

Statutes for the Quality Mark awarded by the German Quality Association for Locks and Hardware (Gütegemeinschaft Schlösser und Beschläge e. V.)

(These Statutes for the Quality Mark are regulations governing
use of the mark in the meaning of Section 102 para. 2 of the German Trade Mark Act)

Version August 2020

1 Name and registered office

1.1 The Association is a Quality Association in the meaning of the principles set out by the RAL German Institute for Quality Assurance and Certification, Fränkische Strasse 7, 53229 Bonn, Germany, in the respective applicable version and operates under the German name *Gütegemeinschaft Schlösser und Beschläge e.V.*

It is registered in the Register of Associations at Wuppertal District Court (VR 15520).

1.2 The Quality Association's registered address is Offerstrasse 12, 42551 Velbert, Germany.

2 Purpose

2.1 The purpose of the Association is to test and assure the quality of locks, hardware and supplementary product groups. It therefore seeks recognition of quality marks for the aforementioned product groups.

2.2 In this regard, the Association aims to provide facilities and to perform the associated test procedures.

2.3 The Association requires holders of the quality mark to label with the quality mark only such products whose quality is assured.

3 Membership

Membership of the Quality Association for Locks and Hardware is open to every company that manufactures locks and hardware in accordance with the Quality Association's quality and inspection regulations.

4 Representation

The Association's legal representative is its Board. The Board comprises the chairperson and deputy chairperson in the meaning of Section 26 of the German Civil Code (BGB). Each person has sole power of representation and is entitled to represent the Association in all matters.

5 Establishment and design of the quality mark

5.1 The Quality Association is the body responsible for the quality mark shown below:



5.2 This quality mark complies with the RAL requirements for quality marks in their respective valid version.

5.3 The Association intends to register the quality mark as a collective trademark with the German Patent and Trade Mark Office.

6 Authorisation to use the quality mark and conditions of use

6.1 The quality mark for locks and hardware can be used by every company that manufactures products in accordance with the Quality Association's quality and inspection regulations and that has been granted use of the quality mark.

6.2 Use of the quality mark can only be granted where compliance with the requirements set out in the quality and inspection regulations and in the implementing rules has been verified by the Quality Association's quality committee. The Quality Association's Board must certify each award of and/or authorisation to use the quality mark. The authorisation to use the quality mark must not be made conditional upon fulfilment of any requirements other than those designed to ensure compliance with these Statutes for the Quality Mark, the quality and inspection requirements and the implementing rules.

6.3 The users of the quality mark must only use the quality mark for the product for which the quality mark has been awarded. Quality assured products are labelled with the applicable RAL quality assurance code for the specific product.

7 Rights and obligations of the parties involved

7.1 As the body responsible for the mark, the Quality Association for Locks and Hardware shall be entitled to all of the rights that arise from the mark being a quality mark recognised by the RAL and registered as a collective trademark with the German Patent and Trade Mark Office, as well as any rights arising in connection with the unlawful use of the same.

7.2 The Quality Association has a duty

7.2.1 to monitor the quality mark users and ensure their compliance with the Statutes for the Quality Mark, the quality and inspection requirements and the implementing rules,

7.2.2 to take action in the event that the use of the quality mark is being interfered with or compromised,

7.2.3 to interfere with any fraudulent use of the quality mark,

7.2.4 to request the removal of the quality mark registered as a collective trademark with the German Patent and Trade Mark Office in the event it is no longer being recognised by the RAL. This duty also applies to any national foreign trademarks, international registrations and registered community designs that correspond to the German quality mark.

7.3 The quality mark users have a duty

7.3.1 to comply with the Statutes for the Quality Mark, the quality and inspection requirements and the implementing rules,

7.3.2 to notify the Quality Association of any fraudulent use of the quality mark they may become aware of,

7.3.3 to contribute to supporting the Quality Association's aims,

7.3.4 to pay the membership fees and/or contributions specified by the Quality Association on time.

7.4 All quality mark users are solely responsible for the quality of their products. The Quality Association, its bodies or agents shall not accept any liability in this respect whatsoever.

8 Amendments

Any amendments to these Statutes for the Quality Mark, including of a copyediting kind, require the RAL's prior written approval in order to have legal effect. Amendments will be announced by the Quality Association's Board, which will also specify an appropriate effective date for the same.