

Type Approval Certificate vs. Witnessed Third Party Certificate Update

Type approval is a certification from a reputable third party Classification Society, to validate that the manufacturer of a product is capable of consistently producing a product in compliance with product specifications. It covers all sizes for a given product line.

Type Approval

Samson's most commonly requested type approval includes DNV, Lloyd's, and ABS. Specific detailed information on all societies Samson has type approvals for can be found at the following web links:

ABS (American Bureau of Shipping):..... www.eagle.org
DNV (Det Norske Veritas):..... www.dnv.com
LLOYD'S REGISTER: www.lr.org
NK (Nippon Kaiji Kyokai):..... www.classnk.or.jp
KR (Korean Register):..... www.krs.co.kr

To obtain type approval, manufacturers must first submit all information regarding a specific product to the registrar, including detailed construction information, manufacturing procedures, and product specifications, such as weights and strengths. After review of the specifications, a testing program is established to manufacture and test selected sizes for the product in accordance with the manufacturer's specified test methods. All testing is witnessed by the third party. Table 1 lists current type approval certifications held by Samson.

**TABLE 1. Type approval to ISO 2307: Lloyd's, ABS, DNV, KR.
Type approval to SRT test method: ABS, Lloyd's, NK.**

Product	ABS	Lloyd's	DNV	KR	NK
AmSteel® Blue	X	X	X	X	X
AmSteel®	X				
Quantum-12	X	X	X		
Quantum-8	X				
Force-8	X		X		
Proton® 8	X				
Neutron® 8	X				
DPX™-75	X	X	X	X	
Turbo-EPX	X	X	X	X	
Turbo-75	X	X	X	X	
P-7		X			
DD-7	X				
SSR-1200 (12-strand)	X				

Once approved, there is generally an annual or bi-annual plant inspection/audit performed by the registrar. This is done to review the manufacturer's quality manual, such as an ISO 9001 manual, and to verify that there are no issues with the quality system or the manufacture of the product. Hence, the quality and consistency of the product is ensured.

Third Party Certification

Different from type approval, a third party certification is a one-time inspection of a specific product and/or production run, usually for a product that is not currently covered by one of our existing type approval certificates.

A break test must be performed on that specific product and witnessed by a third party inspector. The certificate received is a report stating the facts of the testing, including the product identification, diameter tested, test method used, and actual breaking strength of the rope specimen.

Type of Certification to Choose

A type approval certificate provides the most assurance as to both quality and consistency of a product supplied by the manufacturer, which is all backed by the rigorous testing, inspections, and audits that are required.

An additional benefit to choosing the type approval certificate over a third party certificate is cost. When third party certificates are required, the cost of the rope, splicing, break test, and inspector fees can easily be several thousand dollars for just one test, which usually is a cost to be shared with the customer. Samson has already paid the costs associated with obtaining type approval certification and these certificates can be supplied at no additional cost.



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