



FCC Equipment Authorization Program

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Engineering and Technology
Laboratory Division

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When was it started?

- 1934: Communications Act of 1934, as amended
 - created the Federal Communications Commission to regulate private sector telecommunications in the public interest
- 1938: Company wanting to sell a wireless phonograph resulted in the adoption of Part 15
- 1985 – 2002: Spread Spectrum/ Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum Devices
- 1989: Major review and revision of Part 15
- 1997: DoC for Digital Devices
- 1998: Streamline Conformity Assessment Requirements
 - EA procedures had evolved over last 25 years



General Equipment Types

- License Exempt Devices (Parts 15 & 18)
 - Incidental Radiator (Parts 15.13 & 15.5(b))
 - DC Motors & mechanical light switches
 - Unintentional Radiator (Part 15 Subpart B)
 - Intentional Radiator (Part 15 Subparts C thru H)
 - Industrial, Scientific and Medical equipment (Part 18)
- Licensed Transmitters (Various Rule Parts)
- Telephone Terminal Equipment (Part 68)



Conformity Assessment

● Streamline Conformity Assessment types

- Eliminated the following:
 - Type Acceptance
 - Notification
- Kept the following:
 - Certification
 - Declaration of Conformity
 - Verification

● Testing Laboratories

- Listing of test laboratories
- Accreditation of test laboratories
- ISO/IEC 17025

● Certification Bodies

- Telecommunication Certification Bodies (TCB)
- ISO/IEC Guide 65



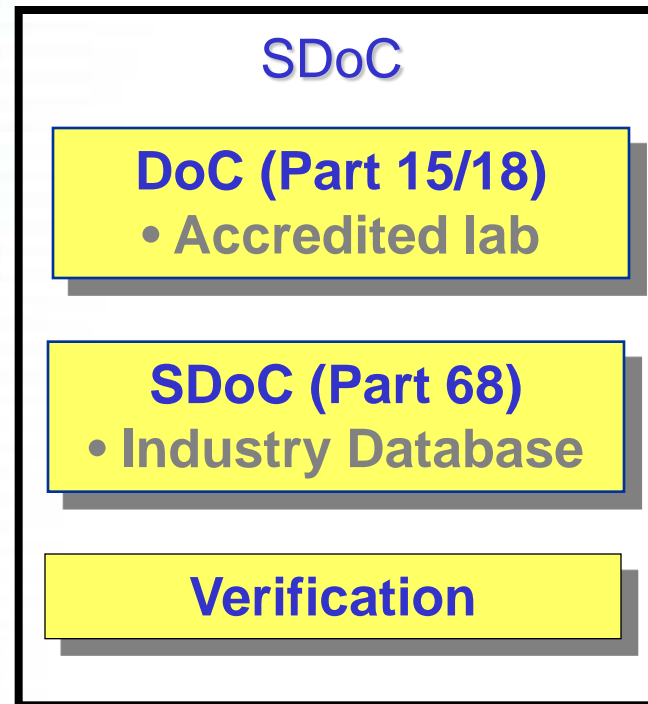
Equipment Authorization Program

The type of approval is specified in the rules for the particular type of device



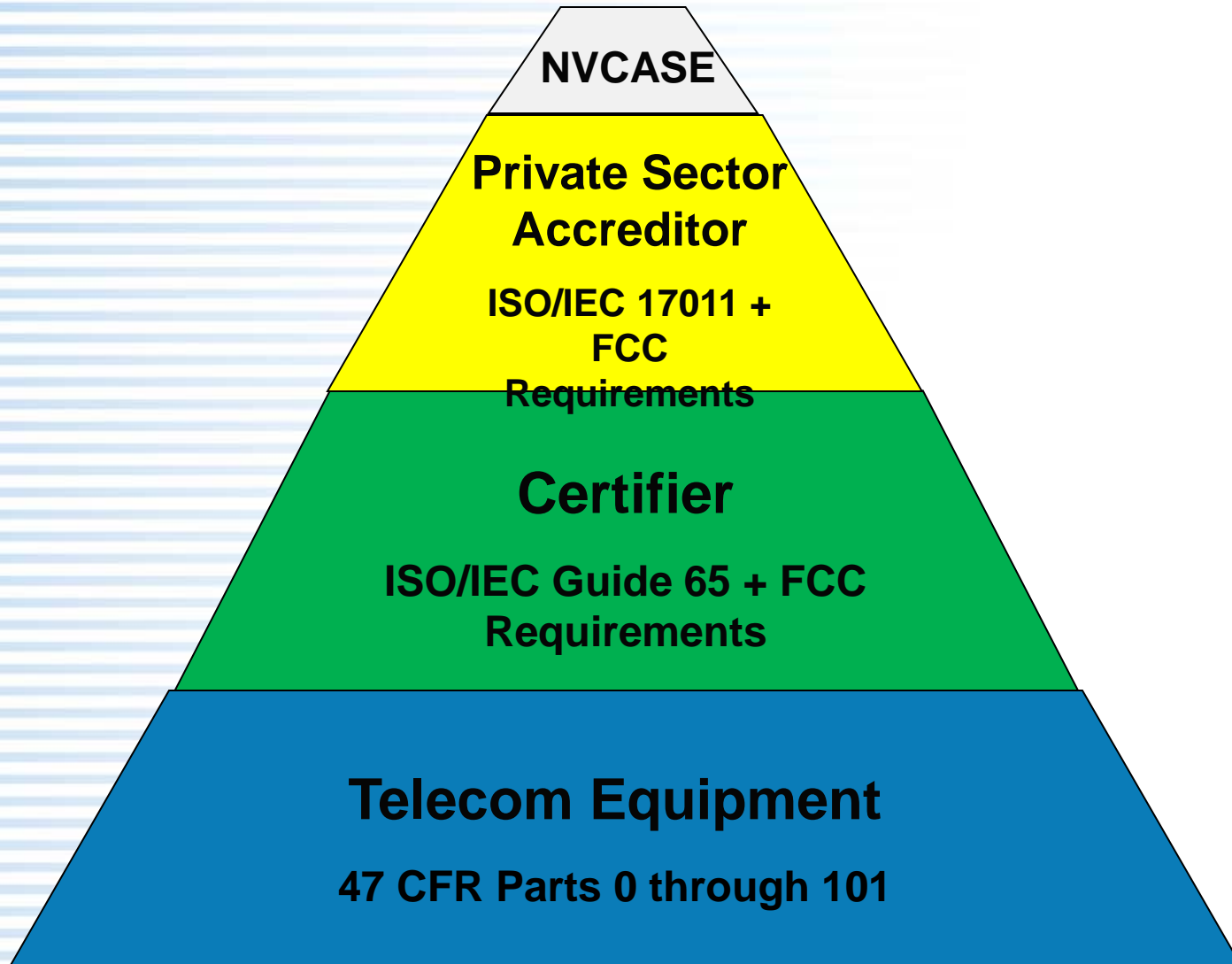
Certification

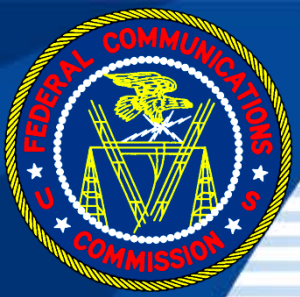
- FCC/TCB
- FCC Database



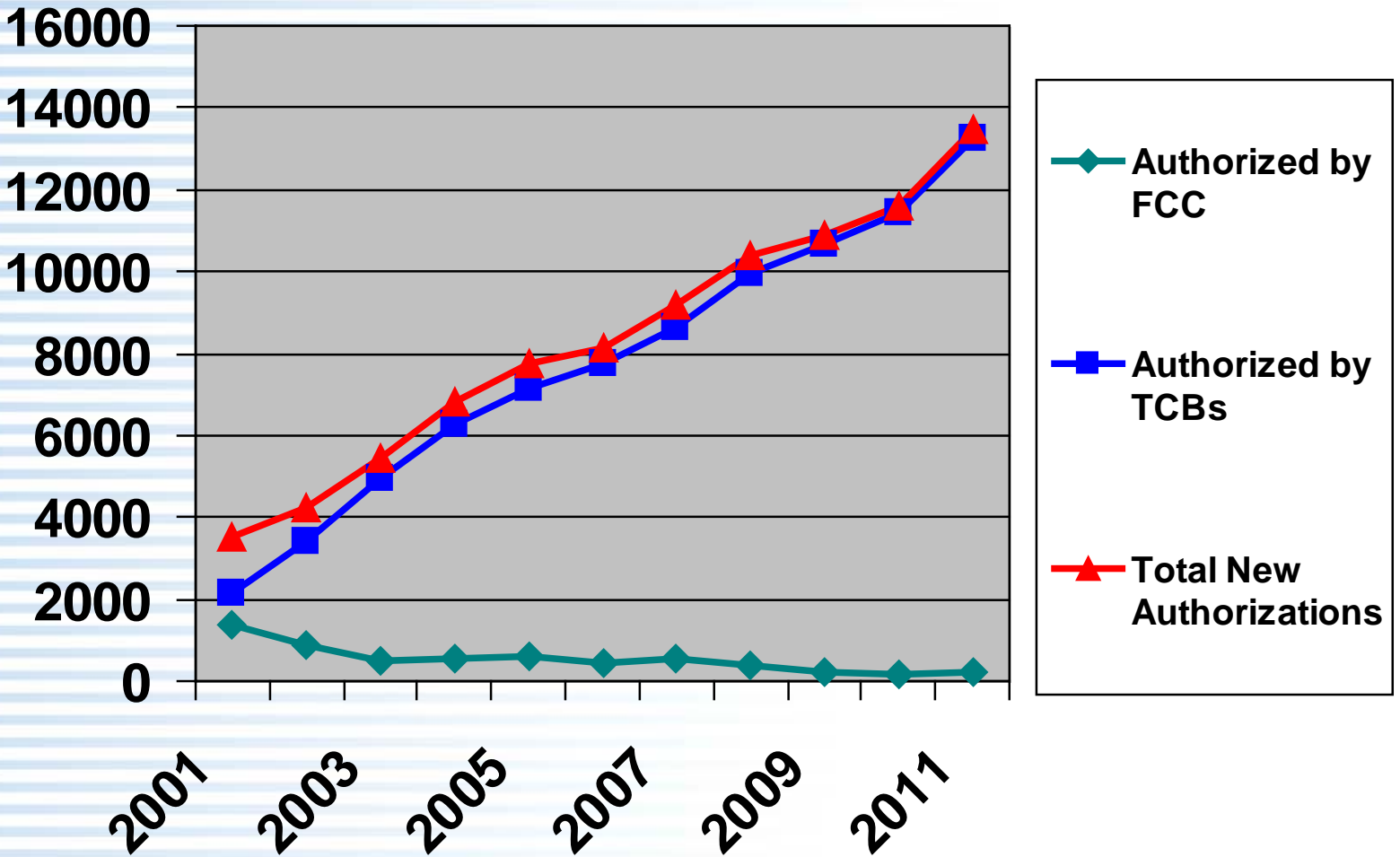


FCC Equipment Authorization Program TCBs Located in the U.S. Conformity Assessment System





Certification Trends





Mutual Recognition Agreements

- Recognition of foreign Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs)
 - Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA)
- Declaration of Conformity
 - MRA Phase I
 - Approval using an accredited test lab
- Certification
 - MRA Phase II
 - Approved by Telecommunication Certification Body (TCB)