

The Monthly Newsletter

This newsletter will document all industry and importation-related developments in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

It provides a monthly summary of all Saudi market developments and news related to regulatory changes made by the Saudi Standards and Quality Authority. This includes information on products intended for sale in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



Tabseer Hosts Virtual Workshop on Saudi Quality Mark Requirements for Cement and Ready-Mix Concrete

Tabseer Company recently organized a focused virtual workshop detailing the requirements for manufacturers to obtain the Saudi Quality Mark for their cement and ready-mix concrete products. The digital event was designed to guide producers through the complex certification process, ensuring their products meet the rigorous standards set by the Kingdom. The comprehensive discussions covered several critical points for attendees, such as (Introduction to SASO, Role of Tabseer as a conformity assessment body accredited by SASO, Understanding the Quality Mark, The Customer Journey, and Factory Audits and Challenges).

The event underscores the ongoing efforts by entities like Tabseer and SASO to uphold and promote high standards of quality and safety in construction materials essential to Saudi Arabia's infrastructure development.



Saudi Standards Body Issues First Quality Mark for CO2-Cured Concrete

الخواصات السعودية
Saudi Standards



In a significant move to advance the Circular Carbon Economy (CCE) approach, the Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO) has issued the Kingdom's first Quality Mark for carbon dioxide-cured concrete.

This initiative, supported by and emerging from the Ministry of Energy, is expected to play a crucial role in reducing carbon emissions within the construction sector. It directly supports Saudi Arabia's long-term climate ambitions, including its goal to reach Net Zero by 2060. The introduction of the CO2-cured concrete quality mark falls under the Ministry of Energy's CCE framework. It specifically addresses the need to lower the carbon footprint in the concrete and construction industry, which is recognized globally as one of the industrial sectors where emissions are difficult to abate.

This certification marks a concrete step (no pun intended) toward integrating sustainable and low-carbon technologies into the Kingdom's massive infrastructure and building projects.



The Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) of the People's Republic of China at SASO headquarters in Riyadh. The MoU aims to enhance cooperation and the exchange of expertise between the two parties in the field of conformity assessment and harmonization of relevant technical regulations and legislation. The MoU also aims to facilitate the exchange of information and expertise, implement joint training programs, coordinate at the international level within relevant organizations, exchange visits between specialists and experts from both sides, and implement collaborative projects that contribute to improving the efficiency of the conformity assessment system and reducing technical trade barriers.

Under the slogan "A Shared Vision for a Better World," the Ninth Standards Forum was launched

The Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO) organized the Ninth Standards Forum under the slogan "A Shared Vision for a Better World," under the patronage of His Excellency the Minister of Commerce and Chairman of SASO's Board of Directors, Dr. Majid bin Abdullah Al-Qasabi.

This year, the Forum focused on the seventeenth Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 17), "Partnerships for the Goals," which promotes raising the quality level of industrial products and services by activating the participation of the industry in developing and enabling standards. It also contributes to achieving export and localization targets, integration with global supply chains, and adopting best practices in the field of standards and quality.

The Forum also addressed several themes, including the development of standards in partnership with the industry, by enabling national factories to participate in the drafting of standards through effective strategic partnerships, and enhancing technical compliance by adopting local practices as national standards.

The Gulf Standardization Organization (GSO) Adopts Several New Regulations and Specifications

During its 61st meeting, the GSO Technical Council issued several decisions, most notably:

- Approval of 14 draft Gulf technical regulations
- Adoption of 981 draft Gulf standard specifications
- Approval of converting 25 Gulf technical regulations into Gulf standard specifications
- Approval of 14 draft translations of Gulf standard specifications/technical regulations
- Approval of withdrawing 38 Gulf standard specifications and technical regulations

These decisions come within the framework of the GSO's ongoing efforts to develop the quality infrastructure in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, raise the level of technical harmonization, and support the safety of products circulating in Gulf markets, keeping pace with international developments in the fields of standardization and quality.

The GCC Standardization Organization (GSO) approves its new 2030–2026 strategy to enhance Gulf economic integration.

The GSO Technical Council, at its 61st meeting held in Kuwait, approved the GSO's 2030–2026 strategy, paving the way for its adoption by the Ministerial Committee for Standardization Affairs.

This strategy represents a qualitative turning point in the Gulf standardization process and a significant strategic step towards strengthening economic integration among member states. It prioritizes empowering Gulf industries and enhancing their competitiveness, positioning them more strongly on the global competitive landscape through unified Gulf standards and a comprehensive conformity assessment system. This will solidify confidence in the quality of Gulf products and expand their access to global markets.

Standardization Authority Holds 3rd Annual Standardization Ambassadors Forum



The GCC Standardization Organization (GSO) hosted its Third Annual Standardization Ambassadors Forum on October 2025, 19, at its headquarters in Riyadh. The event coincided with the celebration of World Standards Day 2025, held under the theme: "Partnerships for the Goals." The Forum saw broad participation from Standardization Ambassadors, along with a number of specialists and experts in the fields of quality, standards, and innovation. The program featured several specialized papers and presentations focusing on the role of standards in various critical areas:

- Standards and Sustainability
- Institutional Integration and Safety
- Gulf Conformity Mark
- Ambassador Success Story

The annual gathering underscores the GSO's commitment to fostering a culture of standardization and quality throughout the Gulf Cooperation Council states.

The Technical Council of the Gulf Standardization Organization (GSO) honors outstanding Gulf technical committees for 2023.

The Technical Council of the GCC Standardization Organization (GSO) honored the Gulf technical committees for standards that achieved outstanding performance in preparing and developing standards for 2023. This recognition took place on the sidelines of its 61st meeting, recently held in Kuwait. The results of the evaluation of the performance of the Gulf technical committees for standards in 2023 were as follows: the Gulf Technical Committee for Medical Devices and Supplies Standards achieved first place; the Gulf Technical Committee for Electrical and Electronic Standards achieved second place; and the Gulf Technical Committee for Construction and Building Materials Standards achieved third place.

The Gulf Technical Committee for Chemical, Spinning, and Weaving Standards came in fourth place, and the Gulf Technical Committee for Oil and Gas Standards achieved fifth place.

SFDA Launches Product Conformity Certificate Service on 'Ghadd' Platform

The Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA) has announced the launch of its new Product Conformity Certificate service within the food sector services on its unified electronic system, the "Ghadd" Platform. The service became effective starting October 2025, 16.

This new offering is designed to significantly streamline the registration process for food products and enhance product reliability within the Saudi market.

The service allows beneficiaries to submit applications for food product registration based on a Product Conformity Certificate issued by an SFDA-accredited conformity assessment body. By leveraging these pre-approved certificates, the SFDA aims to expedite market access for compliant goods.

The registration service through the Conformity Certificate covers several key product categories:

Infant and baby foods.

Energy drinks.

Dietary supplements and supplementary foods for body building.

SFDA participated in the Global 2025 Health Forum



الهيئة العامة للغذاء والدواء
Saudi Food & Drug Authority

The Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA) participated in the Global Health Forum 2025, held at the Riyadh International Convention and Exhibition Center from October 30-27, under the theme "Invest in Health."

During the forum, the SFDA launched several pioneering digital initiatives, projects, and services as part of its digital transformation efforts. These initiatives aim to enhance the health and safety of community members and improve the efficiency of regulatory and operational processes, thereby solidifying the Kingdom's position and reflecting the goals of Saudi Vision 2030, which places human development at the heart of progress and recognizes health as the foundation for the prosperity and stability of societies.

هيئة الزكاة والضريبة والجمارك
Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority



ZATCA Achieves Level 6 in Diamond Category of EFQM Global Excellence Award Assessment

The Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (ZATCA) has reached a significant national achievement by attaining Level 6 in the Diamond category of the EFQM Global Excellence Award assessment. This accomplishment makes it the first organization in both the public and private sectors in the Kingdom to achieve this advanced level in such a prestigious international award.

Additionally, ZATCA was awarded the Outstanding Achievement in Performance and Governance certificate, which recognises it as the best entity in the world in this domain. This accolade further underscores its leadership and commitment to adopting international best practices in institutional excellence and modern management.