THE PILLARS OF FUNCTIONING CERTIFICATION SCHEMES: TRANSPARENCY, IDENTIFICATION, CONFORMITY

4TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC NETWORK FOR TESTING OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY (ANTAM)

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ENTE NAZIONALE PER LA MECCANIZZAZIONE AGRICOLA

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GENERAL OVERVIEW 2

- To promote sustainable agriculture a system for the assessment of the technical characteristics is required. The **certification** of safety, performance and sustainability of agricultural machines is the answer.

- The ANTAM network aims to promote **harmonization of testing codes and standards** of agricultural machinery applied in the Asia-Pacific Region. The **close cooperation among different stakeholders and testing stations** will ensure farmers an easy access to quality mechanization.

GENERAL OVERVIEW 3

Certification is a guarantee for fulfilling the 3 pillars of safety:

safety of the operator = reduction of social cost for injuries

safety of the environment = less pollution (COP23), sustainable system

safety of agricultural production = improvement of food security

CERTIFICATION SCHEME

Products traded within a certification scheme provide for **guarantees** through the **certification rules** and **requirements.**

WHAT IS CERTIFICATION

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The provision by an **independent body** of written assurance (a certificate) that the product, service or system in question **meets specific rules and requirements,** in accordance with established requirements or standards by an accredited body.

CERTIFICATION SCOPES

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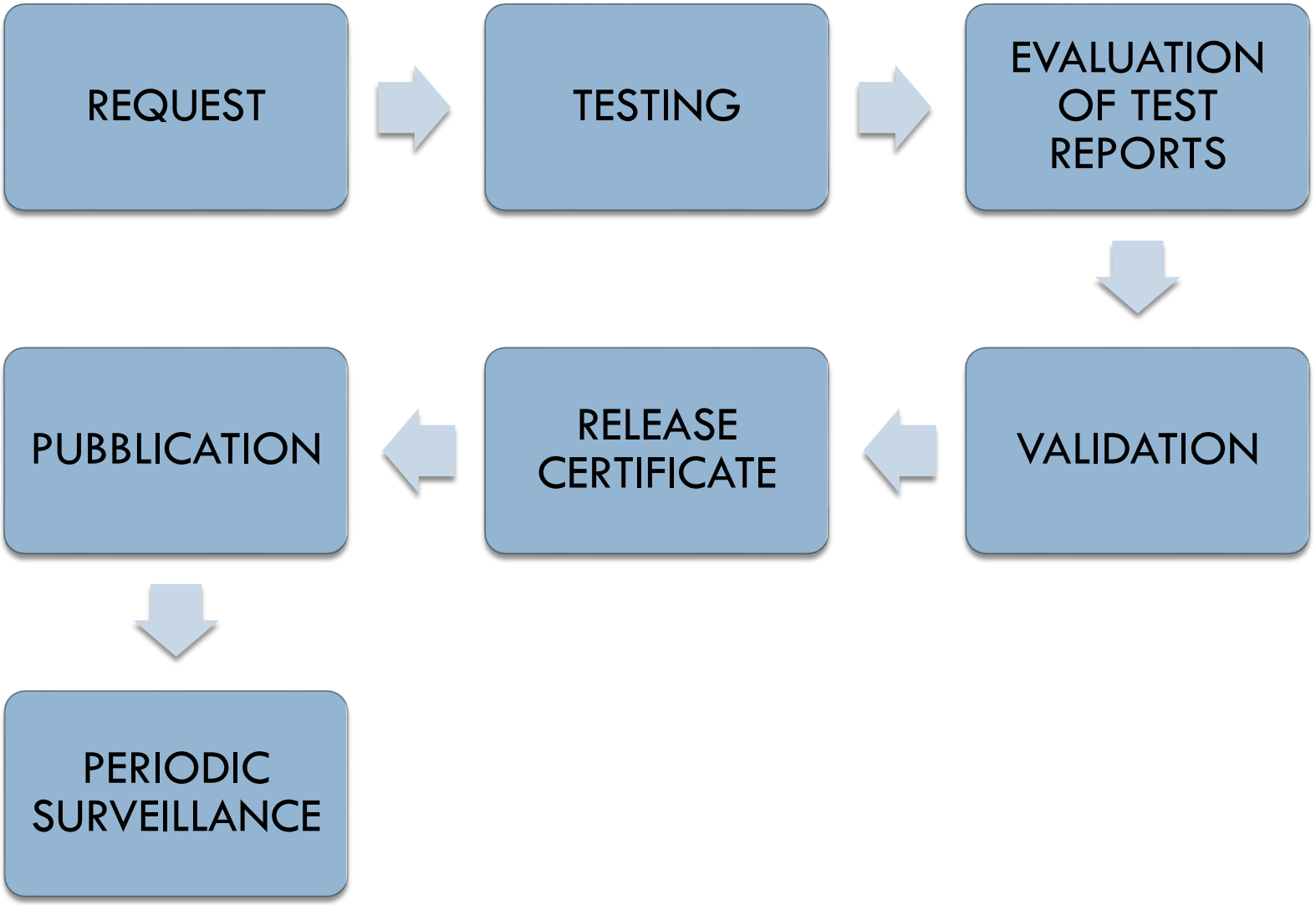
- Certification can be a useful tool to **add credibility,** by demonstrating that the product or service meets the expectations of the market/customers.
- Certification can be a legal or contractual requirement.
- Certification can have a priority in receiving **subsdies.**

CERTIFICATION PROCESS

The process for certification of a product is generally summed up in four steps:

- **Application**
- **Testing** and **Evaluation** (does the test data indicate that the product meets qualification criteria)
- **Analysis** and **Verification** of Test results
- **Decision and release of the Certificate**
- **Surveillance** (does the product in the marketplace continue to meet qualification criteria)

CERTIFICATION PROCESS in detail



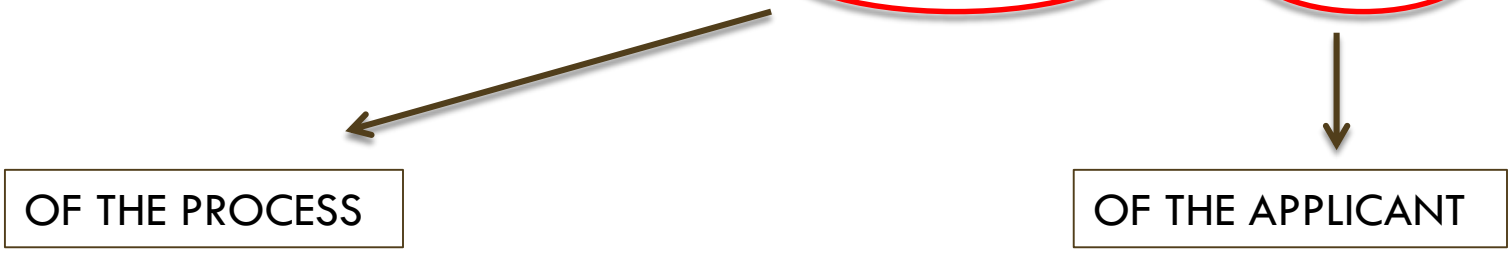
CERTIFICATION PROCESS 1

- The certification process provides that the product to be certified is tested by an accredited **testing laboratory** in accordance with the procedural and the technical aspects.
- If the evaluation states that the testing data meet all the technical aspects the report is sent to the Deliberative Committee for final evaluation of technical and procedural aspects.

CERTIFICATION PROCESS 2

With approval of the Deliberative Committee the final document is forwarded back to the applicant for final approval.

(fundamental to provide **transparency** and **privacy**)



If **product** is deemed **"certified"** by the Deliberative Committee and is approved by the applicant it is **listed in a directory** by the **Certification Body**.

CERTIFICATION PROCESS 3

- Products often need periodic re-certification, also known as **surveillance**. This requirement is typically identified within the certification scheme that the product is certified to.

- Other examples of surveillance activities include surprise audits of the manufacturing plant, supervision of the manufacturing and/or testing process in order to ensure that the certified product has not changed.

- Other causes for re-certification may include complaints issued against the product's functionality and expiration of the original certification.

BENEFITS OF CERTIFICATION

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- Best guarantee of products
- Easy identification of roles and responsibilities
- Compliance of products to specific requirements
- Performance and safety assurance
- Guarantee for public bodies

MACHINERY CERTIFICATION

The certification recognizes and defines the requirements for effectiveness and efficiency for the design, manufacture, sale and support of machines for the use on agricultural land.

The machinery Certification provides for:

- **Safety**
- **Performance**
- **Ergonomics**
- **Added value**
- **High Quality**

AGRIC. MACHINERY CERTIFICATION

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Public institutions can rely on **certification schemes** to **assess** the **safety, performance etc.** of machinery that could be included in public initiatives or **subsidies** in support of the diffusion of sustainable and quality agricultural mechanization.

AGRIC. MACHINERY CERTIFICATION

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- Certifications of agricultural machinery enable farmers to evaluate and compare the possible choices in the growing machinery market.
- The objective is to allow end-users, to evaluate the **real performance** and to **provide adequate information** to introduce a given kind of technology.
- The machinery certification enables the stakeholders to gain the required approvals needed to import the products around the world.

TRANSPARENCY

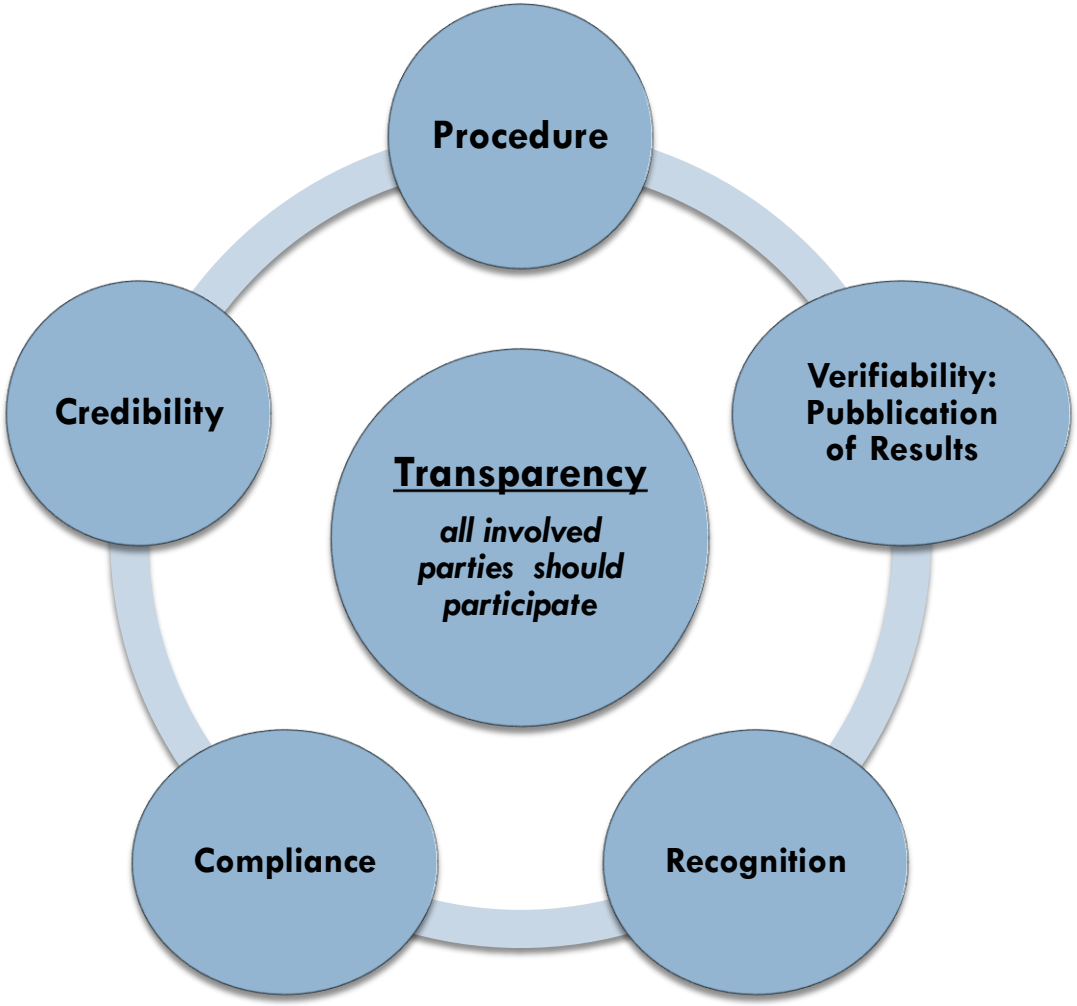
TRANSPARENCY

- In order to promote transparency throughout the certification scheme, the evaluation of the testing reports should always be carried out by a **third party without direct interest** in the economic relationship between the supplier and buyer.
- This is important because, for example, standards can be developed by any of the actors which tend to reflect their interests in the standards.
- Alternatively, if the standard setting and the certification body are represented by the same organization, this can also cause conflicts of interest (e.g. prejudice against certain types of producers).

TRANSPARENCY

TRANSPARENCY

Transparent certification procedure conducted by a financially indenpendent and impartial third party



IDENTIFICATION 1

IDENTIFICATION

The **identification** of the product being tested is important because it makes possible a clear definition of the product as a sample of a serial production

- Name of the manufacturer or importer
- Model
- Serial Number
- Picture of the machine
- Testing Station
- Testing Engineers
- Date and location of Tests

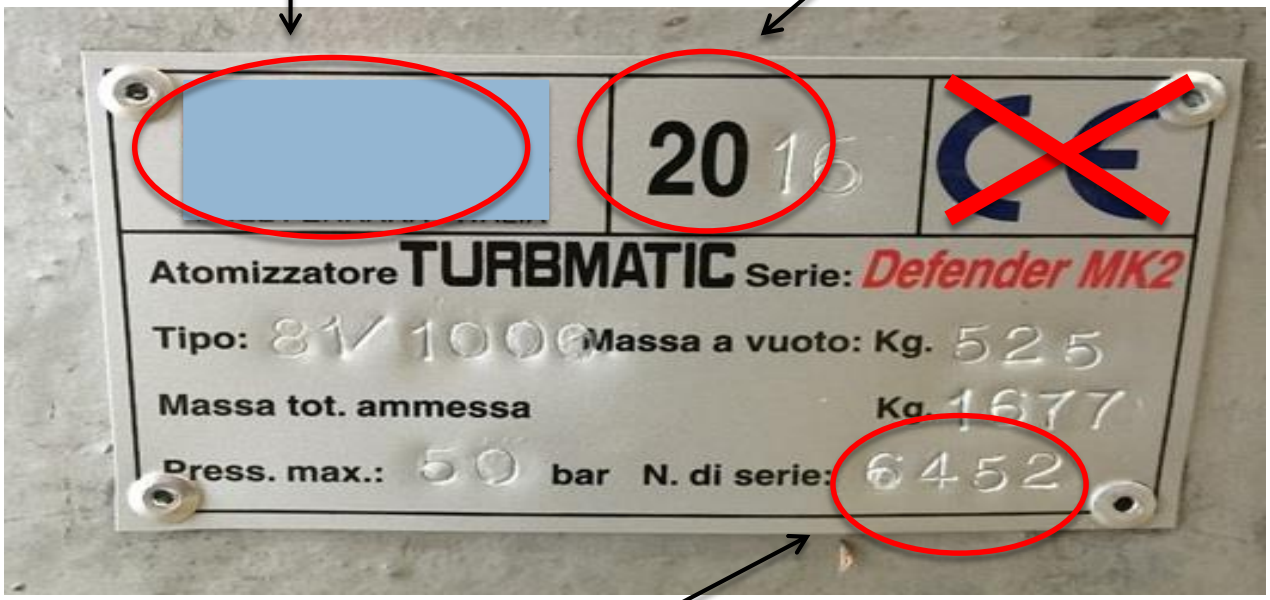
IDENTIFICATION 2

IDENTIFICATION

The **identification** of the product being tested is important because it makes possible a clear definition of the product as a sample of a serial production

Name of the Manufacturer

Model of Machine



Serial Number

CONFORMITY 1

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CONFORMITY

- Conformity assessment provides for a declaration assessing that every machine carrying the same certification number is equivalent.
- The conformity allows and remove the technical barriers preventing the free movement of products.
- With a clear procedure the responsibility of the conformity will rely only on the manufacturer/importer.

CONFORMITY 2

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CONFORMITY

To provide confidence to the market about the ability of the producer to obtain and maintain conformity of products. For this reason the certification mark, may be used for a specific period of time.

Primary Objectives

- Offer to consumers **confidence** on the reliability of a certified product
- Ensure **impartiality** of judgment in the interest of all parts involved

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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