



**Add value.
Inspire trust.**

Gateway to Brazil

Achieving INMETRO certification to
bring automotive products to market



A rising economy full of possibilities

In recent years, Latin American countries have experienced significant growth in spite of global uncertainties, with Brazil emerging as one of the region's major economies. The largest country in South America, Brazil, is also one of the top ten largest consumer markets globally with an estimated GDP of US\$2.25 trillion¹.

As economic developments in Brazil continue to take shape, the automotive industry has seen unprecedented growth and will remain a **major growth engine for the country** over the next few years. Between 2010 and 2011, the volume of Brazilian auto parts imports has increased by 265% to reach a value of US\$15.7 billion.

With the introduction of new development programmes and government incentives, Brazil is well poised to become the fourth largest automotive market in the world, ahead of other key emerging economies such as Russia and India, and the seventh largest automobile producer, with 3.4 million cars² assembled in 2012 alone.

1 World Bank GDP Ranking, 1 July 2013, <http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/GDP-ranking-table>

2 Brazilian Auto Parts Industry Performance 2012

Meeting production standards with INMETRO

As the automotive industry develops at a rapid rate, the Brazilian government has taken specific steps to maintain high-quality automotive production. As such, [manufacturers and suppliers are required to certify their products according to the requirements of National Institute of Metrology, Quality and Technology \(INMETRO\)](#) to ensure a high standard of quality and safety for consumers.

What is INMETRO?

INMETRO is a Brazilian regulatory agency that evaluates compliance requirements for products manufactured in or imported into Brazil.

The INMETRO certification scheme serves to establish a minimum standard of quality and safety for a comprehensive list of components, which is constantly evolving as new regulations are released and current ones are updated. [Automotive parts that need to be INMETRO-certified include:](#)

- Bearing half
- Electric fuel pumps for Otto cycle engines
- Horns or similar equipment
- Lamps for automotive vehicles
- Light aluminium alloy pistons
- Pins and locking rings
- Piston rings

- Suspension shock absorbers
- Tempered and laminated safety glass
- Tyres
- Wheels
- Windshields

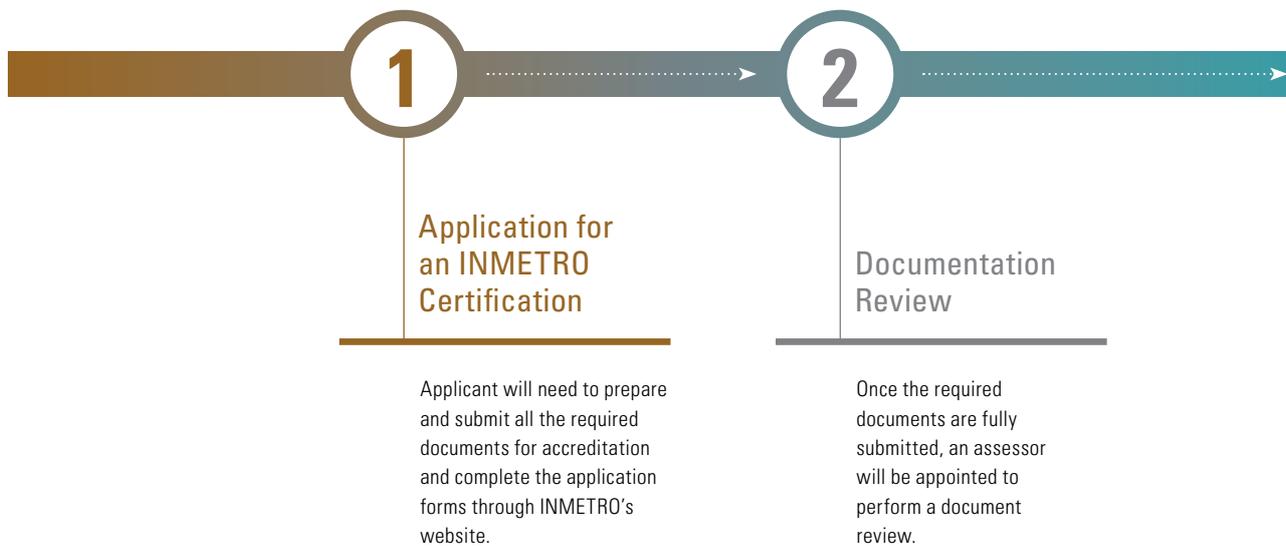
How is an INMETRO certification different than ECE regulations?

Although some INMETRO regulations are based on widely recognised United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE, or ECE) industry standards, some INMETRO test requirements have its own set of unique standards that may not be ISO related. This may have an impact on the acceptance of a certification by an International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) laboratory.

The INMETRO regulation framework is still undergoing revisions — causing uncertainties in the market as to which products require INMETRO accreditation before being manufactured in or imported into Brazil. As such, it is [important for automotive manufacturers operating in Brazil to understand the developing INMETRO requirements](#) and have their components certified in order to tap on the business potential of Brazil's automotive boom.

Process of being INMETRO-Certified

To export to the Brazilian automotive market, manufacturers and suppliers have to go through a four-step process which involves a comprehensive assessment of the product's performance. Following that, it is also mandatory for annual audits to be conducted to ensure that the product certification is properly maintained.





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On-Site & Performance Assessment

A management system audit will first be conducted; organisations which are already 9001 and ISO/TS certified could be exempted.

A performance assessment will then be carried out, preferably conducted in independent third-party labs accredited by INMETRO or are ILAC-recognised — otherwise, a lab audit will be conducted in line with INMETRO requirements.

Alternatively, assessments can also be conducted in the following labs:

- First-party* accredited labs
- First-party* and third-party accredited labs for other scopes

- Non-accredited first-party* and third-party labs, where it will be evaluated based on ISO/IEC 17025 (*All tests conducted in first-party labs must be witnessed)

Once the lab is aligned to INMETRO's scope, product samples to be evaluated will be identified based on the family concept (this refers to a group of product models, for the same purpose, and are from the same manufacturer/plant and production process).

These products are then finally tested according to standards defined in the specific regulations.

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INMETRO Certification & Registration of Product

Once evaluation is completed and the criteria are met, an INMETRO certification will be issued to the legal representative who will need to enter the product information into the INMETRO website. A registration number associated with the applicant and the product family will then be released; this number must be included and identified in the end product. The certification mark needs to be imprinted onto the product according to the regulation specifics.

Product can be commercialised only after certification and registration.



Helping you obtain INMETRO certification

Due to the complexities of the INMETRO certification process, automotive manufacturers and suppliers are often faced with the challenge of having to certify their products to INMETRO requirements that are constantly being updated and reviewed — and to do so in the most timely and effective manner. Furthermore, revisions to INMETRO regulations will see more automotive components being added to the mandatory certification list in the coming years, and this may grow to include:

- Coolants
- Radiators
- Tyre labelling
- Tubes for tyres
- Brake friction materials
- Rear pumpers for trucks
- Lift platform for vehicles

The entire process is further complicated by the regulation documents, which are available only in the Portuguese language. Without accurate interpretation, manufacturers will experience difficulty in getting INMETRO-certified and as a result, be unable to export into Latin America's largest automotive industry.

Gain access to the Brazilian automotive industry with TÜV SÜD

As one of the world's leading technical service organisations, TÜV SÜD provides type approval and homologation services to enable automotive manufacturers and suppliers to take advantage of the positive business outlook of Brazil's automotive sector to drive their business expansion.

Supported by our global network of testing facilities and homologation experts, we offer a comprehensive range of INMETRO certification services to help you achieve conformity and certify your products according to INMETRO requirements.

INMETRO certification

We assist you in meeting the requirements to obtain the mandatory INMETRO certification mark required to export your automotive components to the Brazilian market.

Component testing

We conduct the full range of testing services on your automotive components to ensure that they meet the requirements of the INMETRO certification scheme.

Homologation service

We are able to assist you throughout the entire approval process through our local Portuguese-speaking experts, providing a range of services such as handling communications with local authorities on your behalf, preparing information documents, test samples and homologation plans, and offering technical support to achieve conformity.

Multi-regulation management

We help you understand and identify the overlaps and evolving requirements of different regulations so that you can achieve multiple certifications within one project.

ENJOY THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS BENEFITS WHEN YOU WORK WITH TÜV SÜD:

Save time and money by letting us assess your products for multiple type approval requirements in a single, streamlined process

Minimise risks by using our services to avoid loss of sales revenue from being denied access to your customers in Brazil

Access the Brazilian market quickly with the help from our local experts to meet certification requirements ahead of the official deadline

Visit www.tuvsud.com/contact to find a local contact in one of our 800 locations worldwide or email automotive@tuvsud.com with your questions to get a precise understanding of the requirements, where our in-country automotive experts will provide you with complete homologation support.



Contact us to find out how we can optimise your entire value chain

www.tuvsud.com/automotive

automotive@tuvsud.com

Add value. Inspire trust.

TÜV SÜD is a trusted partner of choice for safety, security and sustainability solutions. It specialises in testing, certification, auditing and advisory services. Since 1866, the company has remained committed to its purpose of enabling progress by protecting people, the environment and assets from technology-related risks. Through more than 24,000 employees across over 1,000 locations, it adds value to customers and partners by enabling market access and managing risks. By anticipating technological developments and facilitating change, TÜV SÜD inspires trust in a physical and digital world to create a safer and more sustainable future.

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