanation and certification requirements conformity.

**Implementation conformance statement:** Document used for detailed identification of a product or system.

**Product:** Product, system or solution for which the certification of compliance with the standard is requested.

**Standards (or specifications):** Ensemble of defined documents detailing requirements to be met by individual products.

**Test laboratory (or test lab):** Entity performing the evaluation of a product.

**Vendor:** Provider of the product which is candidate for certification.

## References

The STA Certification proposal is based on the following standards:

**[REF1]** ISO/IEC 17025, General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories

**[REF2]** ISO/IEC 17065, Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services

**[REF3]** ISO/IEC TS 24192-1, Cards and security devices for personal identification – Communication between contactless readers and fare media used in public transport – Part 1: Implementation requirements for ISO/IEC 14443 (all parts)

**[REF4]** ISO/IEC TS 24192-2, Cards and security devices for personal identification – Communication between contactless readers and fare media used in public transport – Part 2: Test plan for ISO/IEC 14443 (all parts)

## STA certification

STA considers it is **essential that public authorities and users can be confident in the quality of contactless communication between contactless readers and fare media. Certification is the appropriate means to give trust.**

The STA certification program established by STA consists of a group of certification bodies bringing together certification bodies authorised to certify compliance of transportation and acceptance media with ISO technical specifications ISO/IEC TS 24192 [REF3] and [REF4] about contactless communication.

Extension of the certification scope to other technical fields, such as the application layer, may be decided later.

The objective of the STA GCB is to **establish a common approach to conformity certification** and the technical equivalence of certification carried out by the STA GCB members. The members will work collectively to achieve these aims but remain independent CB being responsible for their own decisions and for the control of their different certification marks.

The STA GCB works as a platform to ease mutual recognition between the member certification bodies (and the testing laboratories for product testing) and to limit the costs of those agreements.

A primary goal of the STA GCB is to ensure that the CB and the associated testing laboratories operate on a common basis.

The main principles of the STA certification program are the following:

- A GCB gathers CB authorised to certify compliance with ISO/IEC TS 24192 [REF3] and [REF4],
- Membership of GCB is open to two categories of CB:
  - CB accredited according to ISO/IEC 17065 [REF2] against ISO/IEC TS 24192 [REF3] and [REF4],
  - Provisional membership during a temporary period: CB having successfully completed the eligibility application with its national accreditation body or

already accredited for a scope closely related to ISO/IEC TS 24192 [REF3] and [REF4],

- Certificates delivered by an ISO/IEC 17065 [REF2] accredited CB are recognised throughout the EU and all countries where at least one national accreditation body is member of ILAC.

A set of documents gives the framework for this certification program.

The **terms of reference**, prepared by the STA CWG and approved by the STA board, defines the GCB and organises the community of STA CB. This document indicates:

- The conditions of membership for the CB,
- The governance: Board of Management (its initial and current composition),
- The technical structure: CWG and audit manager,
- The CB approval process.

The other documents, elaborated and approved by the CWG, are:

- **Testing & certification code of conduct** based on ISO/IEC 17065 [REF2] and dealing with ethical matters,
- **Certification procedure**,
- **Certification body's requirements and evaluation methodology**,
- **Technical guidelines** for the CB and test laboratories,
- **Validation methodology** for laboratories,
- **Implementation conformance statement (ICS) for PICC**,
- **Implementation conformance statement (ICS) for PCD**.

The laboratories associated with a CB run “round robin tests” using reference devices and media in order to check that tests realised on the same products by each laboratory lead to similar results, thus ensuring consistency across the network of test labs.

All these documents are available in the STA repository: [Certification program | Smart Ticketing](#)

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