

FIFA Quality Programme for Electronic Performance Tracking Systems (EPTS)

How to obtain certification for EPTS

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FIFA[®]

Introduction

The International Football Association Board (IFAB) account for the use of Electronic Performance and Tracking Systems in the Laws of the Game update in 2017/2018. Under Law 4, The Players' Equipment, the IFAB introduced a minimum standard (IMS – International Match Standard) for any wearable tracking system that is to be used in official matches under the auspices of FIFA and an additional Performance standard (FIFA Quality) to validate the reliability and accuracy of any EPTS system (optical, wearable).

Electronic performance and tracking systems (EPTS)

Where wearable technology (WT) as part of electronic performance and tracking systems (EPTS) is used in matches played in an official competition organised under the auspices of FIFA, confederations or national football associations, the competition organiser must ensure that the technology attached to the player's equipment is not dangerous and must bear the following mark:



This mark indicates that it has been officially tested and meets the minimum safety requirements of the International Match Standard developed by FIFA and approved by The IFAB. The institutes conducting these tests are subject to the approval of FIFA.

Where electronic performance and tracking systems (EPTS) are used (subject to the agreement of the national football association/competition organiser) the competition organiser must ensure that the information and data transmitted from EPTS to the technical area during the match in matches played in an official competition are reliable and accurate.

A professional standard was developed by FIFA and approved by The IFAB in order to support the competition organisers with the approval process of reliable and accurate electronic performance and tracking systems.

The professional standard will be implemented in the transition period until 1 June 2019. The following mark indicates that an EPTS device/system has been officially tested and meets the requirements in terms of reliability and accuracy of positional data in football:



The FIFA Quality Programme for wearable EPTS devices was launched in 2017 with the aim of ensuring that wearable tracking systems used in football do not pose a danger to the players. Test criteria was developed following medical and mechanical testing and a test protocol reflects possible injury scenarios which are to be avoided. The FIFA Quality Programme for EPTS Performance aims to provide guidance to competition organisers when appointing a provider of tracking systems for their competition.

The tests are performed by accredited independent Test Institutes and certified systems are listed on the Football Technology Innovation website www.football-technology.fifa.com for end-user guidance.

The following document is a guide for any company seeking to test and certify their tracking devices to the requirements of the FIFA Quality Programme.

Certification process for Electronic Performance Tracking Systems

Any provider of Electronic Performance and Tracking Systems (EPTS) who wishes to test and certify their EPTS technology (wearable & performance) to the FIFA standard shall follow the below step-by-step process as a guideline to follow the application process:



Please follow the step-by-step process as a guideline to follow through the application process:

| Step | Optical Systems | Wearable Systems |
|---|-----------------|------------------|
| Step 1 Requesting the test | ✓ | ✓ |
| Step 2a Impact Test | | ✓ |
| Step 2b WFSGI pledge | | ✓ |
| Step 3 Product Liability Insurance (PLI) | ✓ | ✓ |
| Step 4 Performance Test | ✓ | ✓ |
| Step 5 Certification (FIFA Quality or IMS) | ✓ | ✓ |

The certification of a system requires a positive test result and a:

- **non-commercial** license agreement for wearable technology tested to the IMS safety standard
- **commercial** license agreement for EPTS tested to the FIFA Quality Performance standard

Step 1 | Requesting the test

The EPTS provider submits the company and product details that it wishes to test to FIFA through quality@fifa.org.

| Company and product details | |
|--|--|
| Company name | |
| Legal address | |
| Contact person | |
| Person(s) authorised to sign (contract) | |
| Email address | |
| Phone number | |
| Name of product(s) to be tested – Further product information must be provided in Appendix 2 | |
| Manufacturer name & location | |

Upon approval of the application, FIFA will inform the selected Test Institute that it may start with the test (for wearable technology) or inform about the next test event for the performance testing.

Step 2a | Wearable EPTS device impact assessment test (Impact Test)

This step may start before the conclusion of the licence agreement but approval of the product is subject to the agreement being signed.

The provider shall send the defined number of wearable units to the Accredited Test Institute in accordance with the test protocol. The exact contact will be provided by FIFA once step 1 is complete.

| Accredited Test Institute |
|--|
| <p>Sports Labs Ltd 1 Adam Square Brucefield Industry Park Livingston West Lothian EH54 9DE Scotland E-Mail: info@sportslabs.co.uk Website: www.sportslabs.co.uk</p> |

Upon completion of the test, the Test Institute will send the final test report to FIFA once the test fee has been paid to the Test Institute.

Step 2b | WFSGI pledge (Wearable devices)

FIFA asks all manufacturers of Wearable EPTS devices to provide a pledge (valid for a period of two years) from the World Federation of the Sporting Goods Industry (WFSGI) which certifies that production meets the industry standards. For details, please contact the WFSGI directly at pledge@wfsgi.org or +41 31 939 60 61 making reference to the FIFA Quality Programme wearable EPTS devices. For this process FIFA recommends to allow 2 – 3 month.

Step 3 | Product Liability Insurance (PLI)

Prior to countersigning the agreement, proof of a Product Liability Insurance that is valid for the whole certification is an essential part of the Licence Agreement. This is compulsory for all EPTS providers (Wearable and Optical). This insurance is primarily in the interest of the licensee to ensure protection in case of any claim in connection with the use of the technology. In order to be eligible to enter into a licence agreement with FIFA the following criteria must be met:

| Product Liability Insurance – minimum requirements | |
|--|--|
| 1 | Name and address of licensee (policyholder) |
| 2 | Territorial scope of application: worldwide coverage needed (incl. USA & Canada), no exclusions allowed |
| 3 | Period – Coverage needed throughout whole contract period |
| 4 | FIFA must be named as a co-insured or additionally insured party |
| 5 | Coverage: A minimum of CHF 5 million per claim for bodily injuries, property damages and pure financial losses |

If the national insurance market does not provide adequate insurance solutions, it is helpful and constructive to use an insurance broker with access to the international insurance market. The applicant has to provide written confirmation from the insurance company that the product liability insurance will be concluded as per the terms and conditions of the Licence Agreement.

Step 4 | validation of the reliability and accuracy of the data (Performance Test)

An annual Performance Test event will be organised by FIFA and the Accredited Test Institute. FIFA will announce the test dates latest 6 weeks in advance of the event on www.football-technology.fifa.com or directly to any applicant that has already registered for the upcoming event.

For the EPTS Performance Test each provider is required to participate at the event on site with their tracking system(s) that they would like to validate. The Performance Test will always be performed in accordance with latest EPTS test manual that is published on www.football-technology.fifa.com.

For the testing of each tracking system, the Accredited Test Institute will charge a standard test fee directly to the EPTS provider.

Accredited Test Institute

TRACK

Professor Rob Aughey
 Victoria University
 Ballarat Road
 Footscray, Victoria 3011,
 Australia

FIFA will charge an administration fee of CHF 7'500.00 for each system tested directly to the EPTS providers. Once the administration fee has been paid, FIFA will share the final test report with the EPTS provider.

The Performance Test has two possible purposes:

a) FIFA Quality certification

The FIFA Quality certification aims to certify a system for 2 years and publishes it on the FIFA website. For this the provider must be a licensee of the FIFA Quality Programme for EPTS. Further information can be found in Step 4.

b) Product Research & Development

These results are not published on the FIFA website but allow providers to gain an insight into the accuracy and validity of their system(s). This test can be done by any provider without necessarily being a licensee of the FIFA Quality Programme for EPTS.

Step 5 | FIFA Certification

Should you decide to become a licensee and gain certification for your EPTS system(s) you have two options.

a) **Non-commercial agreement**

This covers the Impact Certification for wearable system(s) which is mandatory under the Laws of the Game for use in all official competitions. FIFA will emit an invoice for an administration fee per system.

b) **Commercial agreement**

This covers both the Impact Certification (if necessary) and the Performance Certification. FIFA will emit an invoice for a minimum guarantee for the respective license agreement which includes two system tests. Providers who aim to become a licensee and gain certification for their system(s) must submit a signed license agreement to FIFA prior to the receipt of the results (see **Appendix III – Licensing path**). FIFA will only countersign the agreement upon the approval, by the provider, of the publishing of at least one of the system results. In this case the license agreement will become valid and the certified system(s) will be published on the FIFA website. Any systems (maximum of 2) that are tested at this testing event can utilise the included system tests from the minimum guarantee. For any additional system tests, FIFA will charge an additional administration fee of CHF 7'500 per system. Should the provider decide not to publish any of the results FIFA would not countersign the agreement but issue, instead, an administration fee for each tested system.

Providers who decide to test their products for research and development purposes (see **Appendix III – R&D path**) who, upon payment of the administration fee and receipt of the test results, wish to use their results to certify their system may then sign a commercial agreement. FIFA will then emit an invoice for the minimum guarantee which includes two additional system tests for future testing.

Tested products from licensees with valid contracts will be listed on the website www.football-technology.fifa.com as IMS-approved wearable EPTS devices or a FIFA Quality EPTS device in accordance with Law 4 of the Laws of the Game.

Appendix 1 – Payment Scenarios

| | | FIFA | | | Sports Labs | Track | WFSGI | PLI |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------|-------|-----|
| | | Minimum Guarantee (incl. 2 system tests) | Test fee | IMS agreement | Fee | Fee | Fee | Fee |
| Commercial | Wearable | X | X (as of 3 rd system) | | X | X | X | X |
| | Optical | X | X (as of 3 rd system) | | | X | | X |
| Non-commercial (IMS or R&D) | Wearable (IMS) | | | X | X | | X | X |
| | Optical (R&D) | | X | | | X | | |

Appendix 2 – Product Details

| | |
|--|--|
| Product Name | |
| Type of product (GPS, LPS, optical, other) | |
| Type of test (choose one) | <input type="checkbox"/> Impact Test <i>(for wearable only)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Performance Test <input type="checkbox"/> Impact & Performance |
| Targeted outcome (choose one) | <input type="checkbox"/> IMS <i>(for wearable only)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> FIFA Quality certification <input type="checkbox"/> Research & Development test |

| | |
|--|--|
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Appendix 3 – EPTS Certification Process

