



UCA International Users Group Product Mark Program

prepared by the
UCA[®] International Users Group
Product Mark Working Group
25 August 2008

Rene Midence, Ruggedcom, UCAlug 61850 Marketing Manager

The Users Group and Testing

- The Users Group strongly supports testing
- Focus for testing is now on devices and systems developed in conformance with IEC Standards
- Users Group works closely with the IEC for problem resolution and tracking
- Testing procedures, requirements and guidelines:
 - Quality Assurance of performed activities
 - Traceability of results



Product Mark Program

Quality Assurance for Testing

OBJECTIVES

- The Quality Assurance Program (QAP) for IEC Product Testing and Test System Accreditation and Recognition provides a major benefit to the members and saves time and money
- The Product Mark placed on tested devices shows users that the device has been tested and the vendor is a participant in the UCAIug QAP



UCAlug Testing Quality Assurance Program Product Mark

- Testing Quality Assurance Program Master Document (Version 2.6) March 2007
- Future Product Mark Deliverables:
 - Product Mark Guide (rules and agreements)
 - Product Mark (to be placed on devices)
 - Mark Agreement (signed by participating vendors)
 - Ucaiug Web Site Posting of Product Mark Devices/ Vendor/ User Support for Information Sharing



IEC 61850 UCAIug Certificate

- Identifies Vendor and Product Tested/ Tester/ Test System/ Version of Test Procedures/ Summary of Results
- Tests Completed
 - By Function/ Conformance Block
 - Gives Test ID (per IEC 61850 Part 10)
 - Mandatory and Optional Tests
- Technical Issues Tested (Users know that the device meets the most current approved problem fixes)
- Date and Signature Block (Identifies Tester)

Bottom-Line Benefits

- Test and certification activities that **lower costs** for users
- Provide input to international standards activities at **no additional cost** and **no travel**
- Members only access to:
 - Resolution of technical issues related to standards
 - Industry experts via a global help desk
 - **Technical documents and best practices** from existing users
 - On-line discussion forums
 - Product Mark Listings
- **Discounts** on paid seminars and exhibitions

Product Mark High Level Process

- Testers join UCAlug then apply for “permission to issue certificates upon successful test outcome”
- UCAlug audits result and either confirms or denies permission for the tester to issue certificates
- Vendors contact UCAlug for list of approved vendors
- Vendors and testers jointly agree that a specific product should be issued a certificate
- UCAlug advertises vendor certificates (only) during the time that the vendor is member of UCAlug
- Vendor claims bragging rights with vendor-generated logo incorporating UCAlug “look&feel”
- UCAlug, upon receipt of a complaint, issues “cease&desist” orders to non-member or members who have not been issued certificates

Product Mark High Level Process

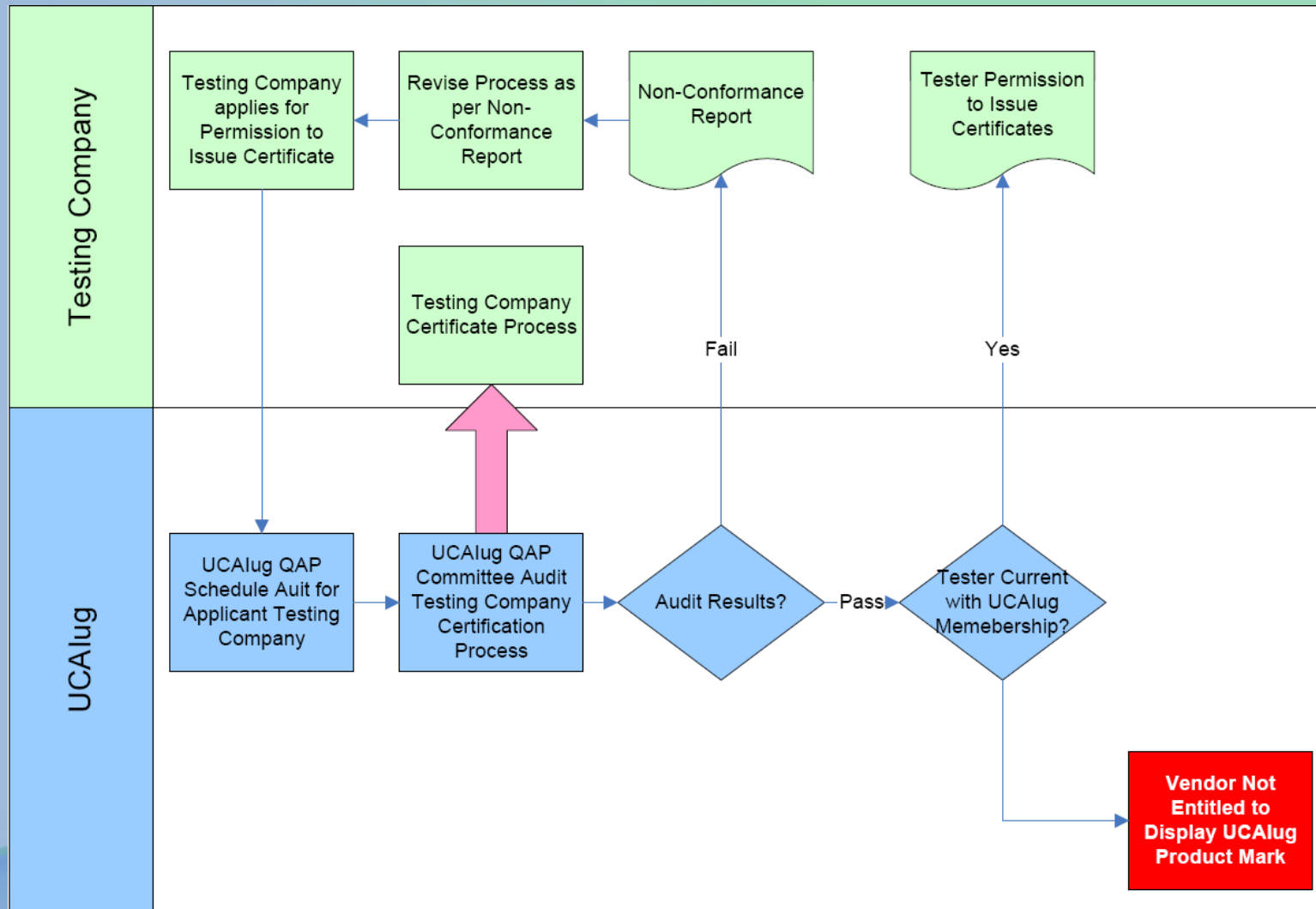
Tester Responsibilities

- Maintain UCAIug membership
- Negotiate certificate issuance with vendors
- Notify UCAIug upon certificate issuance

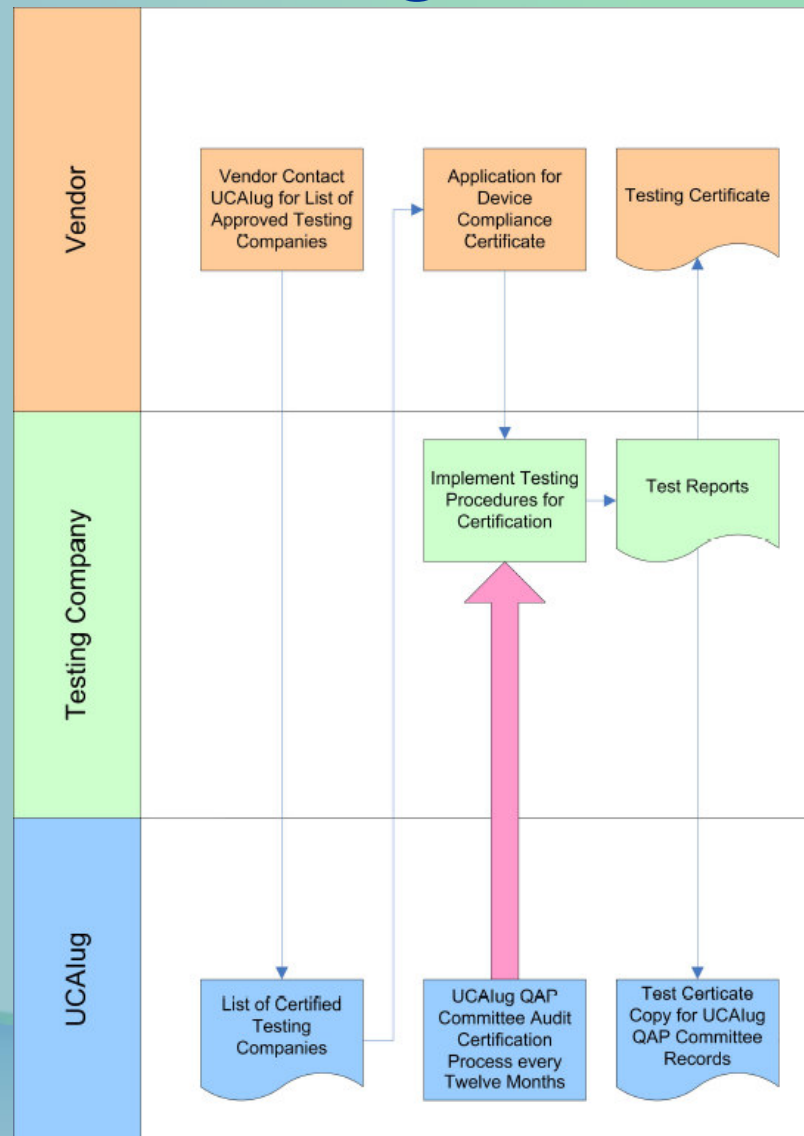
UCAIug Responsibilities

- Verify continuing membership of all testers, upon exit then issue “cease&desist” to tester to prohibit certificate issuance
- Verify membership of vendor upon notification from tester.
 - If vendor is member, then advertise the certificate – No annual fees paid by the vendor for the usage of the Product Mark
 - If vendor is non-member, an annual maintenance fee applies, then advertise the certificate and the vendor is allowed to display the Product Mark
- Await complaints about invalid certificate or logo usage.

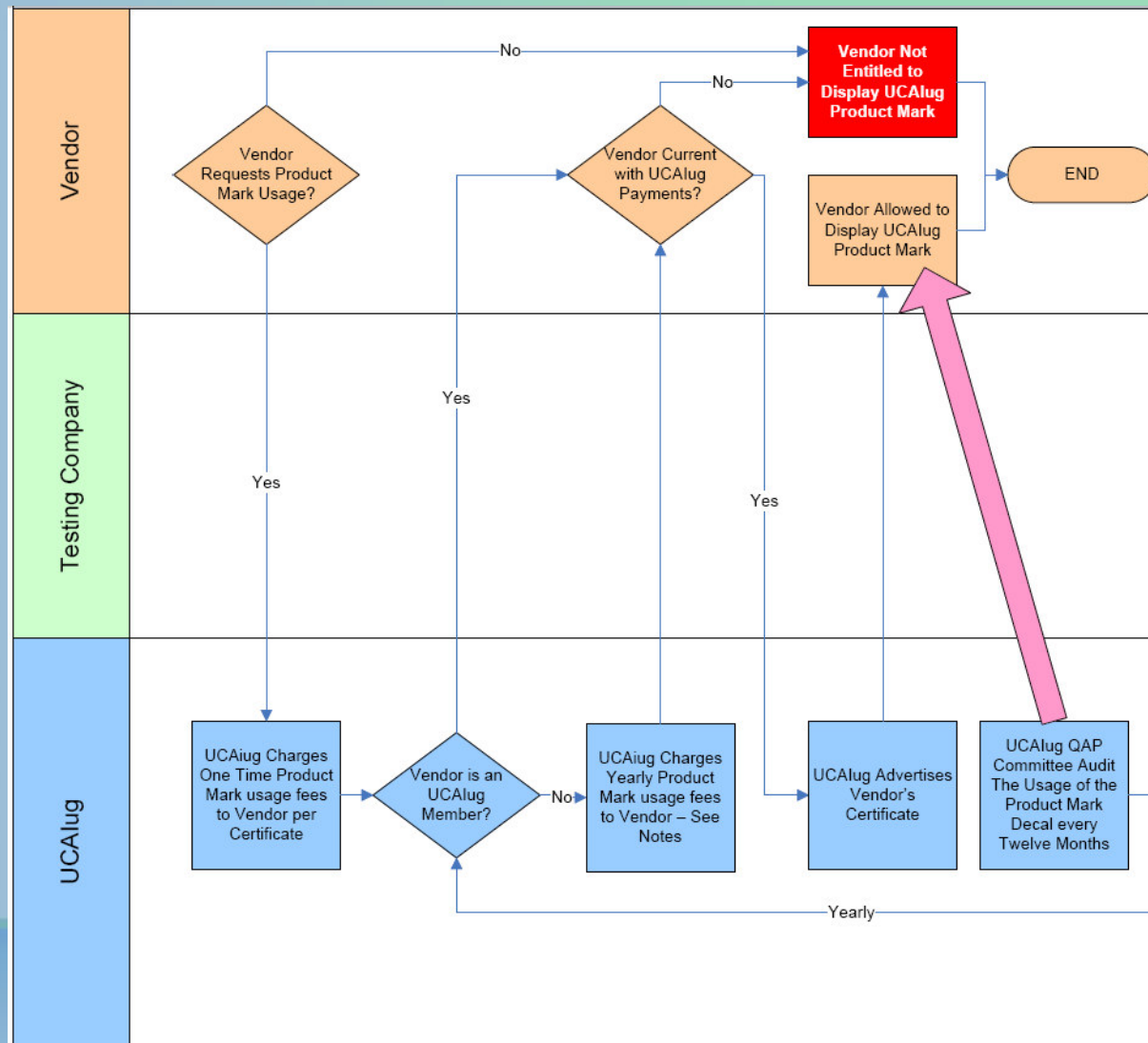
Product Mark High Level Process



Product Mark High Level Process



Product Mark High Level Process



Product Mark High Level Process - UCAlug

- Product Mark Budget is covered by UCAlug membership and fees from Testing Companies and Vendors
- Administration of the Product Mark Process
- Audits result and either confirms or denies permission for the Testing Company to issue certificates
- Advertises vendor certificates (only) during the time that the vendor is member of UCAlug
- Issues “cease&desist” orders to non-member or members who have not been issued certificates

Product Mark High Level Process - Testers

- Testing Companies are responsible for issuance of Certificates
- Testers must maintain UCAlug membership at all times in order to issue UCAlug certificates
- Tester will incur an annual fee to maintain the right to perform tests
- The fee will be independent of the number of tests which the tester has completed accreditation – This point still under discussion since we may have to consider bracket levels depending on the number of tests
- The fee will be lower if the tester has an ISO 9000 (or equivalent such as 17025) accreditation and higher if they merely follow ISO 9000 rules
- Testers will incur a one-time charge each time they seek re-accreditation

Product Mark High Level Process - Vendors

- Vendors seeking to use the product mark will be charged a one-time fee to use the product mark in association with a particular certificate issued by a Testing Company
- The fee will be lower for UCAIug members and higher for non-members
- Vendors must agree not to use the mark unless it is directly associated with the product model number shown on the certificate issued by Testing Companies
- Non-member vendors will be charged an annual maintenance fee for the use of each product mark
- UCAIug member vendors will incur no annual fee (it will be part of annual membership fee and an enticement for non-members to join UCAIug)

Some Open Issues

- Possible Additional Fees to Support Product Mark Program (charged to Participating Testers and Vendors --- possible trial period of one year)
- Schedule: Expect to Initiate by the end of 2008
- Content and Completion of the Product Mark Deliverables
 - Product Mark Graphics
 - Processing and collecting fees
 - Technical documents and best practices for Product Mark Compliance
 - Web Site Support and Features
 - On-going Monitoring



To Join The UCA International Users Group

- Go To: www.ucaiug.mobi or E-mail kay@ucausersgroup.org or call (919) 847-2241
- For Public Documents and Information: www.ucaiug.mobi or alternatively www.ucaiug.org