
On the implementation of the new RED directive

Introduction

The new RED (Radio Equipment Directive, 2014/53/EU) is replacing the R&TTE Directive (1999/5/EC), and comes into full force from 2017-06-13. After this date, all products placed in the market must be compliant with the new directive. We are now in a one year transition period which means that all products assessed under the old R&TTE directive can still be sold until this date, but new products should be assessed under the new RED. The new directive can be downloaded from <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2014/53/oj>.

All radio modules from Radiocrafts intended for use in Europe, are or will be compliant to the RED directive before the directive comes into full force 2017-06-13.

Changes from R&TTE to RED

The main changes from R&TTE to the RED which are relevant for radio modules are:

- More emphasis on that radio receivers must achieve a minimum level of performance to contribute to than efficient use of the radio spectrum
- Clear obligations not only to the manufacturers, but also to importers and distributors of radio equipment
- Demonstration units without CE mark can be used at trade fairs and exhibitions when precautions are taken (Article 9.2)
- Demonstration Kits are explicitly excluded from the RED (Annex I.4)

Assessment and Declaration of Conformity

As before, Radiocrafts as the manufacturer (Article 10), takes responsibility for meeting the Essential requirements (Article 3), issues the Declaration of Conformity (DoC) (Article 18), and marks the product with the CE mark (Article 19 and 20). An importer and/or distributor, also have certain obligations (Article 12 and 13).

Radiocrafts assess the product (Article 17) according to the procedure for internal production control, described in Annex II in the RED, using harmonized standards. This means following the conformity assessment module A where we ensures and declares full responsibility for the compliance with the essential requirements. Please note; the technical documentation shall be available to the relevant authority. In general it is not available to the end customer as the responsibly is covered by the DoC. Using this assessment procedure there is no Notified Body or test reports from accredited lab required.

Development Kits

It is also important to notice that Development Kits are explicitly excluded from the requirement for RED assessment and CE marking. Therefore there is no DoC issued for the Development Kits even if they *de facto* meet the same standards as the module.

End user responsibility

The end user, integrating the radio module into his product, also needs to make sure that the whole product complies with the RED. The end user therefore needs to do his own assessment to show that the combined equipment still complies with the essential requirements of the directive, compile technical documentation, mark the product, and issue a DoC. The ETSI guide EG 203 367 (available from www.etsi.org at http://www.etsi.org/deliver/etsi_eg/203300_203399/203367/01.01.00_50/eg_203367v010100m.pdf) can be very useful in this respect. Notice; an assessment needs not necessarily lead to testing, if the radio module is used under equivalent conditions as when tested already. It is therefore important that the customer follow the datasheet, user manuals and application notes for how to integrate and use the radio module, to avoid further testing.

It is important to notice that old product designs that were launched under the R&TTE directive now need to be re-assessed under the new RED in order to continue manufacturing and selling these products. For the new assessment using harmonized standards, only currently valid harmonics standard can be used. These standards may have changed since the R&TTE assessment was done.

Document Revision History

Document Revision	Changes
1.0	First release
1.1	Clarification on re-assessment of old product designs
1.2	Editorial changes only

Contact Information

Web site: www.radiocrafts.com

Email: sales@radiocrafts.com

Address:

Radiocrafts AS
Sandakerveien 64
NO-0484 OSLO
NORWAY

Tel: +47 40 00 51 95

Fax: +47 22 71 29 15