



TECHNICAL NOTE

UAE Cabinet Resolution No. (121) of 2023

Concerning the UAE Scheme for Steel Bars for Concrete Reinforcement

Prepared by CARES

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1. Background

Under Federal Decree-Law No. (20) of 2020, the UAE Cabinet Resolution No. (121) of 2023 establishes a comprehensive regulatory framework governing constructional steel products used in concrete structures. This initiative, led by the Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology (MoIAT) in partnership with CARES - the international independent assurance body on constructional steel certification—aims to enhance safety, sustainability, and digital transparency across the construction sector.

2. Objective

The Resolution seeks to regulate reinforcing steel production, strengthen quality assurance and environmental compliance, and introduce digital traceability using cloud-based platforms to align national practices with global standards.

3. Scope of Application

This Resolution applies to manufacturers, suppliers, and importers of reinforcing steel and billets used in concrete reinforcement across both public and private sector projects within the UAE.

4. Key Compliance Requirements

Entities must ensure reinforcing steel products meet five fundamental requirements: product conformity, quality standards, environmental standards, and digital transparency, integrated under the Emirates Conformity Assessment Scheme (ECAS).

Requirement	Description
Product Conformity	Compliance with applicable reinforcing steel product standards (e.g., BS 4449:2005+A3:2016).
Quality Standards	Accredited certification to ISO 9001 – Quality Management Systems (QMS).
Environmental Standards	Accredited certification to ISO 14001 – Environmental Management Systems (EMS).
Digital Transparency	Provision of digital product information ensuring traceability throughout the supply chain.
Digital Product Passport	Product test information for each batch of product placed on the market and an independently verified Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) to EN 15804 in the form of a Digital Product Passport.



5. Regulatory Obligations

Entities must obtain ECAS certification, maintain test reports for a minimum of ten years, and adhere to conformity procedures under Articles (3)–(5).

6. Digital Traceability Framework

The Resolution mandates cloud-based product tracking modeled similar to the CARESCloud™ system, ensuring real-time monitoring and full lifecycle traceability from production to site installation.

7. Implementation and Enforcement

The Resolution enters into force on 16 December 2023, the day following its publication in the Official Gazette. Annexes 1–3 define requirements for Quality Management Systems, Product Testing, and Reference Specifications.

8. Supporting Frameworks

The Emirates Conformity Assessment Scheme (ECAS) and the Emirates Quality Mark (EQM) are administered by MoIAT to ensure compliance with UAE standards. CARES contributes international certification expertise to integrate digital compliance systems.

9. Significance

This Resolution sets a benchmark for sustainable, safe, and transparent construction practices in the UAE, reinforcing global leadership in innovation and responsible infrastructure regulation.

10. Conclusion

Stakeholders should secure ECAS certification, implement compliant management systems, and adopt digital traceability to align with the UAE's strategic vision for a safe, sustainable, and technologically advanced built environment.