



EPCglobal Hardware Certification Program

What is the EPCglobal Hardware Certification Program?

The EPCglobal Hardware Certification Program is a standards-based compliance and interoperability testing program, developed by the EPCglobal community to provide a neutral and authoritative source for testing hardware products and providing information regarding certified products, and the vendors who manufacture them. The purpose of this program is to enable end-users to easily access reliable information regarding Electronic Product Code™ (EPC) hardware including Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) silicon chips, readers, reader modules, and printer/encoders with embedded reader modules. End-users can be confident that the certified hardware products which they implement, will work in predictable ways as defined by EPCglobal Standards, such as the UHF Gen 2 Air Interface Protocol Standard.

What is the difference between the compliance and the interoperability testing?

The EPCglobal compliance testing verifies that EPC hardware products comply with EPCglobal Standards. The interoperability program builds on the compliance program. Devices participating in the interoperability testing must use components that are certified for compliance. The EPCglobal hardware interoperability testing demonstrates the ability of different compliance-certified tags to work with different compliance-certified readers or printer/encoders.

What business problem does the program solve?

Choosing the right EPC/RFID hardware for your business can be a challenging process, with many factors, such as pricing, installation and performance, to consider. Companies need confidence that the hardware that they are considering for implementation is compliant with EPCglobal Standards and interoperates with other products. By providing assurance of the compliance of EPC/RFID hardware products, this program helps facilitate and accelerate the start-up phase of implementations, allowing users to focus their resources on completing pilots and capturing EPC/RFID information in real business situations rather than on evaluating hardware components.

What products does the program include?

The EPCglobal Hardware Certification Program encompasses EPC/RFID hardware products such as silicon chips, readers, reader modules, and printers/encoders with embedded reader modules, plus tags and printers/encoders with 3rd party readers.

What are the benefits of the program?

Hardware carrying the EPCglobal Hardware Certification Mark has been rigorously tested by an independent laboratory and is certified to comply with EPCglobal Standards and/or interoperates with other certified products, thus assuring that the Certified Hardware will work predictably in a pilot or implementation.

How do I recognize which EPC/RFID hardware has been certified?

Products that have been certified by EPCglobal will bear the EPCglobal Hardware Compliance Certification Mark and/or the EPCglobal Hardware Interoperability Certification Mark. Each EPCglobal Hardware Certification Mark is assigned to a specific hardware product and includes an 18-digit Global Service Relation Number (GSRN) that is unique to that product and the exact test that it successfully completed. This certification mark is your proof that a hardware product has been certified by EPCglobal.



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Compliance
Certification Mark



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Interoperability
Certification Mark

How can I find the most up-to-date listing of EPCglobal Certified Hardware Products?

EPCglobal Subscribers can find a listing of EPCglobal Certified Hardware products at www.epcglobalinc.org/certification. As more products are certified, you should see the EPCglobal Hardware Certification Mark appearing on the websites and marketing materials of the Solution Providers whose EPC/RFID hardware products have been certified.



For more information visit www.epcglobalinc.org/certification