

Increased compliance with standards and regulations through regulatory cooperation

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UNECE Working Party on: Regulatory cooperation

What we are:

- Intergovernmental body
- Participation by: authorities, regional & int'l org, standards-setting bodies, business, certification bodies, test houses, civil society
- From all UN Member States
- 1970 – 2015: 45+ years

Our mandate:

- Standardization Technical regulations Conformity assessment Accreditation Metrology Market surveillance Risk Management Education on standards and standards related issues

Our activities

- Develop and share info & best practice
- Capacity-building (trainings and awareness-raising events)
- Develop and maintain a set of recommendations
- Implement a set of initiatives on specific industrial sectors



Regulatory Cooperation: A wikihow



STRENGTHENING THE GLOBAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT SYSTEM
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Regulatory Cooperation: A Wikihow

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October 2015

E15 Task Force on
Regulatory Systems Coherence

Think Piece

- Deep regulatory fragmentation especially as regards housing (national, regional and local)
- Staggering rates of non-compliance on the markets of products, equipment, services, construction and critical infrastructure
- Proliferation of low quality and counterfeit goods and intermediates, including high-tech equipment used in construction projects
- In spite of mounting costs for the *testing certification* of equipment and projects



Regulatory cooperation should be based on: Proportionality of risks and regulations

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Risk Management in Regulatory Framework

Towards a better management of risks



UNITED NATIONS

Work carried out in UNECE since 2009 aimed at reinforcing the proportionality between risks and regulatory action at all levels:

- defining regulatory requirements on the basis of risk classes
- increased stringency of mechanisms for assessing the conformity of products to these requirements based on risk assessment
- use of RM best practice in carrying out market surveillance actions to remove from the market dangerous/non-compliant products

<http://www.unece.org/trade/wp6/riskmanagement.html>



Recommendation L: International Model for Transnational Regulatory Cooperation Based on Good Regulatory Practice



International Model for Transnational Regulatory Cooperation Based on Good Regulatory Practice¹³

The Working Party, noting that:

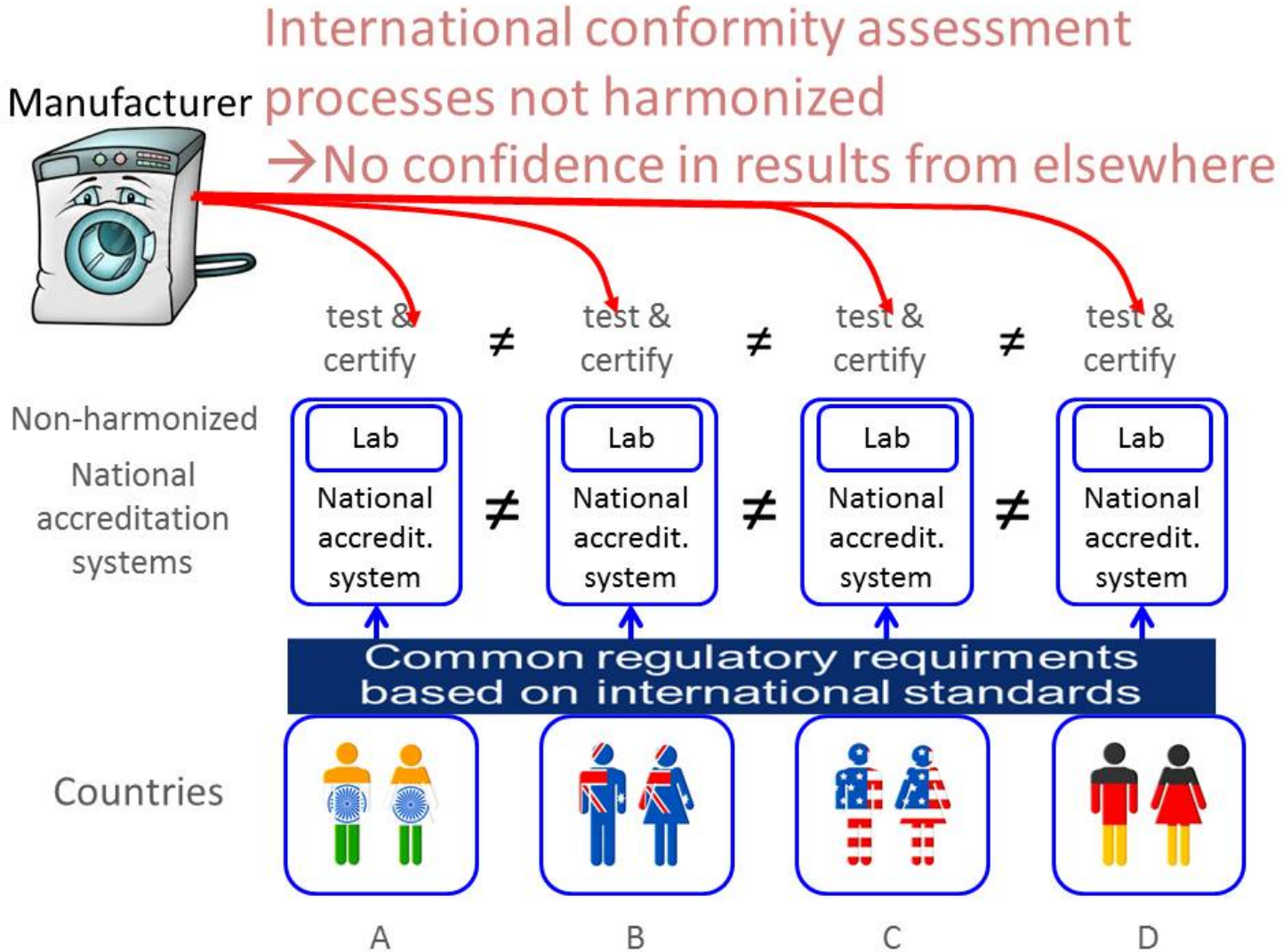
there is a clear market need from trade and industry and a positive interest from Governments in further reducing trade barriers and facilitating market access

■ the "International Model" developed by the United Nations Economic

- Approved by UNECE in 2001 – revised November 2015
- From harmonization of technical requirements to common regulatory systems
- Recommendation L sets out a model for regulatory cooperation that is comprehensive and includes both pre and post market dimensions:
 - Common technical requirements
 - Reference to international standards as the basis for the technical requirements
 - Provisions on how compliance shall be demonstrated.
 - Provisions on third-party-assessment bodies, when recourse to third party assessment is needed;
 - Provisions for post-market surveillance.



Lessons learnt: Advantages from regulatory cooperation: pre-market



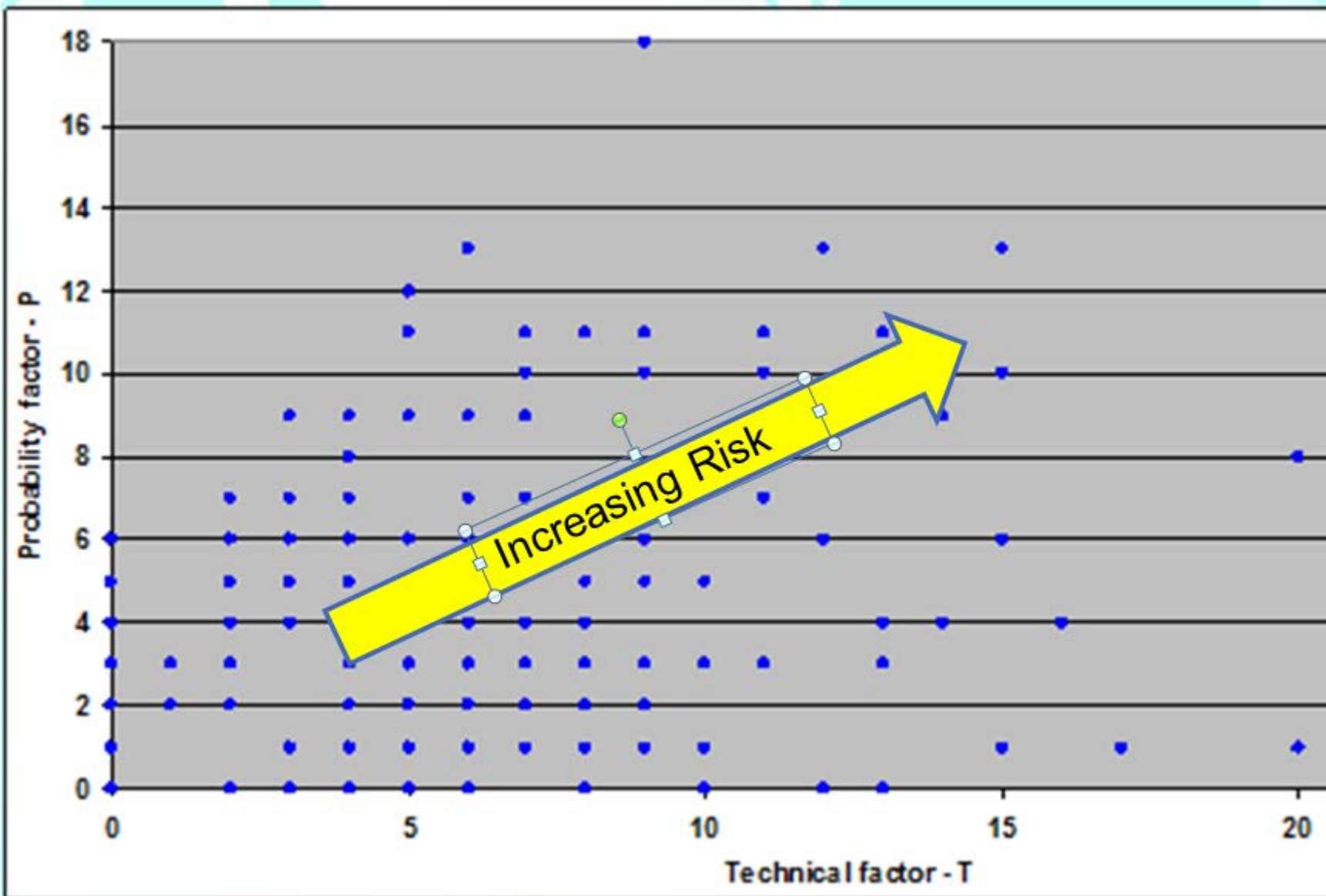
Challenge for regulators is to go beyond harmonization of regulations and standards

Towards the international harmonization of **regulatory systems**, including through the increased use of conformity assessment schemes

Avoid duplication of testing and enhancing the competitiveness of the industry



Lessons learnt: Cooperation among regulators: post-market dimension



Standards
help define “how dangerous”
is the
product/service/equipment

≠

Conformity
assessment helps
control for probability
of non-compliance



Cooperation in conformity assessment and market surveillance to increase probability of compliance



Internationally aligned conformity assessment improves the probability of compliance for a regulator by:

- Improving the methodology of the assessment by involving a wide range of expertise
- Improving the quality of accreditation of the assessment agencies
- Improving the ongoing monitoring of the assessments by having a wider pool of agencies using the assessments
- Reliably reporting failures so that in-market action can be taken.



Issues for further discussion:



Standards-based regulatory cooperation



Role of standards and quality infrastructure in the implementation of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development



Management of risks as a foundation for regulatory cooperation



Thank you

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