STANDARDS ORGANISATION OF NIGERIA
CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

SGS

The Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON), a statutory parastatal of the Federal Government of Nigeria, was established as the Standardisation and Certification Body for product and management systems assessment. Based on a Federal Government Policy, to prevent the importation into Nigeria of substandard and unsafe products, SON has implemented an offshore Standards Organisation of Nigeria Conformity Assessment Programme (SONCAP). SGS was appointed as one of the Independent Accredited Firms for the implementation of SONCAP in 2009 which was renewed in November 2012.

ROUTES TO CERTIFICATION

The Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) has defined three routes that may be applied as appropriate conformity assessment procedures for product(s) subject to SONCAP, according to type, risk and effect on the health, safety and environmental protection. The routes are:

Route A: For Unregistered/ Unlicensed products (Conformity Verification): Each shipment to be imported requires inspection, sampling, testing to applicable standards & FCL "Full container load "stuffing' supervision and sealing, based on risk assessment.

Route B: For Registered Products (Registration and Conformity Inspection): Registration of products is done following verification of supplier/ manufacturer, Inspection, sampling, testing as per applicable standards and FCL supervision and sealing is required at least in 40% of the shipments.

Route C: For Licensed products (Product Certification Systems):

Licensing of products is based on detailed evaluation of the product, including testing and factory audit and regular surveillances at least twice a year.

PURPOSE OF ATTESTATION

- Product Certificate (Unregistered or Registered or Licensed): Required by the importer to open a Form M, (import Application), prior to shipment of the goods from country of supply.

- SONCAP Certificate: A mandatory customs clearance documents in Nigeria, required by the importer for customs clearance.

Compliance with SON Requirements is confirmed through the issuance of:

- Product Certificate (Unregistered): Issued per shipment and valid for 6months, is issued upon satisfactory completion of systematic inspection and product sampling, applicable only to route A.

- Product Certificate (Registered): Valid for one year, issued upon satisfactory completion of Supplier's/ Manufacturer's verification, applicable to routes B

- Product Certificate (Licensed): Valid for one year, issued upon satisfactory completion of audit of Manufacturer's factory: applicable to routes C.

- A SON CAP Certificate (SC): Issued for every shipment, upon shipment verification: documentary verification (including Product Certificate and satisfactory Test Report) and depending upon routes A, B or C
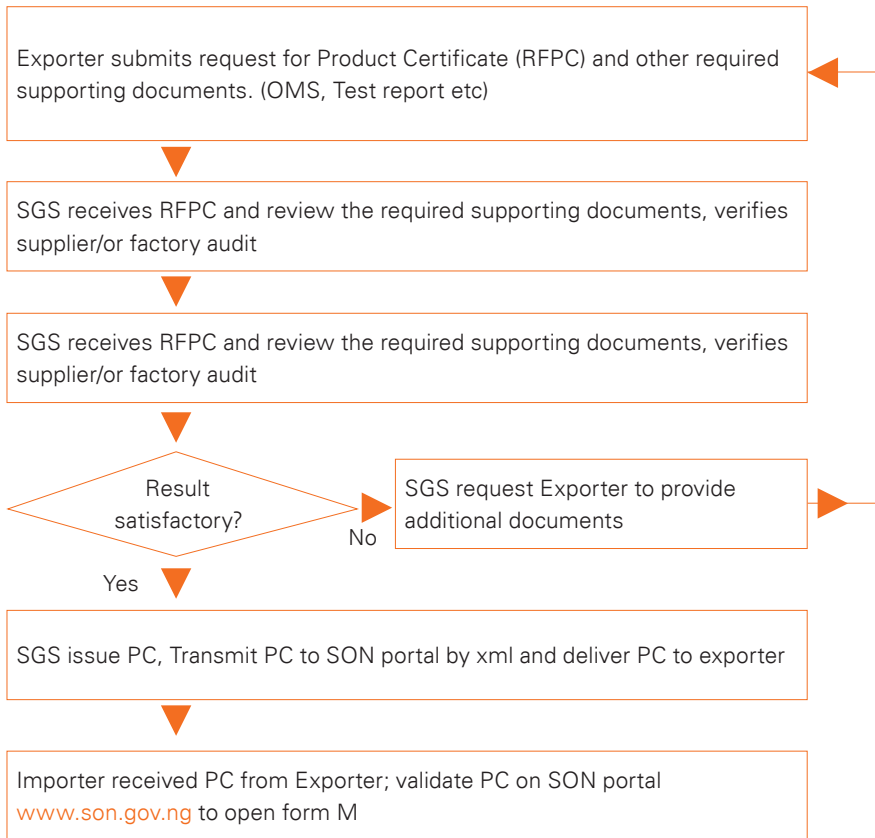
Approved laboratories for the issuance of acceptable test reports under SONCAP scheme are as follows:

- SGS laboratory (ISO 17025 compliant),

- 3rd party test laboratory (ISO 17025 accredited or equivalent e.g. IECEE CB Test lab, etc.),

- Manufacturer's own test laboratory (verified as competent by SGS based on evidence of ISO 17025 accreditation or ISO 9001 certification, etc.)
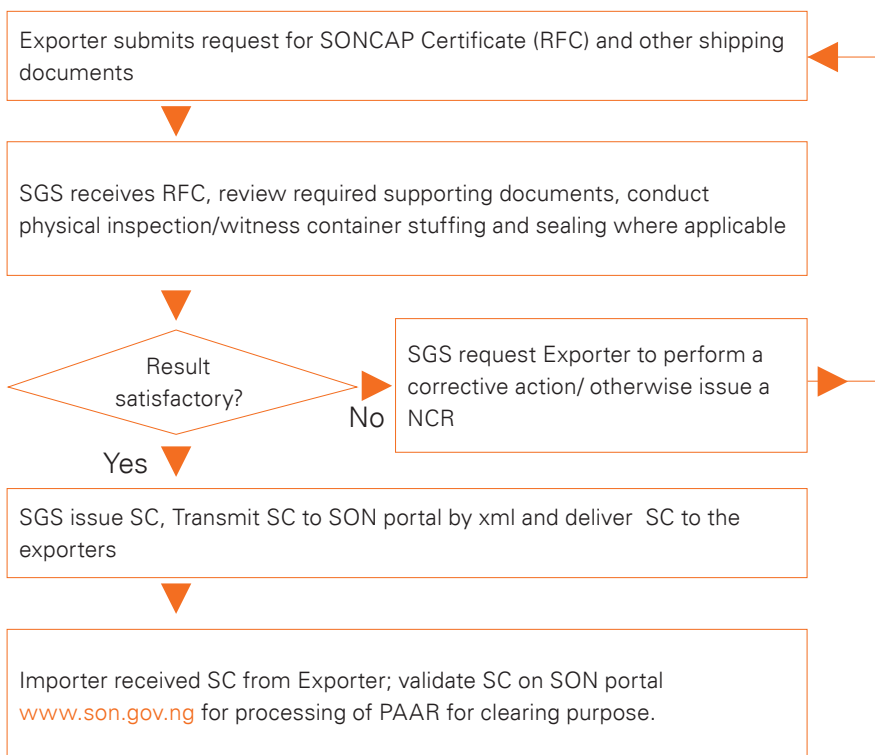
SGS has similar contracts in countries such as:

- Algeria
- Botswana
- Burundi
- Egypt
- Ethiopia
- Gabon
- Ghana
- Kenya
- Korea
- Kurdistan
- Kuwait
- Mongolia
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Qatar
- Russia
- Rwanda
- Saudi Arabia
- Tanzania
- Uganda

PRODUCT CERTIFICATION PROCESS FLOW

Exporter submits request for Product Certificate (RFPC) and other required supporting documents. (OMS, Test report etc)

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SGS receives RFPC and review the required supporting documents, verifies supplier/or factory audit

↓

SGS receives RFPC and review the required supporting documents, verifies supplier/or factory audit

↓

Result satisfactory? — No → SGS request Exporter to provide additional documents

Yes ↓

SGS issue PC, Transmit PC to SON portal by xml and deliver PC to exporter

↓

Importer received PC from Exporter; validate PC on SON portal www.son.gov.ng to open form M

SONCAP CERTIFICATION PROCESS FLOW

Exporter submits request for SONCAP Certificate (RFC) and other shipping documents

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SGS receives RFC, review required supporting documents, conduct physical inspection/witness container stuffing and sealing where applicable

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Result satisfactory? — No → SGS request Exporter to perform a corrective action/ otherwise issue a NCR

Yes ↓

SGS issue SC, Transmit SC to SON portal by xml and deliver SC to the exporters

↓

Importer received SC from Exporter; validate SC on SON portal www.son.gov.ng for processing of PAAR for clearing purpose.

WWW.SGS.COM

WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE

SGS