

Report No.: **168545471a 001**

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**Client:** GOLDENTREES TECHNOLOGY CO., LTD.

**Contact Information:** No.3, Nan Tong Blvd, Bao Long Industrial Area, LongGang District,  
Shenzhen China

**Manufacturer's name:** GOLDENTREES TECHNOLOGY CO., LTD.

**Identification/  
Model No(s):** Thermometer  
JL-TM01, JL-TM02, JL-TM03, JL-TM04, JL-TM05, JL-TM06, JL-TM07,  
JL-TM08, JL-TM09, JL-TM10

**Sample obtaining method:** Sending by customer

**Condition at delivery:** Test item complete and undamaged.

**Sample Receiving date:** 2025-03-21; 2025-04-13; 2025-05-15; 2025-05-28; 2025-06-12

**Testing Period:** 2025-04-08 to 2025-06-27

**Place of testing:** Chemical laboratory Shenzhen, Toys laboratory Shenzhen

**Test Specification:**

Please refer to "Test Result Summary List" on page 2 for details

**Other information:**

- (1) The provided age grade of the item(s) : For age of over 3 years.  
The appropriate age grade of the item(s) : For all ages.  
The item(s) was/ were tested for all ages.
- (2) Packaging provided: Artwork
- (3) Received sample size: 5 styles X 2 pcs
- (4) Information provided by customer:  
Country of Origin: CHINA

For and on behalf of  
TÜV Rheinland (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd.



Candy He/  
Lab. Supervisor

2025-07-08

Date

Name/Position



Tocker Jiang/  
Senior Project Engineer

2025-07-08

Date

Name/Position

Sample information is provided by customer. Test result is drawn according to the kind and extent of tests performed.  
This test report relates to the above mentioned test sample. Without permission of the test center this test report is not permitted to be duplicated in extracts. This test report does not entitle to carry any safety mark on this or similar products.  
"Decision Rule" document announced in our website (<https://www.tuv.com/landingpage/en/qm-gcn/>) describes the statement of conformity and its rule of enforcement for test results are applicable throughout this test report.

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**Test Result Summary :**

**Test Specification:**

**Test result:**

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 ASTM F963-23: Mechanical and physical  | PASS                        |
| 2 ASTM F963-23: Flammability on solid and soft toys  | PASS                        |
| 3 ASTM F963-23 Section 4.25: Battery-operated Toys<br>(According to the customer's instruction, excluding clause 4.25.10)  | PASS                        |
| 4 Tracking label per CPSIA section 103 and ASTM F963-23 Section 5.1.2  | Please refer to result page |
| 5 16 C.F.R. 1303 (CPSIA Sect. 101), ASTM F963-23 Sect. 4.3.5.1 and Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): Total lead content in paint and coating materials | PASS                        |
| 6 15 USC 1278a (CPSIA Sect. 101), ASTM F963-23 Sect. 4.3.5.2 and Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): Total lead content in substrate materials           | PASS                        |
| 7 ASTM F963-23 Sect. 4.3.5.1 and 4.3.5.2: Soluble heavy metal  | PASS                        |
| 8 CPSIA Section 108 as amended by 16 CFR 1307 and ASTM F963-23 cl.4.3.8: Phthalates  | PASS                        |
| California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (CA Prop 65): DEHP, BBP, DBP, DIDP, DnHP content  | PASS                        |
| 9 Total Heavy Metal Content - Toxic in Packaging Clearinghouse (TPCH)  | PASS                        |

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**Material List:**

Item: Thermometer  
 JL-TM01, JL-TM02, JL-TM03, JL-TM04, JL-TM05, JL-TM06, JL-TM07,  
 JL-TM08, JL-TM09, JL-TM10

Material No.	Material	Color	Location
M001	Whole Product	multicolor	Thermometer(duck)
M001-1	Whole Product	Multicolor	Thermometer(duck)
M002	Plastic	brown	Mouth/sole
M003	Coating	black	Eyes
M004	Plastic	yellow	Body
M005	Plastic	transparent black	Screen
M006	Plastic	white	Frame/back of screen
M007	Plastic	white	Button
M008	Plastic	translucent	Frame of screen
M009	Plastic	black	Sealing ring
M010	Plastic	white	Gasket
M011	Plastic	black	USB
M012	Coating	grey/black	Back of screen
M013	Polymer	green	Glue
M014	PCBA	multi color	PCB board
M015	PCBA	multi color	PCB board
M016	Plastic	yellow/silvery	LED
M017	Plastic	white	LED
M018	Plastic + printing	black/grey	Wire sheath
M019	Plastic + printing	red/grey	Wire sheath
M020	Plastic	dark red	Wire sheath
M021	Foam + adhesive	black	Foam
M022	Plastic	black	Button switch
M023	Plastic	black	Base of button switch
M024	Plastic + printing	blue/black	Shuck of battery
M025	Plastic	white	Connector
M026	Plastic	beige	Base of connector

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M027	Plastic	dark grey	USB
M028	PCBA	multi color	PCB board
M029	Plastic	white	USB
M030	Plastic	dark grey	USB
M031	Plastic	white	Wire sheath
M032	Plastic	red	Wire sheath
M033	Plastic	black	Wire sheath
M034	Plastic	transparent	Film of screen (packaging)
M035	Plastic	transparent	Bundling belt of USB (packaging)
M036-1	Metal	Silver	Screw
M037-1	Metal	Silver	Induction block
M039	Metal	silver	USB

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**1.ASTM F963-23: Mechanical and physical**

**Test result:**

Test No:	T002
Material No:	M001-1
<b>4. Safety requirements</b>	
4.1 Material Quality (visual check)	Pass
4.6 Small Objects	Pass
4.7 Accessible Edges	Pass
4.8 Projections	Pass
4.9 Accessible Points	Pass
4.11 Nails and Fasteners	Pass
4.18 Holes, Clearance and Accessibility of Mechanisms	Pass
<b>5. Labeling Requirements</b>	
5.2 Age Grading Labeling	Pass
5.15 Promotional Materials	Pass
<b>6. Instructional Literature</b>	
6.1 Definition and Description	Pass
<b>7. Producer's Markings</b>	
7.1 Name and address of the producer or the distributor	Pass

**Use and Abuse Tests:**

The submitted samples were undergone the use and abuse tests in accordance with FHSA 16 CFR and whichever is applicable the tested age grade. According to the Laboratory Test Manual from CPSC, 12 submitted samples are equally divided for carrying out the use and abuse testing.

Age Category	Drop Test	Flexure Test	Torque Test	Tension Test	Compression Test
0-18 Months 16 CFR 1500.51	10 x 4.5 ft	120 Arc 30 Cycles 10 lbs	2 in-lbf	10 lbf	20 lbf
19-36 Months 16 CFR 1500.52	4 x 3 ft	120 Arc 30 Cycles 15 lbs	3 in-lbf	15 lbf	25 lbf
37-96 Months 16 CFR 1500.53	4 x 3 ft	120 Arc 30 Cycles 15 lbs	4 in-lbf	15 lbf	30 lbf

The clause and/or sub-clause would be indicated only in the test report whichever applicable. The comprehensive result report is available upon request.

**Remark:**

^ The manufacturer/trader/applicant has provided the artwork for assessment in this test report.

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**2.ASTM F963-23: Flammability on solid and soft toys**

**Test result:**

	Test No:	T001
	Material No:	M001
<b>4.2 Flammability on solids and soft toys</b>		Pass

The burning rate of the most severe part = IBE

Note: Maximum permissible burning rate = 0.1 Inch/sec.

**Abbreviation:** DNI = Did Not Ignite / IBE = Ignite But Self-extinguish

**Remark:**

\* The burn rate was rounded up to the nearest tenth.

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**3. ASTM F963-23 Section 4.25: Battery-operated Toys**

**Test result:**

	T001
	M001
<b>4.25 Battery-operated Toys</b>	
4.25.1.1 Accessible non- replaceable battery	PASS
4.25.2 Maximum potential	PASS
4.25.3 Charging	PASS
4.25.4 Battery Accessibility	PASS
4.25.4.1 For toys intended for children less than 3 years old	PASS
4.25.4.2 For toys that utilize small batteries	PASS
4.25.5 Batteries types or capacities	PASS
4.25.6 Battery surface temperature	PASS
4.25.7 Temperature Requirements	PASS(excluding clause 4.25.10)
<b>5. Labeling Requirements</b>	
5.14 Battery-operated toys (Non-replaceable battery)	PASS

The clause and/or sub-clause would be indicated only in the test report whichever applicable. The comprehensive result report is available upon request.

**Remark:**

\*1 By customer's request,the specified clause 4.25.10 were not conducted.

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**4.Tracking label per CPSIA section 103 and ASTM F963-23 Section 5.1.2**

**Test Result:**

	Test No:	T001
	Material No:	M001
Present On Packaging		Present
Present On Product		Present

**Remark:**

- \* If there is a tracking label on the product which is visible through disposable packaging, the packaging need not be marked.
- \*\* The correct adherence to all requirements according to CPSIA Tracking label in regards to the marking of:
  - (1) Manufacturer or private labeler name;
  - (2) Location and date of production of the product;
  - (3) Detailed information on the manufacturing process, such as a batch or run number, or other identifying characteristics; and,
  - (4) Any other information to facilitate ascertaining the specific source of the product; can only be confirmed by the manufacturer/trader/applicant. The presence of related information was assessed; however, they cannot be verified in the frame of this test.
- ^ The manufacturer/trader/applicant has provided the artwork for assessment in this test report.

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**5.16 C.F.R. 1303 (CPSIA Sect. 101), ASTM F963-23 Sect. 4.3.5.1 and Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): Total lead content in paint and coating materials**

Test method: CPSC-CH-E1003-09.1 (Microwave method)

Test result:

Test No.	Material No.	Test Parameter	Unit	RL	Regulatory Requirement	Test Result
T001	M003	Lead Content	ppm	10	90	< RL

Abbreviation: < = less than  
RL = Reporting Limit  
ppm = parts per million

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**6.15 USC 1278a (CPSIA Sect. 101), ASTM F963-23 Sect. 4.3.5.2 and Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): Total lead content in substrate materials**

Test method: CPSC-CH-E1001-08.3 and CPSC-CH-E1002-08.3 (Microwave method)

Test result:

Test No.	Material No.	Test Parameter	Unit	RL	Regulatory Requirement	Test Result
T001	M002 + M004 + M005	Lead Content	ppm	10	100	< RL
T002	M006 + M007 + M008	Lead Content	ppm	10	100	< RL
T003	M009 + M010 + M011	Lead Content	ppm	10	100	< RL
T004	M029 + M031	Lead Content	ppm	10	100	< RL
T006	M039	Lead Content	ppm	10	100	< RL
T008	M036-1	Lead Content	ppm	10	100	< RL
T009	M037-1	Lead Content	ppm	10	100	114(*1)

Abbreviation: < = less than  
 RL = Reporting Limit  
 ppm = parts per million

Remark:

\*1 According to Consumer Product Safety Commission, exemptions for lead as used in certain parts of children’s electronic devices, the following lead-containing components are granted the exemptions:

- a) Glass of cathode ray tubes, electronic components and fluorescent tubes
- b) As an alloying element in steel, the maximum amount of lead shall be less than 0.35% by weight (3,500 ppm);
- c) Used the manufacture of aluminum, the maximum amount of lead shall be less than 0.4% by weight (4,000 ppm);
- d) Used in copper-based alloys, the maximum amount of lead shall be less than 4% by weight (40,000 ppm);
- e) Lead-bronze bearing shells and bushings;
- f) Compliant pin connector systems;
- g) Optical and filter glass;
- h) Lead oxide in plasma display panels (PDP) and surface conduction electron emitter displays (SED) used in structural elements; notably in the front and rear glass dielectric layer, the bus electrode, the black stripe, the address electrode, the barrier ribs, the seal frit and frit ring as well as in print pastes;
- i) Lead oxide in the glass envelope of Black Light Blue (BLB) lamps;
- a) Components of electronic devices that are removable or replaceable.

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**7.ASTM F963-23 Sect. 4.3.5.1 and 4.3.5.2: Soluble heavy metal**

Test method: For paint and similar surface-coating materials: ASTM F963-23 Section 8.3.2 – 8.3.4 Method to Dissolve Soluble Matter for Surface Coatings, Preparation of Test Samples and Test Procedures  
 For substrate: ASTM F963-23 Section 8.3.5 Soluble Element Test Method for Substrate Materials

Test result:

Test No.	Material No.	Sb	As	Ba	Cd	Cr	Pb	Hg	Se	Mass of trace amount (mg)
		Maximum Permissible Limit of Any Toy Materials except Modelling Clay (mg/kg)								
		60	25	1000	75	60	90	60	500	
		Maximum Permissible Limit of Modelling Clay (mg/kg)								
		60	25	250	50	25	90	25	500	
		RL (mg/kg)								
		5	5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	10	
T001	M002	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	-
T002	M003	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	47.0
T003	M004	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	-
T004	M005	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	-
T005	M006	< RL	< RL	9.8	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	-
T006	M007	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	-
T007	M008	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	-
T008	M009	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	-
T009	M010	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	-
T010	M011	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	< RL	74.5

Abbreviation: < = less than  
 RL = Reporting Limit  
 mg/kg = milligram per kilogram

Remark:

\* Migration results of eight elements shown are the adjusted analytical results

Element	Sb	As	Ba	Cd	Cr	Pb	Hg	Se
Analytical Correction (in %)	60	60	30	30	30	30	50	60

\*\* According to ASTM F963-23, if the weight of a test portion of toy material is less than 10 mg, the analysis of migration of certain elements would not be required. If the weight of a test portion of toy material is between 10 mg and 100 mg, the analytical results would be calculated as though 100mg of the test portion had been used.

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**8. Phthalates content**

Test Method: Ref. to CPSC-CH-C1001-09.4

**Test Result:**

				Test No.	T001	T002	T003
				Material No.	M003 + M012	M002 + M004 + M005	M006 + M007 + M008
Test Parameter	CAS NO	Unit	RL	Result	Result	Result	
Diethylhexyl phthalate (DEHP)	117-81-7	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Dibutyl phthalate (DBP)	84-74-2	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Benzylbutyl phthalate (BBP)	85-68-7	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP)	84-69-5	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Diisononyl phthalate (DINP)	28553-12-0, 68515-48-0	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP)	26761-40-0, 68515-49-1	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Di-n-pentyl phthalate (DnPP)	131-18-0	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Di-n-hexyl phthalate (DnHP)	84-75-3	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Dicyclohexyl phthalate (DCHP)	84-61-7	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Conclusion: CA Prop 65 DEHP, BBP, DBP, DIDP and DnHP content				Pass	Pass	Pass	
Conclusion: ASTM F963-23 cl.4.3.8 and CPSIA Section 108 as amended by 16 CFR 1307				Pass	Pass	Pass	

				Test No.	T004	T005	T006
				Material No.	M009 + M010 + M011	M013 + M014 + M015	M016 + M017 + M021
Test Parameter	CAS NO	Unit	RL	Result	Result	Result	
Diethylhexyl phthalate (DEHP)	117-81-7	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Dibutyl phthalate (DBP)	84-74-2	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Benzylbutyl phthalate (BBP)	85-68-7	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP)	84-69-5	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Diisononyl phthalate (DINP)	28553-12-0, 68515-48-0	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP)	26761-40-0, 68515-49-1	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Di-n-pentyl phthalate (DnPP)	131-18-0	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Di-n-hexyl phthalate (DnHP)	84-75-3	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Dicyclohexyl phthalate (DCHP)	84-61-7	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Conclusion: CA Prop 65 DEHP, BBP, DBP, DIDP and DnHP content				Pass	Pass	Pass	
Conclusion: ASTM F963-23 cl.4.3.8 and CPSIA Section 108 as amended by 16 CFR 1307				Pass	Pass	Pass	

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				Test No.	T007	T008	T009
				Material No.	M018 + M019 + M020	M022 + M023 + M024	M025 + M026 + M027
Test Parameter	CAS NO	Unit	RL	Result	Result	Result	
Diethylhexyl phthalate (DEHP)	117-81-7	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Dibutyl phthalate (DBP)	84-74-2	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Benzylbutyl phthalate (BBP)	85-68-7	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP)	84-69-5	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Diisononyl phthalate (DINP)	28553-12-0, 68515-48-0	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP)	26761-40-0, 68515-49-1	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Di-n-pentyl phthalate (DnPP)	131-18-0	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Di-n-hexyl phthalate (DnHP)	84-75-3	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Dicyclohexyl phthalate (DCHP)	84-61-7	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	< RL	
Conclusion: CA Prop 65 DEHP, BBP, DBP, DIDP and DnHP content				Pass	Pass	Pass	
Conclusion: ASTM F963-23 cl.4.3.8 and CPSIA Section 108 as amended by 16 CFR 1307				Pass	Pass	Pass	

				Test No.	T010	T011
				Material No.	M028 + M029 + M030	M031 + M032 + M033
Test Parameter	CAS NO	Unit	RL	Result	Result	
Diethylhexyl phthalate (DEHP)	117-81-7	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	
Dibutyl phthalate (DBP)	84-74-2	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	
Benzylbutyl phthalate (BBP)	85-68-7	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	
Diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP)	84-69-5	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	
Diisononyl phthalate (DINP)	28553-12-0, 68515-48-0	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	
Diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP)	26761-40-0, 68515-49-1	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	
Di-n-pentyl phthalate (DnPP)	131-18-0	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	
Di-n-hexyl phthalate (DnHP)	84-75-3	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	
Dicyclohexyl phthalate (DCHP)	84-61-7	%	0.01	< RL	< RL	
Conclusion: CA Prop 65 DEHP, BBP, DBP, DIDP and DnHP content				Pass	Pass	
Conclusion: ASTM F963-23 cl.4.3.8 and CPSIA Section 108 as amended by 16 CFR 1307				Pass	Pass	

**Abbreviation:** < = less than  
 RL = Reporting Limit  
 % = percentage

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**Remark:**

- Requirement of Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65):DEHP, BBP, DBP, DIDP and DnHP content  
1,000ppm (0.1%) each as quoted from County of Alameda Case No. BG-07350969
- Requirement of ASTM F963-23 cl.4.3.8 and Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act 2008, section 108, as amended by 16 CFR 1307 is summarized below:

Parameter	Unit	Maximum Permissible Limit
<b>Accessible plasticized components in children's toy or childcare article:</b>		
Dibutyl phthalate (DBP), Benzylbutyl phthalate (BBP), Diethylhexyl phthalate (DEHP), Diisononyl phthalate (DINP), Diisobutyl Phthalate (DIBP), Di-n-pentyl Phthalate (DPENP) (DnPP), Di-n-hexyl Phthalate (DHEXP) (DnHP), Dicyclohexyl Phthalate (DCHP)	%	0.1 (each)

**9.Total Heavy Metal Content - Toxic in Packaging Clearinghouse (TPCH)**

Test Method: Sample digestion, analyzed by ICP-OES / Ultraviolet Visible Spectrophotometer (UV-Vis)

**Result:**

Test No.	Material No.	Test Parameters	Unit	RL	Regulatory Requirement	Result	Conclusion
T001	M034 + M035	Pb	mg/kg	10	-	< RL	-
		Cd	mg/kg	10	-	< RL	-
		Cr (VI)	mg/kg	10	-	< RL	-
		Hg	mg/kg	10	-	< RL	-
		Sum of Pb, Cd, Cr(VI) and Hg	mg/kg	10	100	<RL	Pass

**Abbreviation:** < = less than  
 RL = Reporting Limit  
 mg/kg = milligram per kilogram

**Remark:**

- \* According to the US Toxic in Packaging Clearinghouse (TPCH) - Model Toxics in Packaging Legislation, revised as Dec 2008; the maximum permissible limit of the sum of the concentration of Lead, Cadmium, Mercury and Hexavalent Chromium is 100ppm. For recycled materials, the maximum permissible limit for the 4 regulated metals is 200ppm.
- \*\* Single element with an amount of less than reporting limit were not considered by the calculation of the sum. In the case of all elements were less than reporting limit, the result is stated < RL.

Sample Photos



Reference photo



Reference photo



Reference photo



Reference photo

- END -

## General Terms and Conditions of Business of TÜV Rheinland in Greater China

**1. Scope**

1.1 These General Terms and Conditions of Business of TÜV Rheinland in Greater China ("GTBCB") is made between the client and the provider of TÜV Rheinland in Greater China as applicable as the case may be ("TÜV Rheinland"). The Greater China here refers to the regions within the territories of China. The client hereby indicates:

(i) a natural person capable to form legally binding contracts under the applicable laws who concludes the contract for the purpose of the use of TÜV Rheinland services, or

(ii) the incorporated or unincorporated entity duly organized, validly existing and capable to form legally binding contracts under the applicable law.

1.2 The following terms and conditions apply to agreed services including consultancy services, information, deliveries and similar services as well as ancillary services and other secondary obligations provided within the scope of contract performance.

1.3 Any standard terms and conditions of the client if any nature shall not apply and shall hereby be expressly excluded. No standard contractual terms and conditions of the client shall form part of the contract even if TÜV Rheinland does not explicitly object to them.

1.4 In the context of an ongoing business relationship with the client, this GTBCB shall also apply to future contracts with the client without TÜV Rheinland having to refer to them separately in each individual case.

**2. Quotations**

2.1 Unless otherwise agreed, all quotations submitted by TÜV Rheinland can be changed by TÜV Rheinland without notice prior to its acceptance and confirmation by the other party.

**3. Coming into effect and duration of contracts**

3.1 The contract shall come into effect for the agreed terms upon the quotation letter of TÜV Rheinland or a separate contractual document being signed by both contracting parties, or upon the receipt requested by the client being carried out by TÜV Rheinland. If the client instructs TÜV Rheinland without receiving a quotation from TÜV Rheinland (quotation), TÜV Rheinland is, in its sole discretion, entitled to accept the order by giving written notice of such acceptance (including notice sent via electronic means) or by performing the requested services.

3.2 The contract term starts upon the coming into effect of the contract in accordance with article 3.1 and shall continue for the term agreed in the contract.

3.3 If the contract provides for an extension of the contract term, the contract term will be extended by the term provided for the extension as stated in writing by either party with a three-month notice prior to the end of the contractual term.

**4. Scope of services**

4.1 The scope and type of the services to be provided by TÜV Rheinland shall be specified in the contractually agreed service scope of TÜV Rheinland by both parties. If no such separate service scope of TÜV Rheinland exists, then the written confirmation of order by TÜV Rheinland shall be decisive for the services to be provided. Unless otherwise agreed, services beyond the scope of the service description (e.g. checking of certificates, parts, products, installations, organizations not listed in the service description, as well as the intended use and application of such) are not covered. In particular, no responsibility is assumed for the design, selection of materials, construction or intended use of an examined part, product, process or plant, unless this is expressly stated in the order.

4.2 The agreed services shall be performed in compliance with the regulations in force at the time the contract is entered into.

4.3 TÜV Rheinland is entitled to determine, in its sole discretion, the method and nature of the assessment unless otherwise agreed in writing or if mandatory provisions require a specific procedure to be followed.

4.4 On execution of the work there shall be no simultaneous assumption of any guarantee of the correctness (proper quality) and working order of either tested or examined parts nor of the installation as a whole or its upstream and/or downstream processes, organizations, use and application in accordance with regulations, nor of the systems on which the installation is based. In particular, TÜV Rheinland shall assume no responsibility for the construction, selection of design, installation or maintenance of the installations examined, nor for their use and application in accordance with regulations, unless these questions are expressly covered by the contract.

4.5 In the case of inspection work, TÜV Rheinland shall not be responsible for the accuracy or checking of the safety programmes or safety regulations on which the inspections are based, unless otherwise expressly agreed in writing.

4.6 If mandatory legal regulations and standards or official requirements for the agreed service scope change after conclusion of the contract, with a written notice to the client, TÜV Rheinland shall be entitled to additional remuneration for resulting additional expenses.

4.7 The services to be provided by TÜV Rheinland under the contract are agreed exclusively with the client. A contract of third parties with the services of TÜV Rheinland, as well as making available of and justifying confidence in the work results (test reports and test results, expert reports, etc.) is not part of the agreed services. This also applies if the client passes on work results - in full or in part - to third parties in accordance with clause 11.4.

4.8 The client understands and agrees that in order to perform the contract with TÜV Rheinland, the client may need to sign one or more contracts/agreements with a/more third party(ies) and establish legal relationships with those third party(ies) according to such contracts/agreements. TÜV Rheinland is not responsible for the legal relationship between the client according to this contract and the direct services actually to be provided by our company in the service process. If the relevant services are not directly provided by TÜV Rheinland (including but not limited to any testing and certification services) to be provided by third parties, TÜV Rheinland will provide the client as agent for such relevant services. In order to achieve the purpose of the contract, the client hereby agrees that TÜV Rheinland can also subcontract to a third party the services to be provided by TÜV Rheinland, including but not limited to any testing and certification services to be provided by any third parties (including but not limited to the testing and/or certification services to be entrusted and/or applied for by our company on behalf of the client or testing and/or certification services to be provided by any third parties) and, besides, the client shall be liable in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations and/or the terms under the contract. If the client is required to provide any annual renewal/surveillance of the installations, TÜV Rheinland will provide the testing and certification services in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations or the testing and certification rules, such fees are not within the scope of the contract price, the client shall timely perform the obligation to provide the testing and certification services. If the client fails to perform such obligations of the annual renewal/surveillance or fee payment, it may lead to adverse consequences such as failure/suspension/cancellation/invalidity of testing and/or certification results, which shall be borne by the client.

4.9 For the service contract agreed in the contract, if the client requires TÜV Rheinland to deliver relevant test samples, data, etc. to any overseas laboratory or other places or sites to be designated by the client, TÜV Rheinland shall not take any responsibility for any problems during such delivery and the transportation process (including but not limited to any loss or damages of the samples and/or the materials, etc.). Besides, the relevant freight fees shall be borne by the client.

**5. Performance periods/dates**

5.1 The contractually agreed periods/dates of performance are based on estimates of the work involved which are prepared in line with the details provided by the client. They shall only be binding if being confirmed as binding by TÜV Rheinland in writing.

5.2 If binding periods of performance have been agreed, these periods shall not commence until the client has submitted all required documents to TÜV Rheinland.

5.3 Articles 5.1 and 5.2 also apply, even without express agreement by the client, to all extensions of agreed periods/dates of performance not caused by TÜV Rheinland.

5.4 TÜV Rheinland is not responsible for a delay in performance, in particular if the client has not fulfilled his duties to cooperate with clause 6.1 or has not done so in time and, in particular, has not provided TÜV Rheinland with all documents and information required for the performance of the service as specified in the contract.

5.5 If the performance of TÜV Rheinland is delayed due to unforeseeable circumstances such as force majeure, strikes, business disruptions, governmental regulations, transport obstacles, etc., TÜV Rheinland is entitled to postpone performance for a reasonable period of time which corresponds at least to the duration of the hindrance plus any time period which may be required to resume performance.

5.6 If the client is obliged to comply with legal, officially prescribed and/or by the accreditor prescribed deadlines, in the event of a delay in performance, TÜV Rheinland shall be liable for any damages, which enable the client to comply with the legal and/or officially prescribed deadlines. TÜV Rheinland assumes no responsibility in this respect unless TÜV Rheinland expressly agreed in writing specifically stating that ensuring the deadlines is the contractual obligation of TÜV Rheinland.

**6. The client's obligation to cooperate**

6.1 The client shall guarantee that all cooperation required on its part, its agents or third parties will be provided in good time and at no cost to TÜV Rheinland.

6.2 Design documents, supplies, auxiliary staff, etc. necessary for performance of the services shall be made available free of charge by the client. Moreover, collaborative action of the client must be undertaken in accordance with legal provisions, standards, safety regulations and accident prevention instructions. And the client represents and warrants that:

a) it has required statutory qualifications;

b) the product, service or management system to be certified complies with applicable laws and regulations; and

c) it doesn't have any legal and dishonest behaviours or is not included in the list of Enterprises with Serious Illegal and Dishonest Acts (People's Republic of China).

If the client breaches the aforesaid representations and warranties, TÜV Rheinland is entitled to immediately terminate the contract/order without prior notice; and ii) withdraw the issued testing reports/certificates if any.

6.3 The client shall bear any additional costs incurred on account of work having to be redone or being delayed as a result of late, incorrect or incomplete information provided by or lack of proper cooperation from the client. Even where a fixed or maximum price is agreed, TÜV Rheinland shall be entitled to charge extra fees for such additional expense.

**7. Prices**

7.1 If the scope of performance is not laid down in writing when the order is placed, invoicing shall be based on costs actually incurred. If no price is agreed in writing, invoicing shall be made in accordance with the price list of TÜV Rheinland valid at the time of performance.

7.2 Unless otherwise agreed, the price shall be payable in cash or by bank transfer to the account of TÜV Rheinland in the country where TÜV Rheinland is located. At the same time, TÜV Rheinland reserves the right to claim further damages.

7.3 Should the client default in payment of the invoice despite being granted a reasonable grace period, TÜV Rheinland shall be entitled to cancel the contract, withdraw the certificate, claim damages for non-performance and refuse to continue performance of the contract.

7.4 The provisions set forth in article 8.4 shall also apply in cases involving returned cheques, cessation of payment, commencement of insolvency proceedings against the client's assets or cases in which the commencement of insolvency proceedings has been dismissed due to lack of assets.

7.5 Objections to the invoices of TÜV Rheinland shall be submitted in writing within two weeks of receipt of the invoice.

8.7 TÜV Rheinland shall be entitled to demand appropriate advance payments.

8.8 TÜV Rheinland shall be entitled to raise its fees at the beginning of a month if overheads and/or purchase costs have increased. In this case, TÜV Rheinland shall notify the client in writing of the rise in fees. This notification shall be issued one month prior to the date on which the rise in fees shall come into effect (period of notice of changes in fees). If the contract is terminated within 2% per contractual year, the client shall not have the right to terminate the contract. If the rise in fees exceeds 5% per contractual year, the client shall be entitled to terminate the contract by the end of the period of notice of changes in fees. If the contract is not terminated, the rise in fees shall be deemed to have been agreed upon by the time of the expiry of the notice period.

8.9 Only legally established and undisputed claims may be offset against payments by TÜV Rheinland.

8.10 TÜV Rheinland shall have the right at all times to set off any amount due or payable by the client, including but not limited to set-off against any past due by the client under any contracts, agreement and/or orders/quotations reached with TÜV Rheinland.

**9. Acceptance of work**

9.1 Any part of the work required or which is complete in itself may be presented by TÜV Rheinland for acceptance as an instalment. The client shall be obliged to accept it immediately.

9.2 If acceptance is required contractually agreed in an individual case, this shall be deemed to have taken place two (2) weeks after completion and handover of the work, unless the client refuses acceptance within this period stating at least one fundamental breach of contract by TÜV Rheinland.

9.3 The client is not entitled to refuse acceptance due to insignificant breach of contract by TÜV Rheinland.

9.4 If acceptance is excluded according to the nature of the work performance of TÜV Rheinland, the completion of the work shall take place.

9.5 During the Follow-Up stage, the client was unable to make use of the time windows provided for within the scope of a certification procedure for auditing/performance by TÜV Rheinland and the certificate is therefore to be withdrawn (e.g. performance of surveillance audits), or if the client cancels or postpones a confirmed audit by TÜV Rheinland, TÜV Rheinland is, in its sole discretion, entitled to immediately charge a lump-sum compensation of 10% of the order amount as compensation for expenses. The client reserves the right to prove that the TÜV Rheinland has incurred no damage whatsoever or only a considerably lower damage than the above lump sum.

9.6 Insofar as the client has undertaken in the contract to accept services, TÜV Rheinland shall also be entitled to claim the same damages in the event of damages in the form of a lump-sum compensation for expenses if the service is not called within one year after the order has been placed. The client reserves the right to prove that the TÜV Rheinland has incurred no damage whatsoever or only a considerably lower damage than the above mentioned lump sum.

**10. Confidentiality**

10.1 For the purpose of these terms and conditions, "confidential information" means all know-how, trade secrets, documents, images, drawings, expertise, information, data, test results, reports, samples, project documents, pricing and financial information, customer and supplier information, and marketing technology applied by the client or by TÜV Rheinland, or by the client or by the client or otherwise disclosed by one Party (the "disclosing party") to the other Party (the "receiving party"), in writing or orally, in printed or electronic form. Confidential information is expressly not the data and know-how or other technical information of the client or of the client or by the client or otherwise disclosed by one Party (the "disclosing party") to the other Party (the "receiving party"). TÜV Rheinland is entitled to store, use, further develop and pass on the data obtained in connection with the provision of services for the purposes of developing new services, improving services and analysing the provision of services. 10.2 The disclosing party shall mark all confidential information disclosed in written form as confidential before passing it onto the receiving party. The same applies to confidential information transmitted by e-mail. If confidential information is disclosed orally, the receiving party shall be appropriately informed in advance and the disclosing party shall confirm in writing the confidentiality nature of the information within five working days of oral disclosure. Where the disclosing party does not do so within the specified period, the receiving party shall not take any confidentiality obligations hereunder towards such information. The client shall avoid using any third party platform and/or system (e.g. Wechat, etc.) authorized by TÜV Rheinland to disclose confidential information. The disclosing party shall send any confidential information to company email of TÜV Rheinland employees through its company email. If the client suffers from any losses or damages due to any theft or leakage of the confidential information, the disclosing party shall not be liable for the resulting damages mentioned above, TÜV Rheinland shall be waived for any compensation liabilities.

10.3 All confidential information which the disclosing party transmits or otherwise discloses to the receiving party and which is created during performance of the contract shall be confidential and may only be used by the receiving party for the purposes of performing the contract, unless expressly otherwise agreed in writing by the disclosing party.

10.4 The client may not copy, distribute, publish or otherwise disclose by the receiving party, unless this is necessary for fulfilling the purpose of the contract or TÜV Rheinland is required to pass on confidential information, inspection reports or documentation to the government authorities, court proceedings, arbitration bodies or third parties in order to defend its legal position or to protect its interests or indirect proposed purchasers, vehicle manufacturers/whole equipment manufacturers, test standards or test requirements providers of the client's test products and/or certified products.

10.5 The receiving party shall not disclose any confidential information received from the disclosing party only to those of its employees who need this information to perform the services required for the contract. The receiving party shall be obliged to obligate these employees to observe the same level of secrecy as set forth in this confidentiality clause.

10.6 Information for which the receiving party can furnish proof that:

a) it was generally known at the time of disclosure or has become general knowledge without violation of any confidentiality obligations by the disclosing party; or

b) it was disclosed to the receiving party by a third party entitled to disclose this information; or

c) the receiving party already possessed this information prior to disclosure by the disclosing party; or

d) the receiving party developed it itself, irrespective of disclosure by the disclosing party, shall not be deemed to be confidential information as defined in this confidentiality clause.

10.7 All confidential information shall remain the property of the disclosing party. The receiving party hereby agrees to immediately (i) return all confidential information, including all copies, to the disclosing party, and (ii) on request by the disclosing party, to destroy or delete all confidential information, including all copies, and to confirm the destruction of this confidential information to the disclosing party in writing, at any time if so requested by the disclosing party but at the latest and without special request after termination or expiry of the contract. This does not include reports and certificates issued for the client solely for the purpose of fulfilling the obligations under the contract, which shall remain with the client. However, TÜV Rheinland is entitled to make file copies of such reports, certificates and confidential information that forms the basis for preparing these reports and certificates in order to defend its legal position or to protect its interests. General documentation purposes required by laws, regulations and the requirements of working procedures of TÜV Rheinland.

10.8 From the start of the contract and for a period of three years after termination or expiry of the contract, the receiving party shall maintain strict secrecy of all confidential information and shall not disclose this information to any third parties or use it for itself.

**Copyrights and rights of use, publications**

11.1 TÜV Rheinland shall retain all exclusive copyrights in the reports, expert reports/opinions, test reports/results, results, calculations, presentations etc. prepared by TÜV Rheinland, unless otherwise agreed by the parties in a separate agreement. As the owner of the copyrights, TÜV Rheinland is free to grant other parties the right to use the work results for individual or all types of use ("right of use").

11.2 The client grants to TÜV Rheinland a simple, unlimited, non-transferable, non-sublicensable right of use to the contents of the work results produced within the scope of the contract, unless otherwise agreed by the parties in a separate agreement. The client may only use such reports, expert reports/opinions, test reports/results, results, calculations or presentations etc. prepared within the scope of the contract for the contractually agreed purpose.

11.3 The transfer of right of use of the generated work results regulated in clause 11.2 of the GTBCB is subject to full payment of the remuneration for the work results by the client.

11.4 The client may use work results only complete and unshortened. The client may only pass on the work results in full unless TÜV Rheinland has given its prior written consent to the partial passing on of work results.

11.5 Any publication or duplication of the work results for advertising purposes or any further use of the work results beyond the scope regulated in clause 11.2, and any quotation of the introduction of TÜV Rheinland shall be limited to (i) in the case of a contract with a fixed overall fee, three times the overall fee for the entire contract; (ii) in the case of a contract for an annually recurring services, the agreed annual fee; (iii) in the case of a contract expressly charged on a time and material basis, a maximum of 20,000 Euro or equivalent amount in local currency; and (iv) in the case of a framework agreement that provides for the possibility of placing individual orders, three times of the fee for the individual order under which the damages or losses have occurred. Notwithstanding the above, the client shall be liable for all damages or losses incurred, in accordance with the national and international export control law.

11.6 According to the foregoing provisions exceeds 25 Million Euro or equivalent amount in local currency, the total and accumulated liability of TÜV Rheinland shall be only limited to and shall not exceed the said 25 Million Euro or equivalent amount in local currency.

11.7 The limitation of liability according to article 12.1 above shall not apply to damages and/or losses caused by malice, intent or gross negligence on the part of TÜV Rheinland or its vicarious agents. Such limitation shall not apply to damages for a person's death, the contractual or direct cases involving a fundamental breach of contract, TÜV Rheinland will be liable even where minor negligence is involved. For this purpose, a "fundamental breach" is a breach of a material contractual obligation, the performance of which permits the due performance of the contract. Any claim for damages for a fundamental breach of contract shall be limited to the amount of damages reasonably foreseen as a possible consequence of such breach of contract at the time of the breach (reasonably foreseeable damages), unless any of the circumstances described in article 12.2 applies.

11.8 TÜV Rheinland shall not be liable for the acts of the personnel made available by the client to support TÜV Rheinland in the performance of its services or the contractual or direct cases such personnel made available is regarded as vicarious agent of TÜV Rheinland. If TÜV Rheinland is not liable for the acts of the personnel made available by the client under the foregoing provision, the client shall indemnify TÜV Rheinland against any claims made by third parties arising from in connection with such personnel's acts.

11.9 Unless otherwise contractually agreed in writing, TÜV Rheinland shall only be liable under the contract for damages caused by the personnel of TÜV Rheinland.

11.10 The limitation periods for claims for damages shall be based on statutory provisions.

11.11 None of the provisions of this article 12 changes the burden of proof to the disadvantage of the client.

**13. Export control**

13.1 When passing on the services provided by TÜV Rheinland or parts thereof to third parties in Greater China or other regions, the client must comply with the respectively applicable regulations of national and international export control law.

13.2 The performance of a contract with the client is subject to the proviso that there are no obstacles to performance due to national or international foreign trade legislations or embargos and/or

sanctions. In the event of a violation, TÜV Rheinland shall be entitled to terminate the contract with immediate effect and the client shall compensate for the losses incurred thereof by TÜV Rheinland.

**14. Data protection notice**

The client understands and agrees that TÜV Rheinland processes personal data (including but not limited to personal information) of the client and its related parties (including but not limited to the supplier of the client) for the purpose of performing this contract. The client confirms that it has obtained the prior consent of the data subject, which entitles TÜV Rheinland to access, use, or process the personal data that the client collected or processed by itself and transferred to TÜV Rheinland. For certain services, such as consultancy services, TÜV Rheinland may use and process the data in accordance with the relevant legal basis. If any personal data has been disclosed or transferred to any third party or any overseas party outside of the district in which the personal data was collected, the client also confirms that it has obtained the prior consent of the data subject. TÜV Rheinland will carry out cross-border data transmission and protect the data in compliance with the privacy and personal data security related laws and regulations in China and the local country. TÜV Rheinland will take measures to avoid any leakage, abuse, manipulation, damage or unauthorized access of personal data. The personal data will be deleted immediately as soon as a corresponding reason for deletion arises. Data subjects may exercise the following rights: right of information, right of decision, right of rectification, right of deletion, right of processing limitation, right of objection, right of data transferability. In addition, persons concerned by the data processing have the right to revoke their consent at any time with effect for the future, as well as the right to file a complaint with the competent data protection supervisory authority. For further details on the processing of personal data by TÜV Rheinland as the personal responsible or contract processor, please refer to the respective data protection information. You can contact the Group Data Protection Officer of TÜV Rheinland by e-mail at dataprotection@tuv.com or by post at the following address: TÜV Rheinland AG, c/o Group Data Protection Officer, Am Grauen Stein, 51106 Cologne, Germany.

**15. Retention of test material and documentation**

15.1 The test samples submitted by the client to TÜV Rheinland for testing will be scrapped following testing or will be returned to the client at the client's expense. The only exceptions are test samples, which are placed in storage on the basis of statutory regulations or of another agreement with the client.

15.2 Charges apply if the test samples are stored at the premises of TÜV Rheinland. The cost of placing a test sample into storage will be disclosed to the client in the quotation.

15.3 The client understands and agrees that TÜV Rheinland may be placed in storage at their premises, the relevant samples or documents must be made available to TÜV Rheinland upon request promptly and free of charge. If the client, in response to such a request, is incapable of making the samples or documents available for inspection, TÜV Rheinland may be placed in storage for material and pecuniary damage resulting from the respective testing and certification that is brought forward by the client against TÜV Rheinland shall be voided.

15.4 The client reserves the right to request the destruction of the test samples after the expiry of the test mark certificates or shall meet the applicable legal requirements for EU/EEC certificates of conformity and GS mark certificates.

15.5 The completed and dispatched of the test samples for storage on the client's premises are borne by the client. TÜV Rheinland will be liable for the loss of test samples or reference samples from the laboratories or warehouses of TÜV Rheinland only in case of gross negligence.

**16. Termination of the contract**

16.1 Notwithstanding clause 3.3 of the GTBCB, TÜV Rheinland and the client are entitled to terminate the contract in its entirety or, in the case of services, in part, if one of the combined parts of the contract individually and independently of the continuation of the remaining services with six (6) months' notice to the end of the contractually agreed term. The notice period shall be shortened to six (6) weeks in case TÜV Rheinland is prevented from performing the services due to a loss or suspension of its accreditation or notification.

16.2 For good cause, TÜV Rheinland may consider giving a written notice to the client to terminate the contract without being bound by any liabilities and/or claims for relevant service fees, but only for services provided by TÜV Rheinland due to the termination date of the contract. The aforesaid good causes includes but not limited to the following:

a) the client does not fulfil its obligations to TÜV Rheinland; or

b) the client misuses the certificate or certification mark or uses it in violation of the contract; or

c) the event of several consecutive delays in the payment of invoices; or

d) a substantial deterioration of the financial circumstances of the client occurs and as a result the payment claims of TÜV Rheinland under the contract are considerably endangered and TÜV Rheinland cannot reasonably be expected to continue the contractual relationship; or

e) in the event of any serious misrepresentation, be it by intentional fraud or grossly negligent behavior of the managers, employees or agents of the client;

f) if TÜV Rheinland, at its discretion, deems beyond control, temporarily or finally not able or entitled to continue or finalize the performance of the service, e.g. in case of force majeure, government interference, sanctions, loss of accreditation or notification, or other.

16.3 If the country/region in which the registration of the service project in the contract does not belong to the insurance coverage applicable to TÜV Rheinland, and TÜV Rheinland believes that there is a risk or some risks beyond its control to continue to perform the contract, TÜV Rheinland shall be entitled to terminate the contract with written notice to the client. In this case, TÜV Rheinland shall be entitled to a lump-sum claim for damages against the client if the conditions of a claim for damages exist. In this case, the client shall owe 15% of the remuneration to be paid until the end of the fixed contract term. In the case of a lump-sum claim, the client reserves the right to prove that there is no damage or a considerably lower damage. TÜV Rheinland reserves the right to provide a considerably higher damage in individual cases.

16.4 TÜV Rheinland shall be entitled to terminate the contract with written notice if the client has not been able to make use of the time windows for auditing /service provision provided by TÜV Rheinland within the scope of a certification procedure and the certificate therefore has to be withdrawn (for example during the performance of monitoring audits). Clause 16.3 applies accordingly.

**17. Force Majeure**

17.1 "Force Majeure" means the occurrence of an event or circumstance that prevents or impedes a Party from performing one or more of its contractual obligations under the contract, if and to the extent that that Party proves: (a) that such impediment is beyond its reasonable control; and (b) that it could not reasonably have avoided or overcome the event; and (c) that the effects of the impediment could not reasonably have been avoided or overcome by the affected Party.

17.2 In the absence of proof to the contrary, the following events affecting a Party shall be presumed to fulfill conditions (a) and (b) under paragraph 1.1 of this Clause: (i) war (whether declared or not), hostilities, invasion, act of foreign enemies, extensive military mobilization; (ii) civil war, riot, rebellion and revolts; (iii) strikes or other industrial action; (iv) acts of terrorism, sabotage or piracy; (v) currency and trade restriction, embargo, sanction; (vi) act of authority whether lawful or unlawful, compliance with any law or governmental order, expropriation, seizure of works, requisition, nationalization; (v) plague, epidemic, natural disaster or extreme natural event; (vii) explosion, fire, destruction of equipment, prolonged break-down of transport, telecommunication, information system or energy; (viii) general labor disturbance such as boycott, strike and lock-out; (ix) slow-occupation of factories and premises.

17.3 The Party successfully invoking this Clause is relieved from its duty to perform its obligations under the contract from any liability in damages or from any other contractual remedy for breach of contract, from the time at which the impediment causes inability to perform, provided that the notice thereof is given without delay. If notice thereof is not given without delay, the relief is effective from the time at which notice thereof reaches the other Party. Where the effect of the impediment or event involved is temporary, the above provisions shall apply only so long as the impediment involved impedes performance of the affected Party. Where the duration of the impediment involved has the effect of substantially depriving the contracting Parties of what they were reasonably entitled to expect under the contract, either Party has the right to terminate the contract by notification within a reasonable period to the other Party. Unless otherwise agreed, the Parties expressly agree that the contract may be terminated by either Party if the duration of the impediment exceeds 120 days.

**18. Hardship**

18.1 The Parties are bound to perform their contractual duties even if events have rendered performance more onerous than could reasonably have been anticipated at the time of the conclusion of the contract.

18.2 Notwithstanding paragraph 1.1 of this Clause, where a Party proves that:

(a) the continued performance of its contractual duties has become excessively onerous due to an event beyond its reasonable control which it could not reasonably have been expected to have taken into account at the time of the conclusion of the contract; and that

(b) it could not reasonably have avoided or overcome the event or its consequences, the Parties are bound, within a reasonable time of the invocation of this Clause, to negotiate alternative contractual terms which reasonably allow to overcome the consequences of the event.

18.3 Where Clause 18.2 applies, but where the Parties have been unable to agree alternative contractual terms as provided in that paragraph, the Party invoking this Clause is entitled to terminate the contract, but cannot request adaptation by the judge or arbitrator without the agreement of the other Party.

**19. Partial invalidity, written form, place of jurisdiction and dispute resolution**

19.1 All amendments and supplements must be in writing in order to be effective. This also applies to amendments and supplements to this clause 17.1.

19.2 Should one or several of the provisions under the contract and/or these terms and conditions be or become ineffective, the contracting parties shall replace the invalid provision with a legally valid provision that comes closest to the content of the invalid provision in legal and commercial terms.

19.3 Unless otherwise stipulated in the contract, the governing law of the contract and these terms and conditions shall be the law of the country in which the contract is concluded.

19.4 If TÜV Rheinland in question is legally registered and existing in the People's Republic of China, the contracting parties hereby agree that the contract and these terms and conditions shall be governed by the law of the People's Republic of China.

19.5 If TÜV Rheinland in question is legally registered and existing in Taiwan, the contracting parties hereby agree that the contract and these terms and conditions shall be governed by the laws of Taiwan.

19.6 If TÜV Rheinland in question is legally registered and existing in Hong Kong, the contracting parties hereby agree that the contract and these terms and conditions shall be governed by the laws of Hong Kong.

19.7 Any dispute in connection with the contract and these terms and conditions or the execution thereof shall be settled friendly through negotiations.

19.8 Unless otherwise stated in the contract, no mediation or no agreement in respect of the extension of the negotiation period can be reached within two months of the arising of the dispute, the dispute shall be submitted:

(a) in the case of TÜV Rheinland in question being legally registered and existing in the People's Republic of China, to China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC) to be settled by arbitration under the Arbitration Rules of CIETAC in force when the arbitration is submitted. The arbitration shall take place in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen or Chongqing as appropriately chosen by the claiming party;

(b) in the case of TÜV Rheinland in question being legally registered and existing in Taiwan, to Chinese Arbitration Association (CAA) to be settled by arbitration in accordance with its then current Rules of Arbitration. The arbitration shall take place in Taipei;

(c) in the case of TÜV Rheinland being legally registered and existing in Hong Kong, to Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC) to be settled by arbitration under the arbitration rules of Administered Arbitration Rules in force when the Notice of Arbitration is submitted in accordance with these rules. The arbitration shall take place in Hong Kong.

19.9 The decision of the arbitration tribunal shall be final and binding on both parties. The arbitration fee shall be borne by the losing party.