



Accredited certification to IEC 61508
.....designed by industry for industry

The CASS Scheme

**Accredited Certification
for Safety Systems**
.....to IEC 61508 and related standards

A scheme to help you....

- Reduce costs
- Enhance reputation
- Increase competitiveness
- Demonstrate regulatory compliance
- Procure with confidence
- Reduce time to market
- Enhance market opportunities



Who is the CASS scheme for?

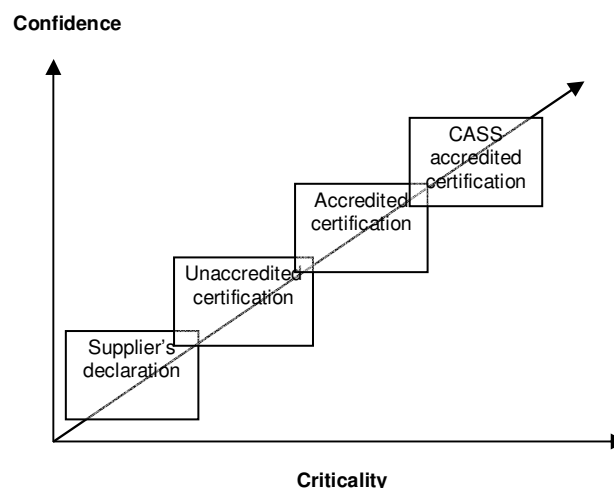
Challenges faced by industry today include unremitting pressure to reduce costs coupled with shorter product life-cycles, a need for ever shorter time to market, and pressure to maximise the use of the asset base. Industry continually strives to improve performance and profitability while maintaining and improving safety. In addition, there are regulatory and social requirements for safety and reliability.

If you are involved in procuring, specifying, designing, manufacturing, installing, operating or maintaining safety systems, or you provide services such as engineering consultancy, training or certification, the CASS scheme will help you to improve your business. It can also help you if you have a role in terms of statutory regulation, site inspections, safety case assessment or market surveillance.

Industry and regulators from around the world have developed IEC 61508, a generic standard with application in any industry where safety systems are used. The CASS scheme is designed to demonstrate conformity with IEC 61508. Whatever industry you are involved in, it will be of value to you.

Why accredited certification?

When a supplier makes a declaration that the product, process or service for which they are responsible conforms to a standard, it can help if the declaration is backed up by an independent certification body. The more critical the situation, the higher the confidence in the declaration of conformity needs to be. Accreditation of the certification body by a national authority such as the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) provides a high level of assurance of the competence of the certification body. Accreditation of certification bodies to the criteria specified in the CASS scheme is intended to ensure that the certification bodies operate with:

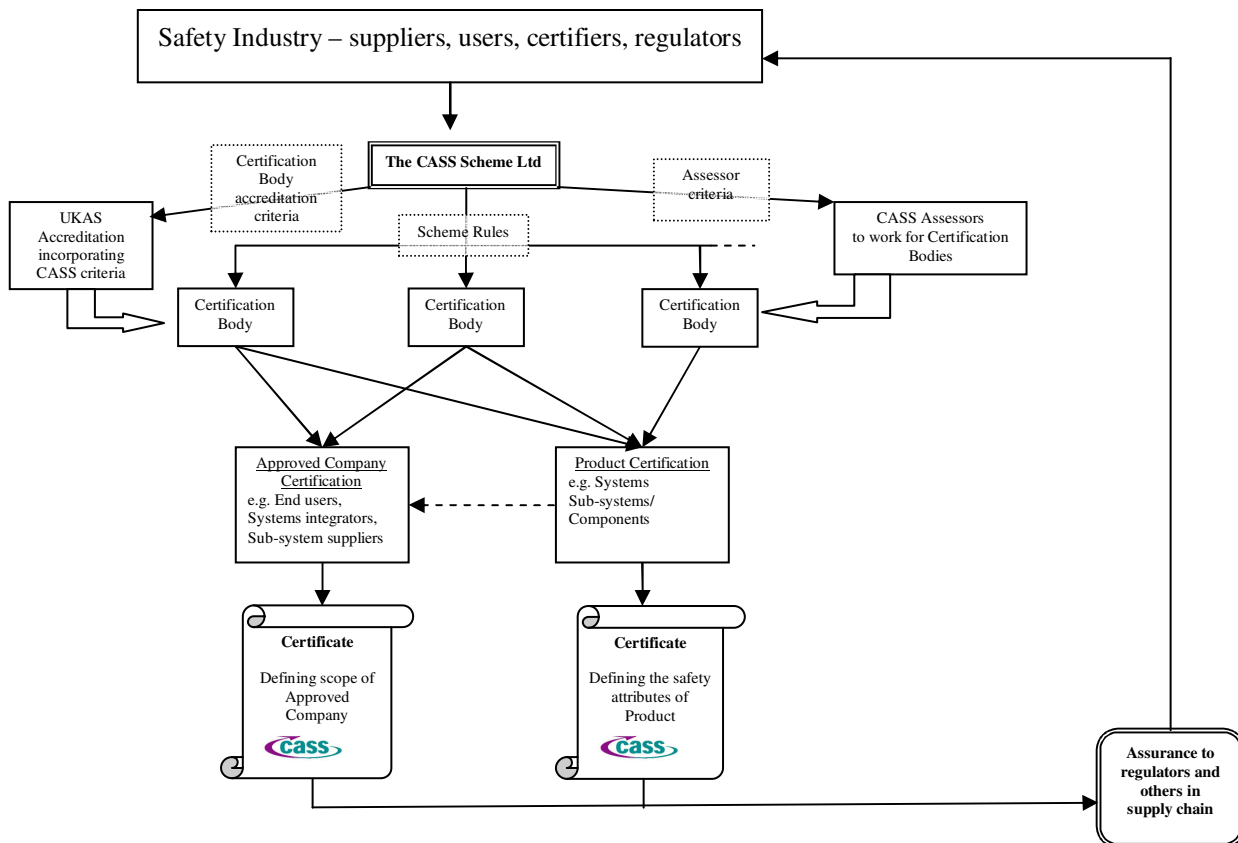


- **Integrity** independence, impartiality, competence, objectivity
- **Transparency** of the certification requirements and process
- **Consistency** of results between different certification bodies ensuring credibility to suppliers, users and regulators.

CASS accredited certification ensures that the conformity assessment process is predictable, the requirements to be met are clearly understood in advance and that the results are presented in a consistent manner. In this way, those seeking certification and those relying on the results both have a high level of confidence that CASS accredited certification can be relied upon. Certification by an independent certification body validates a supplier's claim that their product, process or service conforms to the standard.

Mutual recognition between national accreditation bodies around the world helps to open up markets in other countries for suppliers of safety systems. It also helps companies to source systems from the international marketplace with confidence.

How does the CASS scheme work?



The CASS scheme is administered by The CASS Scheme Ltd, a not-for-profit company whose members are drawn from a wide range of industry interests and which seeks to minimise the cost of compliance. The scheme operates through certification bodies which have signed up to the CASS scheme rules. In order to qualify, they must be accredited to the CASS criteria by a national accreditation body such as UKAS. They are required to use the CASS Assessor criteria to assure the integrity and technical competence of their work.

Two types of certificate are currently available:

Product certificates, applicable to safety sub-systems/components. A product certificate provides all necessary reference data required by IEC 61508 that is essential to support the use of the product within specific safety applications.

Approved company certificates, applicable to organisations involved at any phase(s) of the safety system lifecycle. An approved company certificate provides assurance that the organisation meets the requirements of IEC 61508, Part 1, Clause 6 - Management of functional safety.

More information on how to participate in the CASS scheme and how to benefit from CASS accredited certification can be obtained from <http://www.cass.uk.net>



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About The CASS Scheme Ltd

The CASS Scheme Ltd is a registered UK company that defines and operates the rules of CASS for the benefit of industry. The members of The CASS Scheme Ltd are drawn from a wide range of industries, trade associations and professional institutions to ensure strong technical and commercial input.

Members of The CASS Scheme Ltd

Association of British Certification Bodies
British Computer Society
Electrical Contractors Association
Federation of Electronic Industries
Gambica
Institute of Measurement and Control
Institution of Chemical Engineers
Institution of Engineering & Technology
Railway Industries Association
The 61508 Association

The United Kingdom's Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and Department of Trade Industry (DTI) supported the development of the CASS scheme. The HSE in particular, continues its involvement in terms of policy and practice and has released the following statement on its position in relation to the CASS scheme:

“Accredited certification schemes such as CASS when properly applied and as part of a systematic approach can help duty holders in making a demonstration that the functional safety of electrical, electronic and programmable electronic safety-related systems has been properly addressed. In the context of regulatory regimes where safety cases are required, the adoption of schemes such as CASS could provide useful evidence as part of the demonstration that risks have been reduced as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP).”

The CASS Scheme Ltd is responsible for the development of the scheme to ensure that it meets the continuing needs of industry in a technically changing and challenging environment.

For more information on IEC 61508 visit www.iec.ch/functionalsafety

For further information on CASS, contact:

The CASS Scheme Ltd

E-mail: enquiries@cass.uk.net

Web: www.cass.uk.net