

# Is it Genuine? - Certificate Checklist

**Are you sure that your Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is legal and its supporting documentation is genuine and relates directly to the performance of the equipment?**



Despite the best efforts of the market surveillance authorities and ourselves at the BSIF, there are still illegal items of PPE being placed on the market.

Counterfeit PPE and in particular, counterfeit supporting documentation are notably on the increase. Well-known brands and Notified/Approved Bodies are being targeted and there are products being offered that make claims of compliance to BS, EN & ISO standards and offer dubious proof that this is the case.

Often these products do not perform as they should, endangering lives and exposing organisations to the risk of prosecution.

In addition to the work the BSIF have done through our Registered Safety Supplier Scheme, helping to signpost PPE users to reliable suppliers who commit to provide only compliant PPE and, are audited on an annual basis by the BSIF, we have also

established links with Government to highlight fake and incorrect supporting documentation and have these removed.

This guide offers advice on how to check if the supporting documentation for your PPE is genuine and what to do if you are concerned.

## How easy is it to spot a counterfeit, illegal or incorrect certificate?

All PPE must be supplied with instructions for use and be appropriately tested and marked with a relevant conformity mark - UKCA for Great Britain and UKNI or CE for Northern Ireland. PPE must also be supplied with User Instructions and a Declaration of Conformity or a link to a website where a Declaration of Conformity can be downloaded.

Without these, the product is illegal to use as protective equipment in the workplace (please note until January 2024 conformity assessment under the CE regime remains acceptable in Great Britain).

You can – and should – request to see the Certification relating to any PPE, and whilst it is not a legal requirement for suppliers to provide this, many will be happy to show that their products comply and have been certified. They **MUST** provide the User Instructions and Declaration of Conformity in any case.

There are a number of pieces of information that must be included on any certificate and, if these are not evident, then you should be suspicious of the claims made. We provide a checklist for these pieces of information on the next page of this guide. We also look at what should be included on a Declaration of Conformity.



## Certificate Checklist

Checklist	Yes	No
Does the certificate contain a certificate number or reference and a statement that it remains the property of the notified body?		
Does the certificate clearly contain the notified body's name and number (4 digits – i.e. 0123)?		
Does the certificate include a signature/name of individual certifying the product on behalf of the notified body?		
If CE Marked is the notified body from within the EU? There are few Non-EU notified bodies, so please exercise caution		
IF UKCA or UKNI Marked is the Approved Body from within the UK? There are currently no Approved Body's based outside of the UK		
Does the certificate show a date of issue and a date of expiry (will be maximum of 5 years from the date of issue)?		
Does the certificate state that the PPE certified is in accordance with PPE Regulation (EU) 2016/425 (for CE), Regulation (EU) 2016/425 (as incorporated into UK law), Regulation (EU) 2016/425 on Personal Protective Equipment for Northern Ireland?		
Does the certificate include the full name and address of the Manufacturer?		
Does the certificate contain a clear description of the product(s) certified, including model references, specifications and test report references?		
Does the certificate include a full list of the terms and conditions (often provided as an additional page or a link to a webpage)?		
Are there any indications that the certificate has been tampered with (different fonts, font sizes, colour changes etc.)?		

If you have answered 'No' to one or more of these questions and/or yes to the last question then you should immediately contact the PPE supplier for advice.

You can also contact the Notified or Approved Body relating to any certificate and confirm its authenticity.

A list of notified bodies within the EU and the product risk category they are scoped for, can be viewed via the following link;

[https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/nando/index.cfm?fuseaction=directive.notifiedbody&dir\\_id=155501](https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/nando/index.cfm?fuseaction=directive.notifiedbody&dir_id=155501)

A list of Approved Bodies in the UK can be found via the following link

[https://www.gov.uk/uk-market-conformity-assessment-bodies?uk\\_market\\_conformity\\_assessment\\_body\\_type%5B%5D=approved-body&uk\\_market\\_conformity\\_assessment\\_body\\_registered\\_office\\_location%5B%5D=united-kingdom&uk\\_market\\_conformity\\_assessment\\_body\\_legislative\\_area%5B%5D=personal-protective-equipment](https://www.gov.uk/uk-market-conformity-assessment-bodies?uk_market_conformity_assessment_body_type%5B%5D=approved-body&uk_market_conformity_assessment_body_registered_office_location%5B%5D=united-kingdom&uk_market_conformity_assessment_body_legislative_area%5B%5D=personal-protective-equipment)

## Declaration of Conformity

The Declaration of Conformity is another piece of supporting documentation that has seen a substantial increase in dubious/counterfeit content finding its way onto the market.

The Declaration of Conformity is not a quality certificate or guarantee of safety; it is instead a declaration by the manufacturer that the PPE specified on the Declaration of Conformity complies with the requirements of the relevant legislation. The Declaration must include certain information and be issued by the manufacturer of the PPE; on the next page, we provide a checklist for assessment of any Declaration of Conformity.



## Declaration of Conformity – Checklist

Checklist	Yes	No
Does the declaration state a description of the PPE concerned, including the product reference, type of PPE & batch or serial number?		
Does the declaration state the manufacturers name and full address and/or where appropriate their authorised representative?		
Does the declaration state that it is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer?		
Does the declaration state the object of the declaration – identifying the PPE for traceability purposes (a colour image may be included)?		
Does the declaration state that this PPE is in conformity with the relevant legislation for PPE - Regulation (EU) 2016/425 (as incorporated into UK law), when referring to PPE placed on the GB market, Regulation (EU) 2016/425 on personal protective equipment, as it applies in Northern Ireland when referring to PPE placed on the NI market, or Regulation (EU) 2016/425 on personal protective equipment when referring to PPE placed on the EEA market.		
Does the declaration detail the relevant standards that the PPE is compliant with, including the date of the standard?		
If not, does it refer to other technical specifications, including the date of the specification to which conformity is declared?		
Does the declaration detail the Notified Body or Approved Body who performed the EU/UKCA or UKNI type examination (module B)? This must be referenced by both Name & Number		
Does the declaration detail all the relevant EU or UKCA/UKNI certificate reference numbers?		
If applicable, (for Category III PPE) does the declaration state that the PPE is subject to a conformity assessment procedure (Module C2 or Module D)?		
If applicable, does the declaration state the details of the Notified Body or Approved body who provides the surveillance of the conformity assessment procedure?		
Does the declaration carry a signature and/or description of the individual at the manufacturer responsible for issuing the declaration?		

If you have answered 'No' to any of the above questions, or have not been provided with a Declaration of Conformity then you should raise this with the supplier of the PPE or the listed Manufacturer/Authorised representative.



## Example: UKCA Certificate

Approved Body name & number	<b>BSiF</b> BRITISH SAFETY INDUSTRY FEDERATION Approved Body :0001	Issued to: AnySupply Ltd 1a High Street Anyton Anyshire AN1 1NA	Manufacturers name & address	
Certification Statement	<b>Certificate No. BSIF00125001</b> It is certified that this UKCA Type-Examination Certificate relates to the following product groups, which have been tested to the relevant standards or technical specifications and assessment of the related technical file. The product(s) have been found to conform to the essential health & safety requirements of the PPE Regulation (EU) 2016/425 as incorporated into UK Law			Certificate number
Certificate issued date	<b>Date of Issue: 01/04/2022    Date of Expiry: 31/03/2027</b>			Certificate expiry
Product Reference & description	<b>Product Reference:</b> <b>AS Safety Spectacle</b> <b>Clear Lens – 300115</b> <b>Smoke Lens – 300116</b>			Applicable standards
Technical file and test references	Standards/Technical Specifications Applied: BS EN 166:2002 Personal Eye Protection PPE Category II Protection against high-speed particles at extremes of temperature – Low Energy Impact Protection against optical radiation – ultraviolet filters – EN 170 (Clear, Smoke Oculars) Ocular Material – Polycarbonate Frame Material – Polycarbonate & TPR			
Signature/ name of Certifier	Certification is based on technical file reference ASSS0012 and associated test results as detailed on the following pages  Signed on behalf of British Safety Industry Federation:  Roy Wilders  <b>UKCA</b>			UKCA mark (optional)
	Fourth Floor Offices, The Roberts Building, 48 Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 4SQ United Kingdom			Address of Approved Body

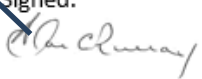



## Example: CE/UKNI Certificate

Approved Body name & number	<b>BSiF</b> BRITISH SAFETY INDUSTRY FEDERATION Approved Body :0001	Issued to: AnySupply Ltd 1a High Street Anyton County Anyplace AN1 1NA	Manufacturers name & address	
Certification Statement	<b>Certificate No. BSIF00125001</b> It is certified that this UKCA Type-Examination Certificate relates to the following product groups, which have been tested to the relevant standards or technical specifications and assessment of the related technical file. The product(s) have been found to conform to the essential health & safety requirements of the Regulation 2016/425 & The PPE (Enforcement) Regulations 2018 as they apply to Northern Ireland			Certificate number
Certificate issued date	<b>Date of Issue: 01/04/2022    Date of Expiry: 31/03/2027</b>			Certificate expiry
Product Reference & description	<b>Product Reference:</b> <b>AS Safety Spectacle</b> <b>Clear Lens – 300115</b> <b>Smoke Lens – 300116</b>			Applicable standards
Technical file and test references	Standards/Technical Specifications Applied: EN 166:2002 Personal Eye Protection PPE Category II Protection against high-speed particles at extremes of temperature – Low Energy Impact Protection against optical radiation – ultraviolet filters – EN 170 (Clear, Smoke Oculars) Ocular Material – Polycarbonate Frame Material – Polycarbonate & TPR			
Signature/ name of Certifier	Certification is based on technical file reference ASSS0012 and associated test results as detailed on the following pages  Signed on behalf of British Safety Industry Federation:  Roy Wilders			CE & UKNI mark (optional)
	Fourth Floor Offices, The Roberts Building, 48 Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 4SQ United Kingdom			Address of Approved Body



## Example: UKCA Declaration Of Conformity

Declaration title	<b>UKCA Declaration Of Conformity</b>	Declaration number (optional)	Number 0123456789
Name/ Address of Manufacturer	<u>AnySupply Ltd</u> 1a High Street <u>Anyton</u> <u>Anyshire</u> AN1 1NA	Declaration statement	This declaration is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer:
Product Reference & Description	<b>Product Reference:</b> <b>AS Safety Spectacle</b> <b>Clear Lens – 300115</b> <b>Smoke Lens – 300116</b>	Standards covered by the declaration	Who declare that the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) detailed herein, is in conformity with the PPE Regulation (EU) 2016/425 as incorporated into UK Law
Details of Certifying Body	Standards/Technical Specifications Applied: BS EN 166:2002 Personal Eye Protection PPE Category II Protection against high-speed particles at extremes of temperature – Low Energy Impact Protection against optical radiation – ultraviolet filters – EN 170 (Clear, Smoke Oculars) Ocular Material – Polycarbonate Frame Material – Polycarbonate & TPR	UKCA mark (optional)	<b>UK CA</b>
Signed/Dated by Manufacturer	Signed:  A Murray Technical Compliance Manager On 03/04/2022		
Company logo (optional)			





## Example: EU Declaration Of Conformity

Declaration  
title

### **EU Declaration Of Conformity**

Declaration  
number  
(optional)

**Number 0123456789**

Name/  
Address of  
Manufacturer

This declaration is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer:

AnySupply Ltd  
1a High Street  
Anyton  
County Anyplace  
AN1 1NA

Declaration  
statement

Product  
Reference &  
Description

Who declare that the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) detailed herein, is in conformity with the PPE Regulation (EU) 2016/425

**Product Reference:**

**AS Safety Spectacle**  
**Clear Lens – 300115**  
**Smoke Lens – 300116**

Standards  
covered by  
the  
declaration

Details of  
Certifying  
Body

Standards/Technical Specifications Applied: EN 166:2002 Personal Eye Protection  
PPE Category II

Protection against high-speed particles at extremes of temperature – Low Energy Impact

Protection against optical radiation – ultraviolet filters – EN 170 (Clear, Smoke Oculars)

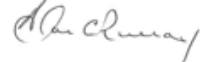
Ocular Material – Polycarbonate

Frame Material – Polycarbonate & TPR

Signed/Dated  
by  
Manufacturer

Assessment and Certification for this product was carried out by  
British Safety Industry Federation (Notified Body 0001) who issued  
certificate No. BSIF00125001 on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022

Signed:



A Murray  
Technical Compliance Manager  
On 03/04/2022

CE mark  
(optional)



Company logo  
(optional)

AnySupply



## Non Conforming Documents

It is worth highlighting that there are numerous organisations globally who offer conformance documentation based upon their own assessment of the products concerned.

These documents should not be mistaken for CE/UKCA/UKNI Certification or Declarations of Conformity and it is recommended that careful assessment of the wording of documents should be undertaken before accepting them as proof of compliance. Look out for 'Verification of Conformance', 'Conformance Certificate' or similar wording.



If you are still uncertain, please feel free to contact the team at BSIF either by calling 01442 248744 or emailing [enquiries@bsif.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@bsif.co.uk) and we will do our best to help.

### British Safety Industry Federation

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