	CO-ORDINATION OF NOTIFIED BODIES PPE Regulation 2016/425 RECOMMENDATION FOR USE	PPE-R/00.042 Version 1

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Article: 26 Annex: Clause:

Key words:

external testing

Question:

When a notified body sub-contracts testing, what criteria should be applied?

Solution:

Selection should be made upon the following general principles in descending order of acceptance:

1st option - Laboratory based within the EU / EFTA, accredited by an organisation which is part of the European accreditation system or covered by a mutual recognition agreement.

2nd option - Laboratory based outside of the EU / EFTA, accredited by an organisation which is part of the European accreditation system or covered by a mutual recognition agreement.

3rd option - Independent laboratory without recognised accreditation. The notified body will be responsible for both initial and surveillance direct auditing to confirm that the relevant standard is complied with and maintained - ISO 17025.

4th option - Use of manufacturers' test facilities is only to be accepted where the testing is supervised by the notified body staff. The test report is either issued under the notified body's authority or the manufacturers report clearly states the conditions under which the testing was carried out including the involvement of the notified body staff.