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	Document Title:	Specific Rules for FA Certification of Solar Collectors as per BS EN 12975-1: 2006 A1: 2010	عنوان الوثيقة:	
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Issue Date	Rev. No.	Summary Of Amendments
21-02-2013	0	Second draft
17-03-2013	0	Third Draft
22-04-2013	0	Final Draft
20-05-2013	1	Issue for use
13-10-2014	2	Amended clauses [1.1.2], [1.3.2], and [4] to make reference to Special rules
08-03-2015	3	Amended clauses [2.4.1], [2.4.2] and [4] related to testing and surveillance
10-12-2016	4	Including provisions for certification of OEM and OBL
17-03-2019	5	Updating format as per new DM template and new DM logo
29-12-2019	6	Updated- Changing font type, including provision related to factory surveillance and adding the outsourced CAB, in addition to omitting the obsolete test method
11-05-2020	7	Revised with the requirements of the current updated version of the test method standard. In addition to some editorial changes as per the new numbering system and terminologies
09-08-2020	8	Add the options for initial audit by the approved CAB and remotely by PCAS. Adding definition for authorized auditor. Update for the new numbering system and followed terminologies. Add provision for accepting valid test reports
26/09/2021	9	Removal of the documents in clause 2.1.2, in addition to further amendment in the provision for accepting valid test reports (clause 2.4.1.2.f), in line with DM 30% reduction of requirements (both service and specialized). Modifications in the auditing part for the factories already certified against ISO 9001 to opt for auditing only the areas of production and monitoring stages of product realization, quality control and final product testing and evaluation.

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1. GENERAL

1.1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 This document prescribes the specific rules for the implementation of the DM Third Party Product Certification Scheme Through Factory Assessment as applied to the specific product(s) identified herein, taking into consideration the applicable normative references and standard specifications.

1.1.2 The applicant shall comply with these specific rules, and with those already mentioned in (1) DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2001 (IC) “General Rules for DM Third Party Product Certification Scheme Through Factory Assessment” and (2) DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2006 (IC) “Special Rules for the Certification of Solar Water Heater Collectors and Registration of Suppliers of Solar Water Heating Systems as per the requirements of DM Circular No. (183) 2011”

1.2 SCOPE

1.2.1 This specific rule covers requirements on durability (including mechanical strength), reliability, and safety for liquid heating solar collectors. It also includes provisions for evaluation of conformity to these requirements.

1.2.2 This specific rule does not cover collectors in which the thermal storage unit is an integral part of the collector to such an extent, that the collection process cannot be separated from the storage process for the purpose of making measurements of these two processes.

1.3 PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION AND APPLICABLE STANDARD/NORMATIVE REFERENCE

1.3.1 Product Name: Solar Collectors for solar heating system

1.3.2 Applicable standard/Normative reference:

BS EN 12975-1:2006 +A1: 2010 – Thermal solar systems and components – Solar Collectors – Part 1: General requirements

BS EN ISO 9806:2017 - Solar energy – Solar thermal collectors – Test methods

DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2001 (IC) General rules for third party product certification scheme through factory assessment

DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2006 (IC) Special rules for the certification of solar water heater collectors and registration of suppliers of solar water heating systems as per the requirements of DM Circular No. (183) 2011

1.3.3 Additional References:

ISO 9001 - Quality Management System – Requirements
ISO 19011 - Guidelines for Auditing Management System

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1.4 DEFINITION OF TERMS

The definitions given in BS EN 12975-1:2006 +A1: 2010, EN ISO 9488, DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2001 (IC), and in addition, the following shall also apply:

- 1.4.1 Independent Testing Laboratory - Dubai Central Laboratory (DCL) or any testing laboratory recognized / approved by DCLD-PCAS.
- 1.4.2 Independent Test – test performed or conducted by the recognized Independent Testing Laboratory
- 1.4.3 Standard Specification – BS EN 12975-1:2006 +A1: 2010 – Thermal solar systems and components – Solar Collectors – Part 1: General requirements
- 1.4.4 Factory Production Control System (Product Quality Assurance Plan) - a quality plan as per DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2084 (IC), used by the factory to ensure continuous compliance of the certified product.
- 1.4.5 QMS – Quality Management System aligned with the requirements of ISO 9001 Standard.
- 1.4.6 Applicant / Client – Any company with legal entity, which applies for certification of the collectors and is responsible for fulfillment of all certification requirements and got the right to use DCL Conformity Mark for the certified solar collectors for solar heating system. This applicant may be the manufacturer of the collector (OEM) or own the brand labeling of the collector (OBL).
- 1.4.7 OEM – is the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) of the collector that applies for certification and granted the right to use DCL Conformity Mark after satisfactory fulfillment of the certification requirements. This term is used when the certificate holder has a contract/agreement with another company act as an OBL.
- 1.4.8 OBL– is own brand labeling (OBL), a company re-labeling the collector with valid DCL certification under its own company name and product name (brand) without making any changes to the collector designs and specifications originally certified by DCL to the respective OEM.
- 1.4.9 DM Certification Body – Products Conformity Assessment Section- Dubai Central Laboratory (DCLD-PCAS)
- 1.4.10 Authorized auditor : is any approved auditor by DCLD-PCAS either internal within DCLD or external (Approved CAB's auditor or approved auditor based on a signed contract)

2. REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION

2.1 APPLICATION

- 2.1.1 The client shall apply to DCLD-PCAS for the certification and authorization to use of DCL Conformity Mark.
- 2.1.2 Application forms shall be submitted to DCLD-PCAS
- 2.1.3 Separate application shall be submitted for each product type or group of products that refers to a different specific rules.

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2.2 FACTORY OPERATION

2.2.1 Quality Management System

The client shall have a Quality Management System that is aligned to the requirements of ISO 9001 standard.

NOTE: Having a certificate of ISO 9001 is not a mandatory requirement; however the structure of the manufacturer's QMS shall be in line with its requirements.

2.2.2 Laboratory

If the applicant is the manufacturers/OEM of Solar Collectors for solar heating system; then it shall have a quality assurance laboratory to carry out factory production control testing to ensure that the products comply with the requirements of the standard specification.

The laboratory can be part of the factory facilities, or, can be through a documented agreement with an accredited external laboratory. As a minimum requirement, the laboratory shall have the following testing equipment:

- Internal pressure (leakage) tester
- Dimensional test equipment

2.3 INITIAL FACTORY AUDIT/REVIEW

2.3.1 **The applicant is the manufacturer/OEM of Solar Collectors for solar heating system**

- 2.3.1.1 Initial factory audit will be carried out by duly authorized auditor(s) which will cover auditing of the quality management system to verify its compliance with the requirements of ISO 9001, in addition to verify the implementation of DCLD-PCAS certification's requirements. Where possible; the audit can be carried out remotely as per (DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2098 (IC) Guidelines for Remote Audit) or as per the related approved guidelines which are followed by the approved outsourced CAB.

NOTE: An independent certification to ISO 9001 issued by a QMS certification body recognized by DCLD-PCAS may be considered as having satisfied this requirement; however, DCLD-PCAS may still opt to carry out verification audit to confirm that the factory is in compliance with requirements of DCLD certification schemes and rules, mainly the areas of production and monitoring stages of product realization, quality control and final product testing and evaluation

- 2.3.1.2 Factory audit shall be conducted by designated audit team in accordance with ISO 19011 – Guidelines for Auditing Management System.

- 2.3.1.3 Once certified; the manufacturer/OEM must have an authorized supplier in Dubai with valid trade license issued by DED and registered with DCLD-PCAS.

2.3.2 **The applicant is not the manufacturer (i.e OBL) of the Solar Collectors for solar heating system and wish to be the certificate holder (certificate under his name)**

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2.3.2.1 OBL with OEM already certified;

2.3.2.1.a DCLD-PCAS duly authorized auditors shall conduct a full review of the submitted documents as per clause [2.1.2] in addition to ensure the following:

- The respective manufacturer/OEM of the collector has a valid DCL certificate.
- Collector designs technical data sheet and bill of materials are complying with the ones originally certified by DCL for the respective manufacturer/OEM.

2.3.2.1.b DCLD-PCAS reserves the rights to test the collectors which are labeled by the OBL; if deemed necessary. This can be arranged thru a third party accredited inspection body; or sampled by DCLD-PCAS authorized auditor.

2.3.2.2 OBL with OEM not certified by DCLD-PCAS;

- If the respective manufacturer/OEM of the collector is not certified by DCLD-PCAS and the OBL still wishes to apply on his behalf as an OEM certificate holder; then DCLD-PCAS shall conduct audit on the OEM as per clause [2.3.1] above (Note: requirements of clause [3.2.2] below is also applicable in this case).
- After the OEM completes the process and is granted the DCL certificate of product conformity, the OBL application shall be processed according to [2.3.2.1]

2.3.2.3 In all cases, the OBL – once certified- shall have an authorized supplier in Dubai with valid trade license issued by Dubai Economic Department (DED) and has already been registered with DCLD-PCAS.

2.4 PRODUCT EVALUATION (applicable only to the manufacturer/OEM)

2.4.1 Products not covered by Solar Keymark Certification (or its equivalent): (see also clause [2.4.2])

2.4.1.1 Sampling and Testing

- Test samples shall be taken for initial testing from the current production or from the warehouse. Identification of samples for initial testing should be on at least 10 collectors that are produced with the same materials and the same manufacturing technologies / process.
- Two sets of samples per type shall be taken randomly. The first set will be sent directly to DCLD-PCAS approved independent testing laboratory and the second set will be kept by the client as reference for future use.
- Test sample(s) for independent test shall be identified and signed in the presence of DCLD-PCAS authorized auditors and shall be submitted to DCLD-PCAS approved independent testing laboratory. Likewise, samples to be submitted for independent test shall be accompanied by a collector identification and set of drawings as per clause 7.1 of BS EN 12975-1. The set of drawings shall describe the collector's dimensions and structure along with a list of materials used in the collector and important physical and optional properties as well as the solar description in ISO 9806:2017.

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- d. If the client produces the same collector in different lengths and/or widths (the only difference between the two collectors is the length and/or width), the collector is considered the same subtype. Hence, only one sample of the smallest and one sample of the largest module shall be taken as samples and tested. The largest module shall be subject to all the tests required in BS EN 12975-1 clause [5.2], and the smallest shall be subject to a thermal performance test as per ISO 9806:2017.
- e. Durability and reliability tests shall be carried on collectors representing the major features of the same sub type (collector sub type with collectors having several glass covers separated by bars).
- f. Custom build collectors (built in, roof integrated collectors that do not comprise to factory made modules and are assembled directly on the place of installation) are handled as described in BS EN 12975-1, paragraph 1 “...a module with the same structure as the ready collector tested. The module gross area in the case of custom built collectors shall be at least 2 m²”. The client has to explain the conformity of the test module with the normal production and must provide a detailed description of the components. Very large collector modules may be treated as the custom built one, see above, if testing of the full size module is not possible.

2.4.1.2 Product Evaluation Criteria

- a. The product shall conform to the requirements as specified in clauses 5.3, 6, Annex A, and Annex B of the standard specification, BS EN 12975-1
- b. The following tests shall be carried out as per ISO 9806:2017 and results shall reflect the term “no major failure” as pass criteria.
 - i. Internal pressure for absorber
 - ii. High temperature resistance
 - iii. Exposure
 - iv. External thermal shock
 - v. Internal thermal shock
 - vi. Rain penetration (for glazed collectors only)
 - vii. Mechanical load
 - viii. Thermal performance
 - ix. Freeze resistance (if declared)
 - x. Stagnation temperature
 - xi. Final inspection
- c. The materials and design for the product shall be in accordance with Annex A of BS EN 12975-1
- d. The manufacturer of Solar Collectors for solar heating system shall have its products labeled as per clause 7.2 of BS EN 12975-1
- e. The manufacturer of Solar Collectors for solar heating system shall provide an installer instruction manual as per clause 7.3 of BS EN 12975-1
- f. Where applicable, Independent test shall only be conducted if the result of the in-plant test shows satisfactory results. DCLD-PCAS shall accept available valid test reports conducted by an approved DCLD-PCAS independent

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laboratory within one year from the date of the initial assessment, in line with the internal quality control testing plan of the factory. In such case, the testing of that particular parameter(s) shall be waived accordingly

- g. If the result of the test conducted by the DCLD-PCAS approved independent testing laboratory shows non-conformance to the specified requirements, the provision for rejection specified in the standard shall apply. The retest shall be carried out on the reference sample kept by the manufacturer or on new samples collected by the authorized auditor on which full testing shall be carried out ,if necessary.
- h. If the re-test passed, the initial product assessment is considered conforming to product specification. If not, the manufacturer will be advised to take corrective action.
- i. Only after reassessment and subsequent product compliance shall the client be allowed to use DCL Conformity Mark on his product(s) that have been tested and found complying with the certification requirements.

2.4.2 **Special Provisions for Collectors that are covered by Solar Keymark Certification (or its equivalent)**

2.4.2.1 For collectors that are already covered by Solar Keymark Certification (or scheme equivalent to Solar Keymark), the testing of the collector shall be as follows:

- a. DCLD-PCAS authorized auditor shall review the current Solar Keymark Certificate and the collector design and specifications to ensure that the Certificate is still valid and there are no changes in the design of the collector being produced.
- b. At least one sample (from among the families of collector to be certified) shall be selected and sent to an independent laboratory for full testing as required by the standard. The authorized auditor shall decide as to how many collectors will be subjected to full testing.
- c. Other types or models or collector will be included in the Scope of DCLD-PCAS Certification, provided they have current/valid Solar Keymark Certificate and valid Test Report from accredited laboratory at the time of audit.

2.4.2.2 After granting the DCLD-PCAS Certification, during the periodic surveillance visits, DCLD-PCAS authorized auditor shall review the continuing validity of the Solar Keymark Certificate and that there are no changes in the design and specifications of the DCLD-PCAS certified product. If there are no modifications and changes to the Solar Keymark Certificate, no further testing will be conducted

2.4.2.3 At every 5th year from original certification date, DCLD-PCAS authorized auditor, if deemed necessary, may select a new sample (other than the one previously tested during initial audit) from among the collectors within the scope of the DCLD-PCAS certification and send it to independent laboratory for full testing.

3. **GRANTING OF THE DCL CERTIFICATION**

3.1 **CONDITIONS FOR GRANTING THE PRODUCT CONFORMITY CERTIFICATE (Manufacturer/OEM)**

3.1.1 When the results of the manufacturer/OEM audit (clause 2.3.1 for OEM) and product evaluation (clause 2.4)

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show conformity to the requirements specified in the General Rule and Specific Rule, the Certificate of Conformity and authorization to use the DCL Conformity Mark shall be issued to the manufacturer/OEM for the type(s) and size range of the products covered by the assessment.

3.1.2 The manufacturer/OEM shall agree with DCLD-PCAS for the preparation and implementation of a product quality assurance plan to ensure continuing compliance with the Standard Specifications and the requirements of this certification scheme. It shall consist of (1) an internal product quality assurance plan, and (2) an independent testing plan.

3.1.3 Factory Production Quality Control System (Internal Product Quality Assurance Plan)

The manufacturer/OEM shall implement a factory production control system (internal product quality assurance plan) which shall conform to DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2084 (IC).

The plan shall take into consideration the production process, the volume of production, the criticality of the test to be specified, and other relevant factors.

3.1.4 Independent Testing Plan

The manufacturer/OEM shall agree to an independent testing plan to be carried out on samples which are collected in accordance with DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2096 (IC) – Surveillance of Licensed Clients under the Factory Assessment Scheme, and implemented by DCLD-PCAS. The cost of testing under the independent testing plan shall be borne by the factory.

3.2 CONDITIONS FOR GRANTING THE DCL CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMITY (TO THE OBL)

3.2.1 When the result of (clause 2.3.2) shows conformity to the requirements specified in the General Rule and this Specific Rule, the DCL Certificate of Conformity and authorization to use the DCL Conformity Mark shall be issued to the OBL for the type(s)/Models and size range of the collectors.

3.2.2 OBL DCL Certificate of Conformity have to be issued always on the basis of OEM DCL Certificate of Conformity. It is not possible to issue an OBL DCL Certificate of Conformity on the basis of another OBL DCL Certificate of Conformity.

3.2.3 OBL DCL Certificate of Conformity shall only be valid whenever the original OEM DCL Certificate of Conformity is still valid. It is directly linked to the positive surveillance assessment on the respective factory/OEM and that there are no changes in the design and specifications of the collectors for which DCL conformity mark was granted, in addition to any other related certification requirements.

3.3 ISSUANCE OF DCL CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMITY

If the conditions mentioned above in clause 3.1 (manufacturer/OEM of Solar Collectors for solar heating system) and in clause 3.2 (for OBL) have been complied, the manufacturer/OEM and the OBL shall be issued a DCL Certificate of Conformity and a Scope of Certification that covers the type(s) and size of the collectors that are certified. The client/applicant shall be authorized to use the DCL Conformity Mark on the certified products.

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3.4 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DCL CERTIFIED CLIENT

- 3.4.1 The client shall ensure that his product, for which the conformity certificate has been issued, conforms at all times to the requirements of the General Rule and Specific Rules and shall maintain to the satisfaction of DCLD-PCAS, a scheme of quality control including inspection and testing.
- 3.4.2 The client shall give the duly authorized auditors(s) of DCLD-PCAS, access during working hours, without prior notification, to the premises/factory where certified product is manufactured/stored, for the purpose of evaluating the materials, production processes, finished products, quality assurance facilities, records and others in accordance with the requirements of the scheme.
- 3.4.3 The client shall inform the DCLD-PCAS in writing of any change of management, transfer of plant site, modification in the product, manufacturing process or factory quality management system.
- 3.4.4 In case of transfer of factory location, the certificate of conformity shall be deemed valid only after factory and product audit at the new site has been satisfactorily completed.
- 3.4.5 Any infraction stated in the terms and conditions of the certification scheme and the use of DCL Conformity Mark shall constitute sufficient grounds for suspension, withdrawal and termination of certification in accordance with DM-DCLD-IMS-RD-07.
- 3.4.6 Any dispute that may arise in connection with the Terms and Conditions of the certification scheme shall be settled in accordance with DM-DCLD-IMS-RD-08 Appeals, Disputes, and Complaints Procedure.
- 3.4.7 The client shall pay all applicable fees related to the certification process.

3.5 USE OF THE DCL CONFORMITY MARK

- 3.5.1 The design and use of the DCL Conformity Mark shall be in accordance with the Terms and Conditions for the Use of the DCL Conformity Mark, DM-DCLD-IMS-RD-13
- 3.5.2 The client shall submit a product-marking proposal for approval by DCLD-PCAS. The proposal shall include drawings and/or diagrams showing the location and size of the marking for each size of the product/product packings, where applicable.
- 3.5.3 The DCL Certificate of Conformity and the authorization to use the DCL Certification Mark is non-transferable.

4. SURVEILLANCE

- 4.1 DCLD-PCAS or their approved CAB shall carry out periodic surveillance to ensure consistent compliance with the requirements of this certification scheme as per DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2096 (IC) – Surveillance of Certified Clients under the Factory Assessment Scheme.

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- 4.2 Market surveillance shall be in accordance with the provisions of clause [7] of DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2006 (IC)
- 4.3 Surveillance of manufacturers/OEM/OBL that are covered by Solar Keymark Certification shall take into consideration the provisions mentioned in Clause [2.4.2].
- 4.4 DCLD-PCAS may opt to accept the periodic factory surveillance visit to be carried out by certification or inspection bodies which are approved by Solar Key Mark and accredited to 17065 and 17020 accordingly. The factory surveillance visit may not cover auditing of the QMS requirements as it was fully covered during the initial visit.

5. FEE SCHEDULE

- 5.1 The client shall pay the applicable fees and charges related to the granting of the certificate of conformity and the authorization to use the DCL Conformity Mark based on DCL Official Fee Structure, DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2083 (IC) "Fee Structure for Solar Water Heating Systems and Collectors as per DM Circular (183) 2011".
- 5.2 The fees for this certification scheme shall include but not limited to the following;
- 5.2.1 Application Fee
 - 5.2.2 Initial Assessment Fee
 - 5.2.3 Certification Fee
 - 5.2.4 Marking Fee
 - 5.2.5 Surveillance Fee
 - 5.2.6 Annual Renewal Fee
 - 5.2.7 Testing Fee
 - 5.2.8 Outsource Activity Fee , where applicable

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