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Certification

Certification is at the heart of the PRIME Alliance, with interoperability and conformance to specifications, two concepts fundamental to PRIME. The independent laboratories that carry out PRIME testing and certification for our member's products help to ensure these fundamentals are consistently met.

PRIME Alliance's official documented certification process is defined and maintained by the PRIME Alliance Technical Working group (TWG), which takes responsibility for issuing certification, according to the laboratory-issued technical test reports.



Benefits of Certification

Interoperability between different manufacturers is critical for utility companies willing to get benefit from a multi-vendor market for smart meter and smart grid deployments. Today more than 45 different products from 26 different vendors have been PRIME certified.

Performance testing by independent laboratories executing system stress tests in field-like test scenarios, allow for intra-PRIME performance comparisons. Performance issues can be troubleshooted e.g. simulating complex noise and attenuation situations.

With mass deployments of 5M+ smart meters worldwide, we have learned the importance of a comprehensive definition of sets of end-to-end tests, and its positive impact on future project implementation.

The Laboratories

PRIME Alliance only trusts highly recognised and competent laboratories; those authorised by PRIME Alliance are leaders in their field. PRIME certification is currently carried out by DNV GL, ITE and TECNALIA.



The laboratories provide pre-certification support ensuring that PRIME Alliance members are well prepared. The test cases used by the laboratories have been defined by experts at the PRIME TWG, with the help of the laboratories. When new PRIME specifications are released, the test cases are immediately updated to reflect the features of new versions. Automated tools allow the laboratories to perform their testing in a professional, ordered and repeatable way and PRIME Alliance has invested time and effort in making those tools available.

A unique process

The PRIME Certification process is unique, carefully controlled by PRIME Alliance and a key differentiator for PRIME Alliance members, with neutral conformance laboratories certifying vendor technologies, assuring compliance with PRIME Alliance requirements.

Our strict process is unique and implemented by laboratories that are leaders in their field, providing firm ground for our member community to develop and test new features and functionalities going beyond the utility smart metering traditional business.

PRIME, the royalty-free and non-proprietary standard for the only commercially available, mass-deployed, OFDM PLC technology which ensures true interoperability among equipment and systems from multiple certified manufacturers.



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