

The TCB Program and Part 68-related activities



Anh Wride
Communication Certification Laboratory
ACTA LAB Primary Representative



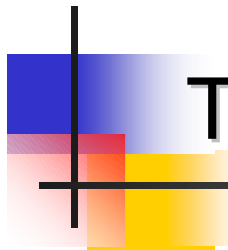
FCC TCB Program Overview

- Rules establishing TCBs adopted in FCC Report and Order (GEN Docket 98-68), 12/17/98
- Provides the option of using either the FCC or a TCB to have a product certified
- A TCB may approve equipment subject to certification (e.g., transmitters & scanning receivers & all equipment falling under Part 68)



FCC GEN Docket 98-68 (“MRA” order)

- Establishes procedures for designating a Telecommunications Certification Body (TCB)
- Manufacturers have the option to choose a TCB or the FCC to obtain approval of a product subject to certification
- Allows designation of foreign CABs in accordance with terms of MRA
- Accrediting body must comply with ISO Guides 58 and 61
- A TCB must be accredited to ISO Guides 25 & 65



TCB Program Terminology

FCC Designation

NIST Recognition

ANSI Accreditation

TCB

- evaluates application & test data
- issues grant
- product labeled & marketed by supplier

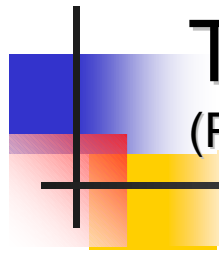


TCB Scope of Responsibility

§ 2.962 (e) and Public Notice, DA 99-1640

A TCB --

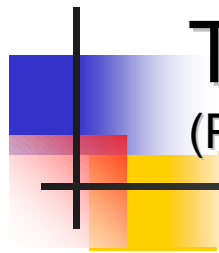
- is empowered to certify products in accordance with the FCC rules
- will provide fair and equitable treatment
- will accept test data from any source, subject to subcontracting clause in ISO Guide 65 and shall not unnecessarily repeat tests
- may assess fees for processing applications
- may rescind grant within 30 days
- will perform post-market surveillance activities, based on type testing or similar activity



Test Data and Subcontracting

(Public Notice DA 99-1640)

- A TCB will accept test data from any accredited manufacturer lab or test lab
- A TCB may accept test data from laboratories that are not accredited provided the TCB is satisfied with the test data subject to constraints in Guide 65



TCB Auditing Requirements

(Public Notice DA 99-1640)

- TCB is responsible for auditing the equipment they have certified.
- Audits by the TCB may be performed by type testing a small sample of the products it has certified
- Other types of surveillance are permitted, provided it is no more onerous on the grantee
- TCB must contact FCC in case of non-compliance

The logo features a stylized graphic on the left consisting of overlapping blue, red, and yellow squares with a black crosshair. To the right of this graphic, the text "TCB Council" is displayed in a large, bold, black sans-serif font.

TCB Council

- The purpose of the Council is to provide:
 - A convenient forum for periodic dialogue between the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) and the Telecommunications Certification Bodies (“TCBs”).
 - Facilitation of ongoing activities geared towards the improvement of TCB technical performance.
 - A forum for the resolution of issues of concern to TCBs.

The logo consists of a vertical black line on the left, with a blue square above a red square, and a yellow square below the red one. The text "TCB Council" is to the right of the line.

TCB Council

- Links to non-domestic TCBs.
- A common dissemination point for up-to-date FCC interpretations and rulings.
- The Council's activities are in keeping with the spirit of the FCC GEN Docket 98-68 Articles 2.962(c)(5) and 68.162(c)(5):
 - A TCB shall participate in any consultative activities, identified by the Commission or NIST, to facilitate a common understanding and interpretation of applicable regulations.

The logo consists of a vertical black line on the left, with a blue square above a red square, and a yellow square below the red one. The text "TCB Council" is to the right of the line.

TCB Council

- The American Council of Independent Laboratories (ACIL) is the secretariat for the TCB Council

ACIL can be contacted at

- <http://www.acil.org>
- 1629 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006
- Tel: (202) 887-5872, Fax: (202) 887-0021
- e-mail: info@acil.org.



Scopes of Accreditation for TCB

(See Public Notice DA 99-1640)

- Unlicensed Radio Frequency Equipment (A)
- Licensed Radio Service Equipment (B)
- Telephone Terminal Equipment (C)

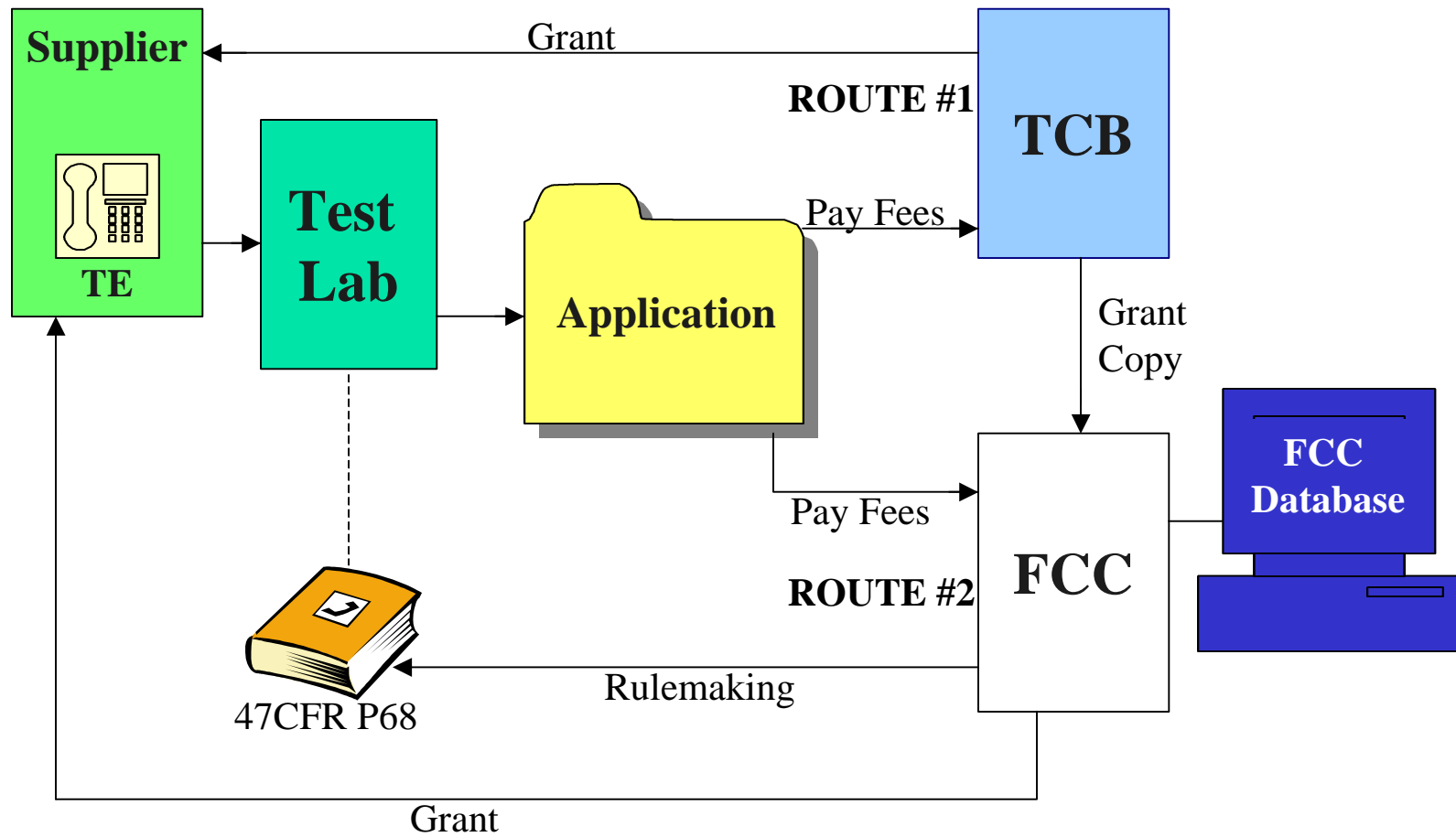
Scope C

Telephone Terminal Regulations



Part 68 – Telephone terminal equipment

- (See Public Notice DA 99 1640)
- Analog Telecom Services
- Digital Telecom Services



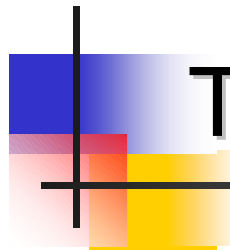
Part 68 Certification Process



Advantages of TCB program

See CC Docket 99-216 “Streamline Order”

- TCB program reduces certification time as compared to certification by the FCC (Para 90)
- TCBs provide independent, third party scrutiny of equipment (Para 92)
- TCBs are required to perform on-going compliance and auditing functions (Para 92)
- TCB program provides an internationally recognized means of assessing equipment (Para 93)
- TCB program provides a competitively viable option for demonstrating equipment compliance with Part 68 that will benefit small manufacturers (Para 93)



TCB Program Progress

Progress to date:

- 11 US TCBs for Part 68 have been designated
- 3 EU TCBs for Part 68 have been designated, of which 1 TCB was confirmed and the other 2 are pending confirmation

**The TCB Program is fully operational
and provides prompt certification services
to manufacturers worldwide**



Contact Information

Anh T. Wride

Vice President

Communication Certification Laboratory

Voice: 801-972-6146 x 1216 (Voice)

Fax: 801-972-8432 (Fax)

Email: atw@cclab.com

Web: www.cclab.com