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**To:** SGCC Licensees

**From:** Safety Glazing Certification Council (SGCC)

**Date:** July 10, 2026

**Subject:** SGCC Board Approves Laboratory Pilot Program – Phase 1 (European Market)

The SGCC Board of Directors is pleased to announce the approval of the **SGCC Laboratory Pilot Program – Phase 1 (European Market)**. Attached you will find the official Program Overview and Laboratory Participation Requirements for your reference.

### **Background & Purpose**

After careful consideration and consultation with numerous industry stakeholders, the SGCC Board has approved the launch of a pilot program to evaluate the use of SGCC-approved laboratories outside of North America.

This decision was made for several reasons, with the primary goal of providing Certification Program Participants with **more accessible safety glazing testing options** while maintaining the integrity and rigor of the SGCC Certification Program.

Rather than immediately expanding laboratory approvals internationally, SGCC has chosen a carefully structured pilot approach by region. The program will be conducted in phases to ensure that laboratories outside North America meet the same high technical, administrative, and quality standards required of all existing SGCC-approved laboratories.

### **Phase 1 Overview**

Phase 1 of the Laboratory Pilot Program will be conducted at **two laboratories in the European market** during the **F27 and L27 Certification Periods**, operating from **January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027**.

Throughout the pilot, SGCC will closely monitor performance, efficiency, consistency, and compliance. At the conclusion of Phase 1, the Board will evaluate the program before considering any future expansion.

Participating laboratories will be held to the same practices, principles, oversight, and technical standards required of SGCC-approved laboratories in North America to ensure that the quality, reliability, and confidence associated with the SGCC Certification Mark remain unchanged.

The objectives of Phase 1 are to:

- Evaluate whether European laboratories can consistently meet all SGCC technical and administrative requirements.
- Provide easier and more economical access to SGCC-recognized testing services for Certification Program Participants.
- Reduce international shipping, scheduling, and customs-related delays associated with testing.
- Assess whether enhanced oversight measures successfully support non-North American laboratory participation while maintaining the program's established level of rigor.

### **Next Steps for SGCC Licensees**

**No action is required at this time. Though if you have interest in sending your 2027 samples to laboratories participating in this Pilot Program (once they are approved), please let us know by responding to this email – we'll ensure you're added to future communications about this Pilot Program.**

In **September 2026**, SGCC staff will contact each licensee to share 2027 laboratory testing fees and to confirm laboratory selections for the **F27 and L27 certification cycles**.

At that time, licensees will have the opportunity to:

- Change their preferred testing laboratory for the 2027 certification year, either by confirming or changing their selection from amongst the SGCC-Approved Test Lab List or those labs participating in this Pilot Program.

**As SGCC evaluates the results of Phase 1, we welcome input from Certification Program Participants regarding additional laboratories or geographic regions that may benefit future phases of the Laboratory Pilot Program.**

If there are qualified laboratories or locations that you believe should be considered for future Pilot Program participation, we encourage you to share your recommendations with SGCC staff. Participant feedback will play an important role in helping the SGCC assess

industry needs and identify opportunities to improve access to SGCC-recognized testing while maintaining the high standards of the Certification Program.

SGCC appreciates the continued support of its Certification Program Participants. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at [SGCC@amscert.com](mailto:SGCC@amscert.com) or 1-315-646-2234 with any questions or concerns.



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# SGCC LABORATORY PILOT PROGRAM PHASE 1 - EUROPEAN MARKET

## Program Overview & Participation Requirements

### Background and Phase 1 Launch

The SGCC Board, after careful consideration and consultation with Program Participants and many stakeholders, has decided to explore approving laboratories for use in its Certification Program outside of North America. This decision was made for a number of reasons, but chief among them was the potential benefit that such approval would have for Participants in the Certification Program - namely, providing easier and more economical access to safety glazing testing.

SGCC chose to explore this important endeavor through the use of a carefully structured Pilot Program, conducted in a series of phases and designed to ensure that the same rigor and care applied to safety glazing testing through currently approved laboratories can be maintained outside of North America.

The first phase of the Pilot Program will be launched at two laboratories in the European Market for the F27 and L27 Certification Periods, running from January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027.

The Pilot Program will be carefully monitored for efficiency and efficacy and fully evaluated at its conclusion before additional phases are considered. Paramount to SGCC is that the same testing carried out at North American SGCC-Approved Laboratories is carried out at non-North American laboratories. The same practices, principles, and standards placed on currently approved laboratories will be placed on laboratories participating in the Pilot Program to ensure that the trust and high standards that have become synonymous with the SGCC mark of certification are maintained.

**Phase 1 Duration:** Phase 1 will operate for two audit cycles during the F27 and L27 Certification Periods, totaling twelve (12) months, from January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027.

**Application Fee and Initial Audit Cost:** Application to Phase 1 is free of charge. However, the laboratory is responsible for covering the cost of the initial audit of its facility. A quote will be provided after review of the application for approval and before SGCC conducts any such audit.

**Engineering Credential Equivalency:** Where a Professional Engineer (P.E.) or Professional Engineer (P.Eng.) is referenced, the organization may accept the nearest jurisdictional equivalent, such as Chartered Engineer, Chartered Professional Engineer, European Engineer, Registered Engineer, Consulting Engineer, or other legally recognized professional engineering registration, provided the individual is authorized in their jurisdiction to take professional responsibility for the applicable engineering work.

## 1. Purpose

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- Evaluate whether European laboratories can maintain compliance with SGCC technical and administrative requirements.
- Provide easier and more economical access to SGCC-recognized testing services for Certification Program Participants.
- Reduce international shipping, scheduling, and customs-related testing delays.
- Assess whether enhanced oversight measures are sufficient to support non-North American laboratory participation without reducing program rigor.

## 2. Minimum Eligibility Requirements

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- Maintain ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation through an ILAC MRA-recognized accreditation body.
- The laboratory's current ISO/IEC 17025 scope of accreditation must specifically include ANSI Z97.1, CAN/CGSB 12.1, and CPSC 16 CFR 1201, and the laboratory must be able to perform testing to each standard.
- Demonstrate experience performing safety glazing impact testing.
- Demonstrate English-language reporting capability sufficient for SGCC review.
- Maintain independence and impartiality consistent with SGCC Laboratory Agreement requirements.
- Agree to comply with all applicable requirements in the [SGCC Laboratory Manual](#) and with SGCC administrative directives.
- Upon approval of its application and before admission to Phase 1, the Applicant Laboratory must execute an NDA/Confidentiality Agreement in a form acceptable to SGCC.

## 3. Phase 1 Duration, Fees, and Audit Cycle

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- Phase 1 shall operate for two audit cycles during the F27 and L27 Certification Periods.
- The twelve-month program shall run from January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027.
- Phase 1 will initially include two laboratories in the European Market.
- Application to the program is free of charge.
- The laboratory is responsible for covering the cost of the initial audit of its facility.
- A quote for the initial audit will be provided after review of the laboratory's application for approval and before SGCC conducts any such audit.
- Each participating laboratory shall be subject to enhanced monitoring during Phase 1.
- SGCC may require additional monitoring, remote review, or for-cause assessment where performance or compliance concerns arise.
- SGCC may suspend or terminate a laboratory's participation at any time and for any reason.
- Participation in Phase 1 does not constitute permanent SGCC laboratory approval.

## 4. Enhanced Oversight Measures

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- Routine monitoring and auditing during each pilot audit cycle.
- Expanded SGCC review of test reports and supporting documentation.
- Witnessed testing during initial qualification and periodic surveillance activities, as determined by SGCC.
- Expanded corrective action monitoring and verification.
- Additional digital record retention requirements, including photographs and video documentation where applicable.

## 5. Operational Expectations

- Testing shall be performed strictly in accordance with ANSI Z97.1, CAN/CGSB 12.1, CPSC 16 CFR 1201, applicable SGCC procedures, and other referenced standards.
- All reports shall be reviewed and signed by a Professional Engineer (P.E.), Professional Engineer (P.Eng.), or accepted jurisdictional equivalent as described above.
- Any technicians, PEs, P.Engs., or accepted jurisdictional equivalents performing testing for SGCC shall complete and pass SGCC's Interactive Animation training exam before performing SGCC testing.
- Participating laboratories shall cooperate fully with SGCC oversight and audit activities.
- Testing turnaround times shall remain consistent with SGCC reporting expectations.

## 6. Quantitative Pilot Success Indicators

| Evaluation Area           | Required Pilot Success Indicator                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Test Report Turnaround    | Test reports must be issued within thirty (30) days from receipt of test samples or from SGCC approval to test, whichever is applicable.                            |
| SGCC Training Requirement | Any technicians, PEs, P.Engs., or accepted jurisdictional equivalents performing testing for SGCC must take and pass SGCC's Interactive Animation training exam.    |
| Corrective Action Closure | Any findings resulting from routine monitoring or laboratory auditing must be fully cured within thirty (30) days.                                                  |
| Scope Compliance          | The laboratory must maintain ISO/IEC 17025 scope coverage for ANSI Z97.1, CAN/CGSB 12.1, and CPSC 16 CFR 1201, and remain able to perform testing to each standard. |

Participation in the SGCC Laboratory Pilot Program - Phase 1 - European Market does not constitute permanent SGCC laboratory approval status. SGCC may modify, suspend, or terminate the Pilot Program or a laboratory's participation at any time and for any reason.

An approved application does not by itself admit a laboratory to Phase 1. Before admission, the Applicant Laboratory must execute the required NDA/Confidentiality Agreement and any other required SGCC agreements.

SGCC reserves the right to impose additional oversight measures, technical requirements, or administrative controls during Phase 1 as deemed necessary to preserve certification program integrity.

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