

Regulatory Alert – Colombia

Type Approval to be mandatory for data-only cellular devices later in 2016

The Colombia Regulator, *Comisión de Regulación de Comunicaciones* (CRC) has recently announced its intention to expand the scope of devices requiring Type Approval. Regarding mobile terminals (including cellular modules), currently cellular devices with voice function only must obtain Type Approval, however, the CRC has plans to change this requirement at a later date this year to also enforce mandatory Type Approval for cellular devices that are data-only.

The CRC has advised that this new requirement will come into effect during 2016, however a specific date for the release of the updated regulation detailing this change is currently unknown. For data-only cellular devices which are already in the Colombian market, PCS understands that there will not be a retrospective effect and import and sale of these devices can continue, however we are seeking clarification on this point.

It is still to be confirmed whether the Type Approval procedure for data-only cellular devices will be the same as that of cellular devices with voice function only. PCS is also seeking further validation regarding whether Type Approval applications for data-only cellular devices can be submitted prior to the implementation date of this regulatory change.

PCS will continue to remain aware of any future developments in regards to this regulatory change in Colombia and will also be in further contact with the CRC in order to obtain full validation of the details provided thus far.

For additional information regarding this alert, please contact:

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