



REPUBLIC OF LEBANON
**TELECOMMUNICATIONS
REGULATORY AUTHORITY**

**TYPE APPROVAL
POLICY**

29 January 2008

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1 Introduction

1. Under Article 23 of The Telecommunication Law of July 22, 2002 (“the Law”), the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) is responsible for the development and implementation of a Type Approval regime for telecommunications equipment.
2. The preparation of a Policy for the Type Approval of equipment is set as a goal in the TRA Strategic Plan.
3. This document establishes the principles, which will guide TRA in the development and implementation of the Type Approval regime.
4. In order to facilitate competition in the supply of telecommunications equipment and to stimulate the availability of a wide variety of equipment at affordable prices, TRA will strive to minimise regulatory intervention and will, where possible, implement a regime based on self certification.

2 Scope

5. All telecommunications terminal equipment which connects directly to a public telecommunications network and all intentional emitters of electromagnetic radiation (radio waves) shall be subject to the Type Approval regime operated by TRA. Such equipment shall be referred to collectively as Radio and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment (RTTE).
6. Network infrastructure equipment (NIE) (e.g., Class 4/5 switches, MSCs, BSCs, transmission equipment, etc.) is subject to the authorizations stipulated in the Service Provider licence and must meet the TRA Network technical specifications or recommendations. However, network infrastructure equipment does not follow the RTTE Type Approval regime.
7. A Service Provider, who participates in a Pilot Project to Test New Technology in Lebanon and wants to import the required equipments, should ask TRA to get an appropriate preliminary permission or authorization.
8. The purpose of the Type Approval regime is to ensure that Telecommunications:
 - a. equipment does not cause damage to, or interfere with the correct working of a public telecommunications network;
 - b. equipment does not cause harm to the general public or staff working on public telecommunications networks; and
 - c. Radio equipment makes efficient use of the radio spectrum.

3 The Role and Responsibility of the Importer, Manufacturer and Service Provider

9. All importers of RTTE / Network Infrastructure equipment into Lebanon and manufacturers of RTTE/Network Infrastructure equipment based in Lebanon must hold a current telecommunications Import/Manufacturer Licence for the Class of RTTE / Network Infrastructure equipment, which they intend to import or manufacture. Classes of RTTE are defined in the Type Approval Guidelines document.
10. The importer or manufacturer is legally responsible for ensuring that any RTTE/Network Infrastructure equipment, which they import or manufacture, is in conformance with the technical specifications and/or recommendations established by TRA.
11. A Service Provider willing to import directly Network Equipment into Lebanon can do so based on the SP license granted by the TRA.
12. A Service Provider can import Network Equipment only for Service Provider's own use. The SP is responsible for ensuring that any imported equipment is in compliance with the SP License.
13. An importer holding an Import License for Network Infrastructure Equipment can only import Network Equipment on behalf of licensed SPs. The importer shall not sell the imported Network Equipment for other than the designated licensed SP.

4 Type Approval

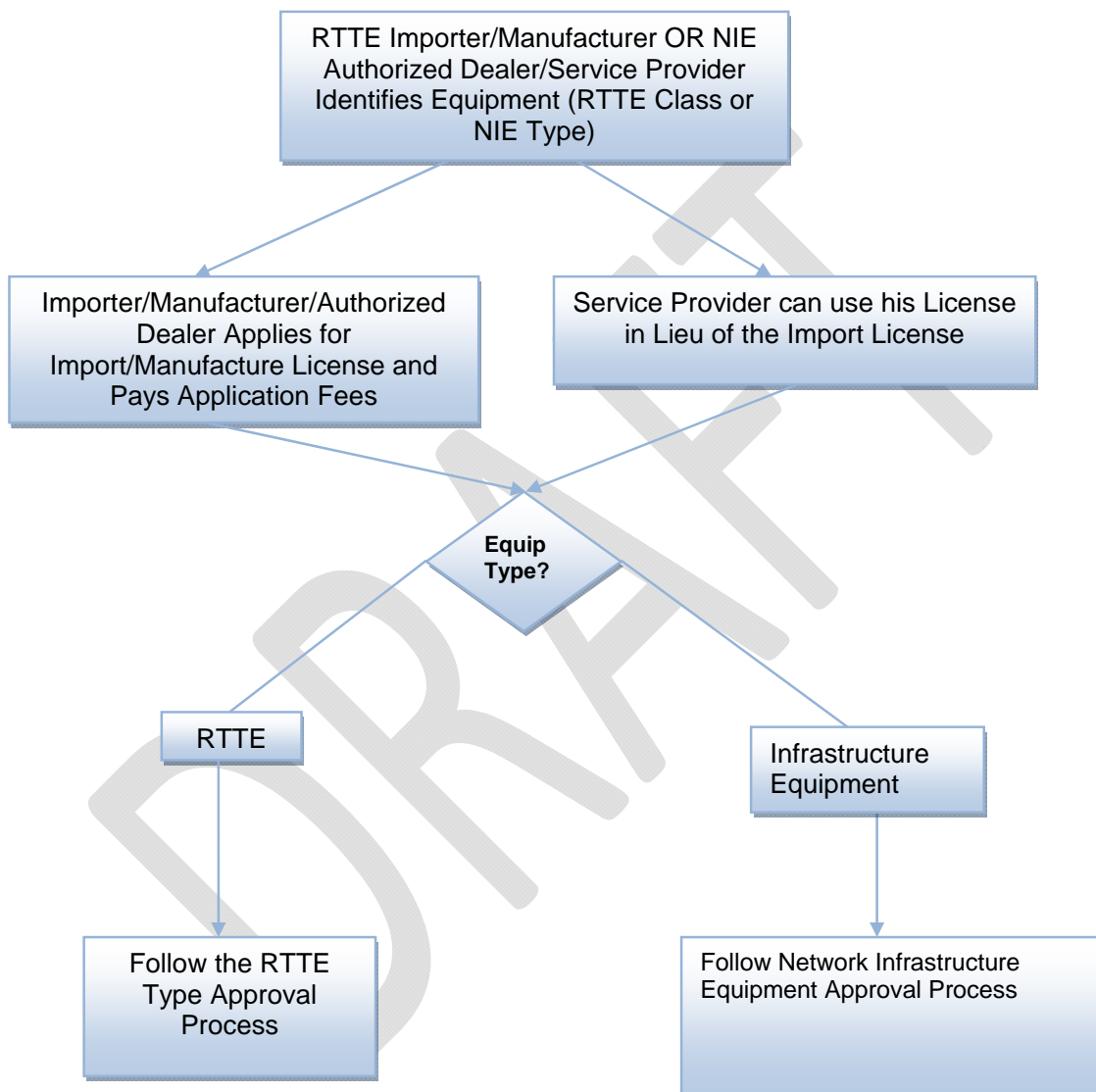
14. RTTE must be Type Approved before it can be imported into Lebanon.
15. RTTE manufactured in Lebanon must be Type Approved before it can be offered for sale in Lebanon.
16. Type Approval for RTTE shall only be granted to companies registered in Lebanon and who hold an appropriate importer or manufacturer license.
17. The process of Type Approval shall be open, transparent and non discriminatory and support the promotion of competition in the telecommunication sector (in conformance to Art. 20 of the Telecommunication Law). It shall therefore be permissible for one more than one registered company to hold a type approval for the same product.
18. TRA will specify and publish the technical requirements with which equipment must conform in order to be eligible for Type Approval. Such requirements will be based on standards prepared by recognised international bodies.
19. TRA shall levy fees for the assessment of applications for Type Approval and the renewal of existing Type Approvals. Such fees shall be payable irrespective of the outcome of an application. TRA will publish the list of fees payable.
20. TRA shall regularly monitor the market for RTTE to ensure that equipment offered for sale has been Type Approved in accordance with TRA procedures.
21. TRA's evaluation of the conformity of RTTE with the applicable technical requirements shall be performed through the assessment of declarations of conformity or the evaluation of test reports issued by recognised bodies, as appropriate.
22. A TRA Type Approval Mark shall be introduced to indicate, to the market, that RTTE is Type Approved in accordance with TRA procedures.
23. TRA shall publish Type Approval Guidelines which document the processes to be followed by an applicant seeking Type Approval. Different processes may be applicable to different types of equipment. The Guidelines will define:

- a. The Type Approval processes;
 - b. The role and responsibilities of the importer/manufacturer;
 - c. Details of the information to be provided in support of an application for Type Approval; and
 - d. Marking requirements.
- 24.** TRA will seek the support of Lebanese customs in order to ensure effective implementation of the Type Approval regime.

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5 Overall Process

The following figure shows the overall process for the import/manufacture of telecom equipment. The indicated Type Approval process is described in detail in the Type approval Guidelines. The import/manufacture of infrastructure equipment is subject the Service Provider license provisions.



6 Transitional Provisions

25. Licenses for importation of RTTE that have been granted under the decree 33 shall be transferred to the new regime within six (6) months of the publishing of the Type Approval Guidelines on the TRA website.
26. As an exceptional measure, and exclusively during the Transition Period, TRA shall encourage all unlicensed importers, as well as importers who are currently importing RTTE which is outside the scope of their licences, to rectify their illegal practice. At the expiration of the Transition Period, TRA will take action against all parties whose actions contravene the Type Approvals Guidelines.

List of Abbreviations

RTTE	Radio and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment
TRA	Telecommunications Regulatory Authority

- End of Type Approval Policy -