

WE WILL START AT 10:00 AM (CET)

SESEC V Webinar

Who is Who in Chinese Product Certifications

You are ***muted***

Use the ***Q&A or Chat Panel*** to submit your questions

Keep your questions ***short and concise***

Contact us: assistant@seseec.eu

Welcome to our website: <https://seseec.eu/>



Seconded European Standardization Expert in China (SESEC) Project



Who is Who in Chinese Product Certification System

25 March 2025

SESEC INTRODUCTION

Partners and Role



SESEC is a visibility project co-financed by five European partners

SESEC Partners

- **European Commission (EC)**-The executive body of the European Union; Responsible for proposing legislation, implementing decisions, upholding the treaties and day-to-day management of the EU; DG Grow is the main partner (80%)
- **European Free Trade Association (EFTA)**-Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland; Intergovernmental organisation set up for the promotion of free trade and economic integration to the benefit of its four Member States; None EU members;
- **CEN**-European Committee for Standardization
- **CENELEC**-European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
- **ETSI**-European Telecommunications Standards Institute



SESEC INTRODUCTION

A Project co-funded by EC, EFTA, CEN CENELEC & ETSI

- ❖ **Promote** European and International standards in China
- ❖ **Improve** contacts between Project Partners and different levels of the Chinese administration, industry and standardization bodies
- ❖ **Enhance** visibility and understanding of the European Standardization System (ESS) in China.
- ❖ **Gather** regulatory and standardization intelligence
- ❖ **Undertake** technical lobbying



Goals

- The SESEC initiative supports **EC policy** and **ESOs strategic objectives** in China.
- Our ultimate goal is the enhancement of **EU-China dialogue and cooperation** in the field of standardization.
- It is notably expected to support the Framework Cooperation Agreement in place **between the ESOs and SAC**.

Project's Priorities

Priorities of SESEC

Horizontal:

- China Standards 2035
- Belt and Road Initiative
- Standardization Reform
- Institutional Changes in Chinese Government
- **Market Access (e.g CCC)**

Digital Transition

- IT in General
- Data
- Artificial Intelligence
- Quantum
- Industrial IoT
- 5G/6G

Green Transition:

- Energy Efficiency
- China RoHS
- Green Product Assessment
- Decarbonization
- New Energy
- Recycling

SESEC's English Website For European stakeholders www.sesec.eu



SESEC V Survey

To better understand the implementation and the performance of SESEC V, and to facilitate the launch of SESEC VI, we would like to invite you to participate in this SESEC V stakeholder survey in this link:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Survey_SESEC

- The stakeholder survey would help us to understand
- how the project has been achieving its objectives,
 - how stakeholders' needs have been met,
 - what can be improved during the rest of the project life, and
 - what could be the focus for a possible new phase

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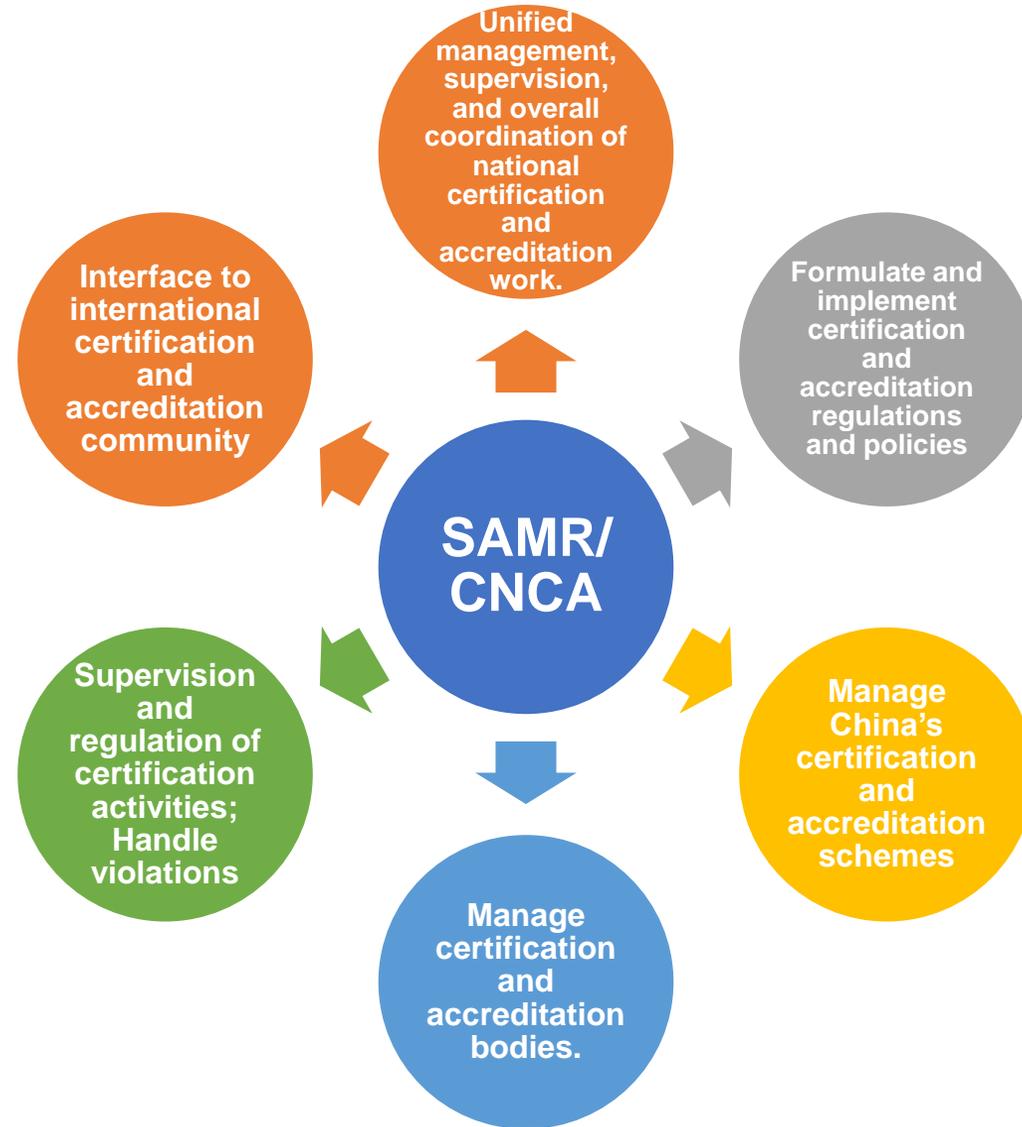
OVERVIEW

- The Conformity Assessment system includes both certification and accreditation. This webinar will focus on **product Certification only**.
- China operates a multifaceted Certification system where government-led certifications and market-driven certifications coexist.
- Within this system, various forms of certification exist, it could be named as “certification,” “assessment,” “evaluation,” “appraisal,” “labelling,” “technical review,” “licensing,” etc.,(Compared to CE system, they are certifications or product conformity with different names).
- Some government-led certifications act as mandatory requirements for market access, while others influence a product’s eligibility for government procurement or commercial bidding.
- There are 2086 mandatory standards in China, complying to mandatory standards sometimes need test certificate, sometimes is self-declaration.
- While market-driven certifications are expanding rapidly, their influence in the market remains limited.



OVERVIEW

- SAMR/CNCA serves as the **national authority for certification and accreditation**, overseeing both government-led and market-driven certification schemes across the country.



OVERVIEW

- However, various other ministries may operate their own conformity assessment (CA) schemes or market access tests/license/certificates, which fall outside SAMR/CNCA's supervision.
- These schemes either stem from administrative licensing requirements or are designed to support the implementation of ministry-specific policies. In practice, they function as **mandatory, de facto mandatory, or influential voluntary** certification schemes..
- In some sectors, competent authorities develop certification schemes together with SAMR/CNCA. However, these schemes are still primarily led by the respective authorities, while SAMR/CNCA have very limited influence over them.

OVERVIEW

SAMR/CNCA

Other Authorities

Compulsory Govt-led Certifications

- China Compulsory Certification (CCC)
- Special Equipment licensing

- Critical Network Equipment and Cybersecurity-Specific Products Certification
- Energy Efficiency Labeling
- China RoHS
- Medical Devices (CFDA)
- And More.....

- Radio Type Approval (SRRC)
- Network Access Licensing (NAL)
- Automotive Product Announcement
- Cybersecurity Multi-Level Protection Scheme (MLPS) Assessment

Voluntary Govt-led Certifications

- Green Product Certification
- Product Carbon Footprint Certification
- China Robot Certification (CR)
- And more.....

- Commercial Cryptography Certification;
- Railway Product Certification
- Agricultural Machinery Promotion Appraisal
- Personal Information Protection Certification
- And more.....

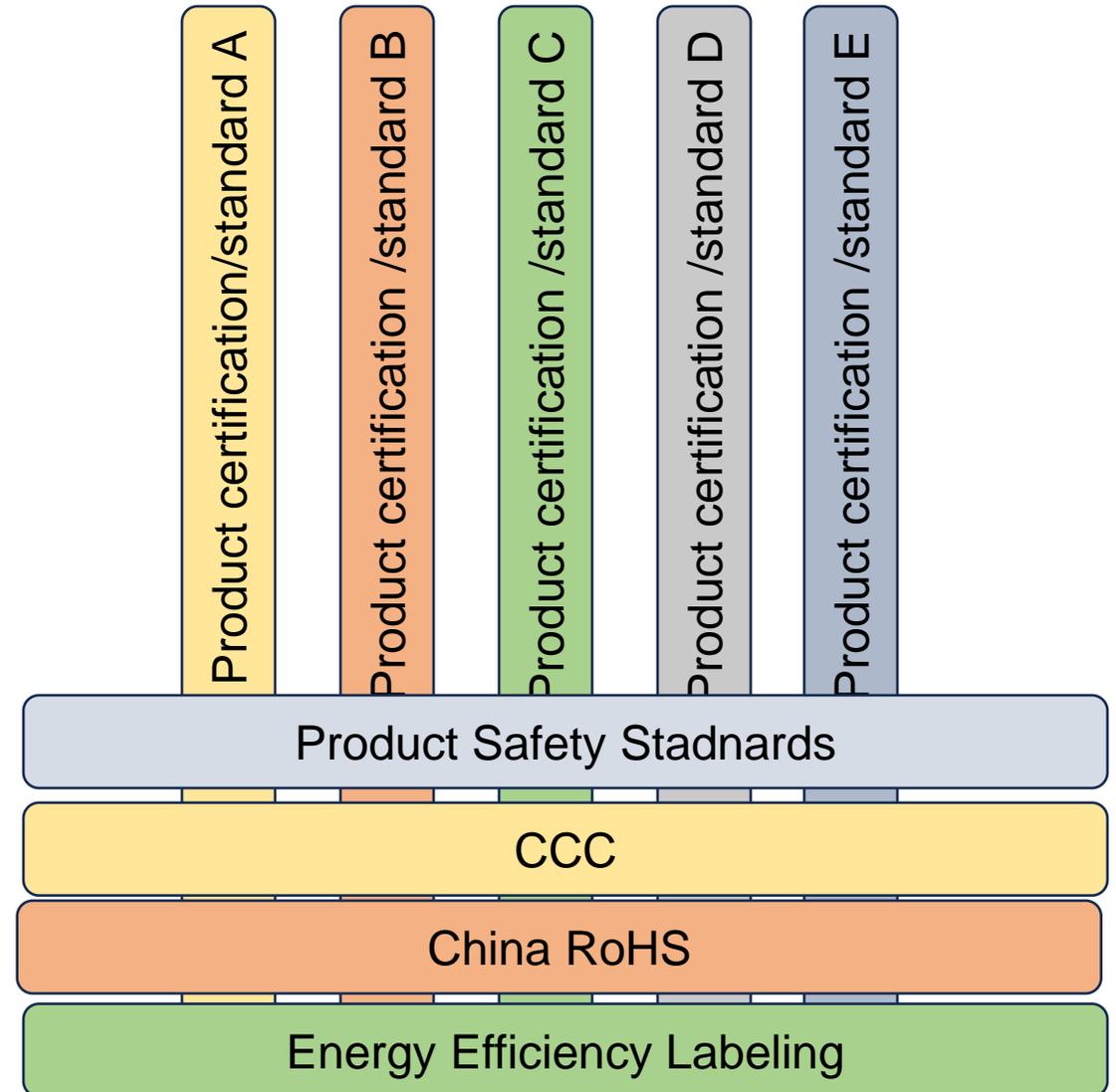
Purely Market-driven Certifications

- CQC Mark certification;
- CQM Mark certification;
- Automotive Products Certification Centre Certification (CCAP)
- Foreign/ exporting certification
- And more.....

Some Ministry supported certifications

OVERVIEW

- A product may require not only product-specific (vertical) certifications, but also general (horizontal) certifications..
- Take electrical products as an example:



OVERVIEW

- A single product may need to undergo multiple certifications to meet market access requirements.

Example 1: laptop

May pose risk to personal safety

- CCC ...

And more.....



Connect to public telecom network

- Network Access License

May contain hazardous substances

- China RoHS ..

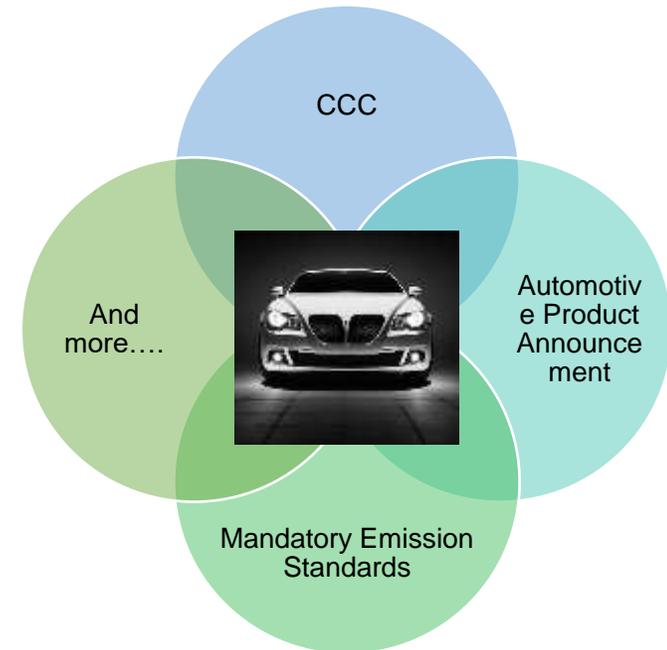
Consume electricity

- Energy Efficiency Label

Emit radio waves

- SRRC Certification

Example 2: car





Key Players in SAMR/CNCA's System

SAMR/CNCA

- SAMR/CNCA, among many governmental authorities, is the one that is in charge with all the conformity assessment topics. For example, making ***Regulations of the PRC on Certification and Accreditation*** and sub-regulations.
- It oversees the CCC scheme, SAMR/CNCA-initiated voluntary certification programs, and all market-driven certification activities.
- SAMR/CNCA supervises 1,228 certification bodies and 2,636 inspection and testing institutions operating in the Chinese market. (some labs inside different ministries may not be managed by CNCA or accredited with CNAS).
- SAMR/CNCA manages 21,422 certification rules and 11,323 certification marks filed by 406 certification bodies.
- SAMR/CNCA oversees 80,000 registered certification personnel (through CCAA, an affiliated association).

SAMR/CNCA

- CNCA consists of two departments of SAMR.

SAMR

CNCA

Dept of Certification Supervision and Administration

- Formulate and implement certification and conformity assessment supervision and management systems.
- Plan and guide the development of the certification industry and assist in investigating and addressing violations in certification activities.
- Organize and participate in international or regional certification and conformity assessment activities

Dept of Accreditation and Inspection & Testing Supervision and Administration

- Formulate and implement accreditation and inspection/testing supervision and management systems.
- Organize and coordinate the integration and reform of inspection/testing resources, plan and guide the development of the inspection/testing industry and assist in investigating and addressing violations in accreditation and inspection/testing activities.
- Organize and participate in international or regional accreditation and inspection/testing activities.

Other Depts

- Comprehensive market supervision and regulation.
- Unified registration and admin of market entities.
- Organization of market regulation enforcement.
- Unified enforcement of anti-monopoly laws.
- Supervision and regulation of market order.
- Macro-quality management.
- Supervision of product quality and safety.
- Management of national standardization
- Supervision of special equipment, food safety.
- Unified management of metrology.
- Development of S&T and informatization in market regulation; news publicity, international cooperation.
- Oversee the National Medical Products Admin & the National IP Admin.

Regulations on Certification and Accreditation

Regulations of the PRC on Certification and Accreditation was released by the State Council in 2003 and updated in 2016 and 2020. It provides the legal framework for certification and accreditation activities in China.

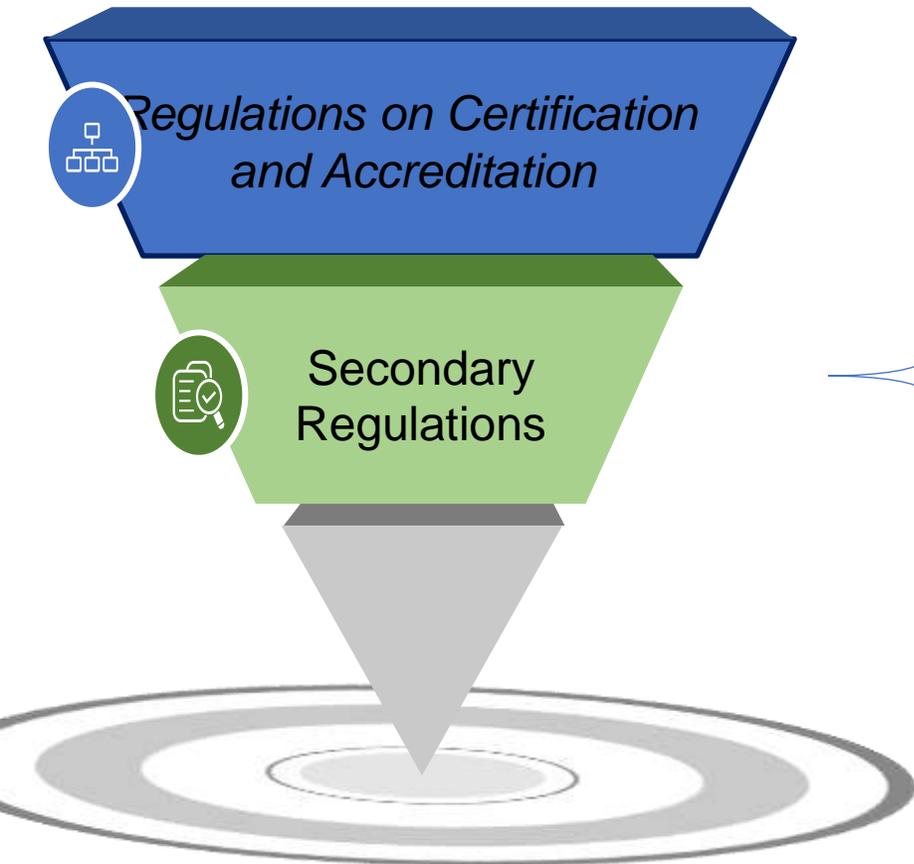


*Regulations of the PRC on
Certification and Accreditation*

- China implements a unified certification and accreditation regulatory system. SAMR/CNCA is responsible for centralized management, supervision, and coordination, while relevant authorities jointly enforce certification and accreditation activities.
- Requirements for Establishing and Operating Certification Bodies
- Basic Rules for Developing and Implementing Certification Systems
- Fundamental Norms for Accreditation
- Supervision and Management of Certification and Accreditation Activities
- Legal Responsibilities for Violations

Secondary Regulations

Under the *Regulations on Certification and Accreditation*, SAMR/CNCA has developed numerous secondary regulations to oversee all aspects of certification, accreditation activities, and various types of certification.



- **For the certification and accreditation industry:**

- *Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Accreditation Bodies*
- *Administrative Measures for Certification Bodies*
- *Administrative Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Inspection and Testing Institutions*
- *Administrative Measures for the Accreditation of Inspection and Testing Institutions*
- *Administrative Measures for Certification Certificates and Certification Marks*
- *Administrative Measures for Certification and Certification Training, Consulting Personnel*
- *And more...*

- **For compulsory certifications (CCC):**

- *Regulations on Compulsory Product Certification*
- *Administrative Measures for Compulsory Product Certification Bodies and Laboratories*
- *Regulations on Energy Efficiency Labeling* (developed together with NDRC)
- *And more...*

- **For voluntary certifications:**

- *Administrative Measures for Organic Product Certification*
- *Administrative Measures for Non-polluting Agricultural Products* (developed together with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs)
- *And more...*

Regulations Governing Certification Bodies

Administrative Measures for Certification Bodies (released by former AQSIQ (now merged to SAMR) in 2017 and updated by current SAMR in 2020) provides basic rules that certification bodies shall follow.

- Certification bodies must obtain approval from CNCA before operating.
- Certification bodies must meet specific eligibility criteria to obtain approval.
- CNCA oversees the approval process for certification body qualifications.
- CNCA is responsible for developing, adjusting, and publishing the certification scope catalogue. Certification bodies must operate within their approved scope and follow the basic certification norms and certification rules.
- Certification bodies must comply with the code of conduct provided in this regulations to ensure fairness and reliability.
- CNCA monitors certification bodies for compliance with the *Regulations on Certification and Accreditation*, this regulation, and other relevant departmental rules.



Regulations Governing Testing Institutions

Administrative Measures for the Accreditation of Inspection and Testing Institutions (released by former AQSIQ in 2015) establish the basic rules for the accreditation, management, and supervision of testing laboratories in China.

- SAMR is responsible for the national accreditation of inspection and testing bodies. SAMR oversees the unified management, implementation, and coordination of the accreditation system.
- Inspection and testing bodies must meet specific criteria to obtain accreditation. Accreditation follows a structured approval process to ensure compliance with national standards.
- Accredited inspection and testing bodies must undergo technical assessments to verify their competence, facilities, and expertise.
- SAMR conducts regular and random inspections to ensure compliance with accreditation requirements. Non-compliance may result in fines, suspension, revocation of accreditation, or other legal consequences.



In 2021, SAMR released the *Administrative Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Inspection and Testing Institutions*, further clarifying and detailing the regulatory requirements for testing labs.

SAMR/CNCA affiliated Organizations - CNAS

Three SAMR/CNCA-affiliated Organizations play an essential role in China's accreditation and certification system, as well as in SAMR/CNCA's policy-making and industry supervision.

China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment (CNAS)

- Established in 2006, CNCA is the **national accreditation body** designated by SAMR in accordance with *the Regulations on Certification and Accreditation* and the *Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Accreditation Bodies*.
- CNAS operates in compliance with *ISO/IEC 17011 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for Accreditation Bodies* and is responsible for accrediting conformity assessment bodies, including inspection bodies, laboratories, certification bodies, and validation and verification bodies.
- It oversees the operation of the national accreditation system for conformity assessment bodies.
- CNAS's main tasks include:
 - Establish and operate the national accreditation system for conformity assessment bodies (CABs) per Chinese laws, regulations, and standards, issuing accreditation rules and guidelines.
 - Evaluate and accredit domestic and foreign CABs, overseeing accredited bodies.
 - Guide and supervise the use of accreditation logos and marks.
 - Organize training, qualify, and manage assessors.
 - Provide technical services to CABs and public access to accredited bodies' information.
 - Participate in international accreditation activities and sign bilateral/multilateral agreements.



SAMR/CNCA affiliated Organizations - CCAI

Three SAMR/CNCA-affiliated Organizations play an essential role in China's accreditation and certification system, as well as in SAMR/CNCA's policy-making and industry supervision.

China Certification and Accreditation Institute (CCAI)

- CCAI is an affiliated institution directly under SAMR. It is a **national-level research institution and think tank** specializing in certification, accreditation, inspection, and testing.
- CCAI's primary responsibilities include policy and theoretical research on certification, accreditation, inspection, and testing; academic studies; regulatory support; standardization research; and capacity building for industry professionals..

CCAI's main tasks include:

- Provide intellectual and policy support for drafting laws and regulations in conformity assessment.
- Offer academic and policy recommendations on major theoretical and practical issues.
- Conduct research on key technologies, major projects, and innovative certification systems, promoting advanced technologies.
- Track global and domestic certification and testing trends, conduct forward-looking studies, and facilitate information exchange.
- Support industry standards development, technical services, and quality analysis.
- Provide training, professional development, and consulting in certification, accreditation, and testing..



SAMR/CNCA affiliated Organizations - CCAA

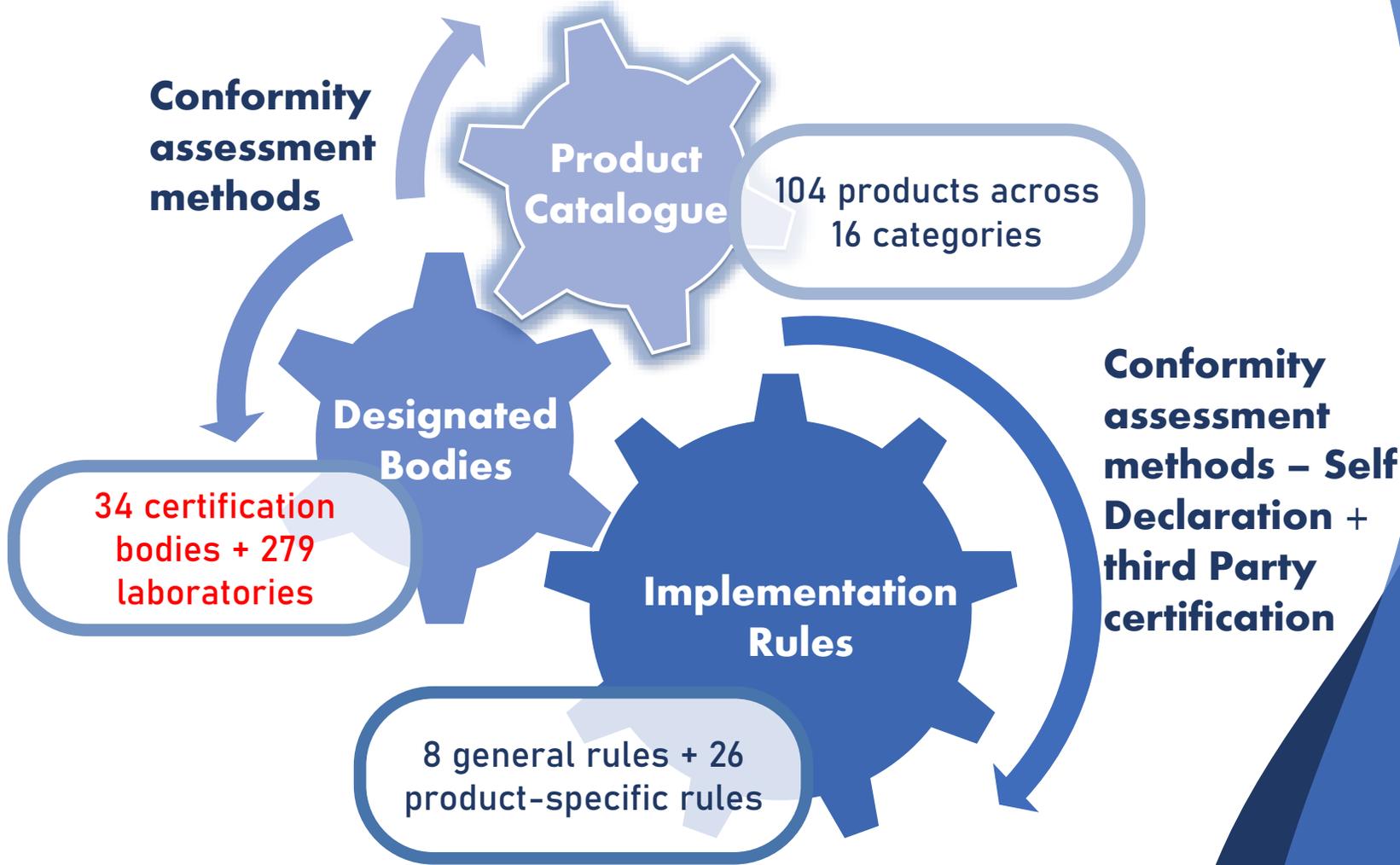
Three SAMR/CNCA-affiliated Organizations play an essential role in China's accreditation and certification system, as well as in SAMR/CNCA's policy-making and industry supervision.

China Certification and Accreditation Association (CCAA)

- Established in 2005, CCAA is a national non-profit industry organization comprising certification bodies, accreditation bodies, inspection and testing institutions, training and consulting firms, certified organizations, and individual members.
- Operating under the guidance of the Central Social Work Department, the Ministry of Civil Affairs, and SAMR, CCAA promotes the high-quality development of the certification, accreditation, inspection, and testing industry.
- It provides services to the government, industry, and society while advancing a market-oriented, law-based, internationalized, standardized, and digitalized industry association.
- CCAA's main tasks include:
 - Act as a bridge between the government and members, collecting and addressing industry concerns
 - Support industry planning, advise the government on policies and legislation.
 - Implement the national registration and examination system for certification personnel and oversee continuing education programs.
 - Develop competition rules, self-discipline guidelines, and transition mechanisms for certification personnel and certificates. Strengthen industry ethics, enforce compliance, and handle complaints and misconduct..
 - Provide training, professional development, and consulting in certification, accreditation, and testing.
 - **Oversees 80,000 registered certification personnel**
 - **Secretariat of SAC TC 261 (mirrors ISO CASCO)**



Case Study: CCC



SAMR/CNCA designates the categories, CA methods, implementation rules and bodies.

Certification bodies and testing labs in CCC

As of June 2024, 34 certification bodies are eligible for conducting CCC certification.

- ⦿ All are Chinese organizations
- ⦿ Work within designated scope
- ⦿ Certify according to self-developed “detailed implementation rules” based on CNCA's implementation rules.

As of June 2024, 279 laboratories are eligible for conducting CCC-related tests.

- ⦿ Include 5 FIEs: TÜV Rheinland, DEKRA, SGS, InterTek, UL
- ⦿ Carry out test and inspection within designated scope
- ⦿ Small authorized scope

State-Owned Certification Bodies under SAMR system

Large state-owned certification bodies also support the development and implementation of certification policies and the execution of certification programs, particularly those affecting market access. **Take CQC for example:**

Implements government policies through certification, testing, and standards to enhance product and service quality.

Supports national and local governments by providing technical expertise, with certification results serving as key references for policy implementation and industry regulation.

Represents China in IECEE as a National Certification Body (NCB) and is a member of major international certification organizations.

Is the leading CCC certification body, having issued the first and the most CCC certificates (64.25%).

Has led or participated in 100+ national and provincial projects and contributed to nearly 340 national standards.

Key Players in Other Authorities & Their Certifications



Abbreviations of Some Key Players

Acronym	Full Name
SAMR	State Administration for Market Regulation
CNCA	Certification and Accreditation Administration
SAC	Standardization Administration of China
MIIT	Ministry of Industry and Information Technology
CAC	Cyberspace Administration of China
MoHURD	Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development
MARA	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
NDRC	National Development and Reform Commission
NRA	National Railway Administration
MPS	Ministry of Public Security
SCA	State Cryptography Administration
CCIC	China Certification & Inspection Group
CQC	China Quality Certification Center
CQM	China Quality Mark Certification Group
CCAA	China Certification and Accreditation Association
CNAS	China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment (
CCAI	China Certification and Accreditation Institute

Certifications Led by Other Authorities

Below are some commonly seen certifications led by other authorities, where SAMR/CNCA has limited or no influence.

Authorities	Certifications	Mandatory/ Voluntary	Impact	Independently Managed/Jointly Managed with SAMR/CNCA
MIIT	Automotive Product Announcement	Mandatory	Market Access	Independently Managed
	State Radio Regulation Committee (SRRC) certification	Mandatory	Market Access	Independently Managed
	Network Access Licensing (NAL)	Mandatory	Market Access	Independently Managed
	China RoHS	Mandatory	Market Access	Jointly Managed with SAMR/CNCA
CAC	Critical Network Equipment and Cybersecurity-Specific Products Certification	Mandatory	Market Access	Jointly Managed with SAMR/CNCA
NDRC	Energy Efficiency Labelling	Mandatory	Market Access	Jointly Managed with SAMR/CNCA
MPS	Cybersecurity Multi-Level Protection Scheme (MLPS) Assessment	Mandatory	Market Access	Independently Managed
MARA	Agricultural Machinery Promotion Appraisal	Voluntary	Precondition for Subsidies	Independently Managed
NRA	Railway Product Certification	Voluntary	De facto admission condition	Jointly Managed with SAMR/CNCA
SCA	Commercial Cryptography Certification	Voluntary	De facto admission condition	Jointly Managed with SAMR/CNCA

Certifications Led by Other Authorities

- Most of these certifications are as crucial as CCC, even when labeled as “voluntary.”
- These certifications rely on specific authorities designated testing labs for product testing.
- Independently managed certifications / test reports are typically implemented by institutes affiliated with the authorities. These institutes function as certification bodies, despite not being formally recognized by SAMR/CNCA.
- Independently managed certifications follow the certification rules established by their respective authorities, whereas those jointly managed with SAMR/CNCA typically adhere to co-developed rules.



A row of seven light-colored wooden blocks, each with a black letter, spelling out the word "SUMMARY". The blocks are arranged on a wooden surface. In the background and foreground, there are many other similar wooden blocks, some with letters and some with numbers, creating a sense of depth and abundance. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the wood.

S U M M A R Y

总结和分析

Summary

- China's certification system operates basically under two regulatory frameworks:
 - first, SAMR/CNCA-managed certifications—including CCC, SAMR/CNCA-initiated voluntary certifications, and market-driven certifications.
 - Second, certifications administered by other authorities
- Government-led certification programs — including SAMR/CNCA-led and other ministries-led —play a crucial role market access to the Chinese.
- Although SAMR/CNCA is recognized as the national certification authority, its influence over certifications led by other government agencies is limited.
- Many of government-led certification programs designate specific certification bodies—some of which are not SAMR/CNCA-approved.
- European manufactures need to check the market access requirements of China for their products for exporting.

