



**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 20 - 17**  
Series of 2020

**To : All PS License Holders and Others Concerned**

**Subject : EXTENSION OF THE VALIDITY OF THE PHILIPPINE STANDARD (PS) QUALITY AND/OR SAFETY CERTIFICATION MARK LICENSES DUE TO THE ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE OVER LUZON**

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**WHEREAS**, the DTI Bureau of Philippine Standards (BPS) [formerly known as Bureau of Product Standards], as mandated by Republic Act (RA) No. 4109, RA No. 7394, Executive Order 101 s. 1967, implements Mandatory Product Certification Schemes to ensure safety and quality of consumer products for the benefit of the general public;

**WHEREAS**, the following technical regulations issued by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) provide that a PS license duly issued by the BPS shall take effect from the date of its issue and shall be in full force and effect for a period of three (3) years, subject to a minimum annual surveillance audit:

1. Department Administrative Order (DAO) No. 4 Series of 2008 or The New Rules and Regulations Concerning the Philippine Standard (PS) Quality and/or Safety Certification Mark Scheme,
2. DAO 17-06:2017, The New Rules and Regulations Concerning the Mandatory Certification of Portland Cement and Blended Hydraulic Cement With Pozzolan, and
3. DAO 18-08:2018, The New Rules and Regulations Concerning the Mandatory Certification of Deformed Steel Bars, Rerolled Steel Bars and Equal Leg Angle Steel Bars;

**WHEREAS**, with the recent Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the Office of the President issued a Memorandum entitled "Community Quarantine Over Luzon" dated 16 March 2020;

**WHEREAS**, in compliance with the DTI Department Order No. 20-37, Series of 2020 entitled "Instituting an Alternative Work Arrangement in the Department of Trade and Industry while the Philippines is under the State of Public Health Emergency", BPS implemented a Work From Home (WFH) scheme and issued an Advisory on the Processing of PS/ICC Applications and Other BPS Related Services/Transactions dated 19 March 2020;

**WHEREAS**, consistent with the Memorandum issued by the Undersecretary of DTI Consumer Protection Group entitled "Alternative Work Arrangement for Consumer Protection Group" dated 16 March 2020, BPS has suspended the conduct of all audit and inspection activities in relation to PS license and Import Commodity Clearance (ICC) or Statement of Confirmation (SOC) applications until further notice;

**WHEREAS**, taking into consideration the PS licenses that have expired or will expire during the period when the entire Luzon island is placed under Enhanced Community Quarantine, the validity period provided in the BPS-issued PS licenses needs to be extended to give sufficient time to the manufacturing companies to return to their regular operations once the Enhanced Community Quarantine is lifted or whenever the situation warrants;

**WHEREFORE**, foregoing premises considered, the following guidelines shall be implemented:

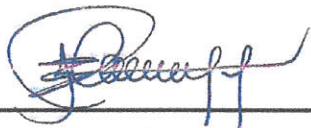
1. The validity of all PS licenses issued to manufacturers that have expired or will expire by 31 May 2020 shall be extended until 31 July 2020, subject to the license holder's submission of application for re-certification/renewal of the license.
2. The applications for re-certification shall be submitted through the BPS' online certification system, the Product Certification Information Management System (PCIMS), accessible at [www.qualityproducts.dti.gov.ph](http://www.qualityproducts.dti.gov.ph).
3. All covered companies with expired PS licenses but have not submitted application for re-certification is not entitled to the extension provided and shall be dealt with accordingly subject to the existing DTI policies, rules and regulations.
4. The BPS shall facilitate the conduct of re-certification audits to the concerned PS license holders immediately after the Enhanced Community Quarantine is lifted or when DTI's regular work arrangements resumed.
5. During the extension period, the PS license holders shall consistently comply with the terms and conditions of their licenses. Any non-conformance/s raised during the re-certification process or surveillance activities of the DTI may be a ground for the suspension, withdrawal or cancellation of the PS license consistent with the requirements of DAO 4:2008, its Implementing Rules and Regulations and the specific product's Implementing Guidelines or other related Technical Regulations issued.

This Circular shall be effective immediately after its publication in a national newspaper of general circulation, a copy of which shall be submitted to the UP Office of National Administrative Register.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.

Done in the City of Makati this 14th day of April in the year 2020.

**Recommended by:**

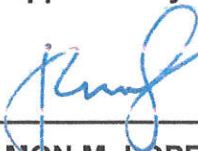


**NEIL P. CATAJAY**  
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Undersecretary  
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**Approved by:**



**RAMON M. LOPEZ**  
Secretary