Northern Territory gaming equipment approval process

Appendix to the Australian / New Zealand Gaming Machine National Standards

**April 2022**

**Version 10.8**

# Glossary

| Glossary | Definition |
| --- | --- |
| Approval | A document issued by the Director giving authority for gaming equipment to be operated within a licensed gaming venue. |
| Approved Evaluator | A person who is approved as an evaluator under the *Gaming Machine Act*. |
| ATF | Nationally Accredited Test Facility formally approved by the Director. |
| Certification | A document produced by an ATF and signed by an approved evaluator declaring gaming equipment satisfies the NT Appendix and the NT Approval Process (chapter NT.4.0). (See also ‘Recommendation for Approval’ following). |
| Consignment or Movement Advice | Emailed summary of gaming machines being transported to, from, or within the Northern Territory. |
| Director | Director of Gaming Control or Director of Gaming Machines as applicable to Casinos or Clubs and Hotels |
| Division | Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade |
| EGM | Electronic Gaming Machine / Electronic Poker Machine. |
| FIPS PUB | United States Federal Information Processing Standards Publication. |
| Game | The set of rules that defines the play and awarding of prizes on a gaming machine. |
| Gaming Equipment | Means a gaming machine, a game, linked jackpot equipment, electronic monitoring system, centralised credit system or any part of or replacement part for such a machine, equipment or system. |
| Gaming Machine | As defined under the *Gaming Machine Act* and the *Gaming Control Act* and includes a Poker Machine. |
| HMAC | Keyed-Hash Message Authentication Code (refer: FIPS PUB 198-1). |
| Hashing Algorithm | As specified in the National Standards |
| Jurisdiction | Australian / New Zealand State or Territory gaming regulatory body. |
| Licensee | Means the person to whom a casino or gaming machine licence is granted. |
| LMP | Licensed Monitoring Provider. |
| Mutual Approval | An approval issued by the QOLGR, recognised as approved within the NT. |
| National Standards | Australian / New Zealand Gaming Machine National Standards Revision 11.1 |
| NSD | Nominal Standard Deviation. |
| NT | Northern Territory of Australia. |
| NT Casinos | Lasseters Hotel Casino, Alice Springs and Mindil Beach Resort Casino, Darwin |
| NT Community | NT clubs and hotels. |
| PID | Player Information Display. |
| Poker Machine | The approved NT Casino game utilising gaming machines. |
| Program Media | Media upon which the program code or data is stored. E.g. EPROM’s, Flash ROM’s. |
| PSD | Program Storage Device. |
| QCOM | Queensland Treasury EGM Communications Protocol. |
| QOLGR | Queensland Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing. |
| Recommendation for Approval | A document produced by an ATF and signed by an approved evaluator.This title may be used where the gaming equipment may be non-compliant against the NT Appendix and the NT Approval Process (chapter NT.4.0) however, is recommended by an ATF. (See also: ‘Certification’ above). |
| RTP | Return To Player. |
| SHA-1 | Secure Hash Algorithm (refer: FIPS PUB 180-4). |
| TITO | Ticket-In / Ticket-Out. |
| Venue | NT Casino, NT Club or NT Hotel, having a gaming licence. |
| XOR | Logical 'exclusive OR’ operation. |

Contents

[Glossary 2](#_Toc100750354)

[NT.1.0 Introduction 5](#_Toc100750355)

[Gaming Regulatory Authority 5](#_Toc100750356)

[General 5](#_Toc100750357)

[Document Control 5](#_Toc100750358)

[Australian / New Zealand National Standards 5](#_Toc100750359)

[Legislation 5](#_Toc100750360)

[NT.2.0 Policies 5](#_Toc100750361)

[Approval of Gaming Equipment 5](#_Toc100750362)

[Monitoring of Gaming Machines 5](#_Toc100750363)

[Evaluation Costs 6](#_Toc100750364)

[Roll of Manufacturers & Suppliers 6](#_Toc100750365)

[Jackpots 6](#_Toc100750366)

[NT.3.0 Technical Requirements 6](#_Toc100750367)

[General 6](#_Toc100750368)

[NT Community Gaming Machines 7](#_Toc100750369)

[NT Casino Machines (Poker Machines) 7](#_Toc100750370)

[NT.4.0 Approval Requirements 8](#_Toc100750371)

[NT Community Gaming Equipment – Mutual Approval from the Queensland Club & Hotel Market 8](#_Toc100750372)

[NT Community Gaming Equipment – ATF Certification or Recommendation 8](#_Toc100750373)

[NT Casino Gaming Equipment – ATF Certification or Recommendation 8](#_Toc100750374)

[Conditions of Approval 9](#_Toc100750375)

[NT.5.0 Submission Material 9](#_Toc100750376)

[General 9](#_Toc100750377)

[Mandatory Submission Material 9](#_Toc100750378)

[Submission Formats 10](#_Toc100750379)

[NT.6.0 Division Contact 10](#_Toc100750380)

[Correspondence 10](#_Toc100750381)

[NT.7.0 Consignment or Movement of Gaming Machines 11](#_Toc100750382)

[Consignment or Movement Advice 11](#_Toc100750383)

[NT.8.0 Revision History 11](#_Toc100750384)

[NT.9.0 Release Information 13](#_Toc100750385)

# Introduction

## Gaming Regulatory Authority

1. The Department of the Industry, Tourism and Trade is responsible for administering the legislation for the regulation of gambling within the Northern Territory.

## General

1. This document is the Division’s appendix to the National Standards. It describes the approval process and the additional technical & submission requirements for gaming equipment for operation in gaming venues within the Northern Territory.

## Document Control

1. The document version number is a combination of major and minor revision numbers. The significance of the document changes shall be indicated by an increment in the respective revision number. Summaries of changes are detailed in the documents ‘Revision History’.

## Australian / New Zealand National Standards

1. The National Standards is the principal technical standard for gaming equipment intended for operation in NT clubs, hotels and casinos. This appendix is applicable to the National Standards. A non-mandatory grace period of up to 6 months is permitted before new requirements come into force.

## Legislation

1. This document is issued pursuant, but not limited to, sections 4, 14, 26, 31 & 51 of the *NT Gaming Control Act*, sections 17, 22A, 116, 117, 127, 131, 161 & 161A of the *NT Gaming Machine Act* and the relevant Regulations and Rules issued under these and other relevant Acts.
2. The relevant legislation is located at <https://parliament.nt.gov.au/business/legislation>

# Policies

## Approval of Gaming Equipment

1. Gaming Equipment and Gaming Machine Games that satisfy the Approval Process (refer chapter NT.4.0) may be Conditionally Approved by the Director for operation within the defined category of venue. Other gaming equipment shall be subject to an evaluation for approval as determined by the Director.

## Monitoring of Gaming Machines

1. NT club & hotel gaming machines shall be monitored by the NT licensed monitoring provider. Alice Springs and Darwin casinos operate in-house gaming machine monitoring systems.

## Evaluation Costs

1. The Director may accept gaming equipment for evaluation on payment of the prescribed fee.
2. Manufacturers and suppliers are responsible for the costs for gaming equipment certifications and evaluations.

## Roll of Manufacturers & Suppliers

1. Manufacturers and suppliers of electronic gaming equipment will be placed on the ‘Roll of Recognised Manufacturers and Suppliers of Gaming Machines’ following consideration of probity and such other investigations the Director deems necessary.
2. <clause removed>.

## Jackpots

1. Wide area multi-venue gaming machine jackpots are not permitted in the NT.
2. Jackpot systems for use within NT Community venues shall be identical to, or derived from, jackpot systems approved for use within Queensland clubs & hotels.
3. Jackpot systems for use within NT Casinos shall be evaluated and approved on a case by case basis.
4. <clause removed>.

# Technical Requirements

## General

1. Gaming equipment for NT clubs, hotels and casinos shall meet the requirements of the National Standards and this Appendix.
2. This document applies to all gaming equipment intended for operation within the NT and takes precedence over any contradicting standards / requirements.
3. Electromechanical meters are mandatory on a gaming machine that is installed in a stand-alone manner, (i.e. not being monitored by an approved monitoring system).
4. <clause removed>
5. <clause removed>
6. <clause removed>
7. <clause removed>
8. <clause removed>

## NT Community Gaming Machines

1. Jackpot systems for use within NT Community venues shall be identical to, or derived from, such systems approved in Queensland clubs & hotels.
2. Gaming machines and gaming machine games for operation in NT clubs & hotels shall be approved by the QOLGR for the Queensland club & hotel market.
3. QOLGR club & hotel (QCOM) approved gaming machine types and games that satisfy chapter NT.4.0 Approval Process may be Conditionally Approved by the Director for operation within NT Community venues.
4. <clause removed>.
5. The minimum game RTP for NT clubs & hotels is 85%, this may include RTP from a jackpot.
6. The maximum stake or wager for NT Community games shall not exceed $5.00, gamble/double-up excluded.
7. Banknote acceptors are permitted in NT Community gaming machines. Approved denominations are: $5, $10, $20, $50 & $100. The banknote acceptor credit balance limit [BKNTLIM] is $1,000.
8. TITO systems for use within NT Clubs and Hotels is permitted from 1st July 2018.
9. Card Based Gaming systems for use within NT Clubs and Hotels is permitted from 1st July 2018.
10. Player loyalty points must not be able to be converted to Gaming Machine Credits.

## NT Casino Machines (Poker Machines)

1. Jackpot systems for use within NT Casinos shall be evaluated and approved on a case by case basis.
2. Gaming equipment evaluated against the National Standards and currently approved for use within another Jurisdiction requires a Certification against this Appendix, issued by an NT approved ATF.
3. Gaming equipment that is not currently approved for use within another Jurisdiction requires a Certification against the National Standards and this Appendix V10.7, issued by an NT approved ATF.
4. The minimum game RTP in NT Casinos is 85%, this may include RTP from a jackpot.
5. <clause removed>.
6. <clause removed>.
7. <clause removed>.
8. TITO and Card based systems within NT Casinos shall be evaluated and approved on a case by case basis

# Approval Requirements



**Figure 4.1 Approval Flowcharts**

## NT Community Gaming Equipment – Mutual Approval from the Queensland Club & Hotel Market

1. Gaming Equipment that is, and remains, approved by the QOLGR for the Queensland club & hotel market may be mutually approved by the Director for operation in NT clubs & hotels.

## NT Community Gaming Equipment – ATF Certification or Recommendation

1. Gaming Equipment that is certified or recommended by an NT approved ATF may be conditionally approved by the Director for operation in NT clubs & hotels.

## NT Casino Gaming Equipment – ATF Certification or Recommendation

1. Gaming Equipment that is certified or recommended by an NT approved ATF may be conditionally approved by the Director for operation in NT Casinos.
2. <clause removed>.
3. The ATF report shall identify the revision numbers of the related standards, including:
4. The National Standards;
5. NT Appendix to the National Standards; &
6. Any other applicable Standards.

## Conditions of Approval

<clause removed>

# Submission Material

## General

1. Manufacturers and suppliers, at their discretion, may initiate a gaming equipment submission to an ATF. Prior authorisation from this office is not required.
2. The following material is a mandatory requirement for all gaming equipment submissions.

**Note: Submission material shall no longer be sent to the QOLGR for forwarding to the NT.**

## Mandatory Submission Material

1. A signed & witnessed ‘Certification & Indemnity Declaration’ as per clause 9.2 b) and the Appendix of the National Standards. An electronic scanned image may be provided on the basis that the original document is kept by the manufacturer / supplier / licensee for seven (7) years;
2. Gaming equipment Service & Operator manuals;
3. Gaming equipment specifications;
4. Gaming equipment engineering drawings, PCB artwork, schematic & wiring diagrams;
5. Game mathematics as per clause 9.44 of the National Standards;
6. Game artworks presented to the player: (including: visual symbols, images, written text, audible sounds and other effects); including clause 9.51 of the National Standards.
7. The 160-bit message digest (40 hexadecimal characters) utilising the Hashing Algorithm (seed=0x00) for each of the gaming equipment PSD’s;
8. Program media labels in an electronic format along with a precise description of the related PSD (a digital photo is suitable);
9. ‘Game Profile’ as per clause 9.42 & 9.43 and the Appendix of the National Standards;
10. ‘Progressive Summary’ as per the Appendix of the National Standards;
11. A copy of the gaming equipment interstate approval(s);
12. Non off-the-shelf sample blank PSD’s & PSD programming/verification equipment (such equipment shall provide for seeding of the Hashing Algorithm);
13. A colour photo of the gaming equipment (a colour brochure is suitable);
14. Material and procedures necessary to perform a RAM Clear on the gaming equipment;
15. Information necessary to calculate the PSD XOR Master Result (i.e. QCOM gaming equipment); &
16. An evaluation sample of the Gaming Machine Platform (please liaise with this office regarding this requirement).
17. The following material is generally not required to be supplied to this office:

**Note: This material may be required by an ATF, however such material should only be forwarded to this office when specifically requested.**

1. Source code;
2. Programmed Program Storage Devices;
3. Program Storage Device binary images; &
4. Gaming Equipment Hardware (other than Gaming Machine Platforms referred to in NT.5.2.16).

## Submission Formats

1. Subject to clause NT.5.5, submission material shall conform to chapter 9 of the National Standards.
2. Where **identical** gaming equipment has been approved for use within another Jurisdiction, the submission material may be provided in the format required by that Jurisdiction.
3. <clause removed>.
4. The preferred submission medium is via Licensing NT’s Registered User Portal (RUP). This Office should be contacted in order to create a RUP Account and to receive an operational overview.
5. Large (> 20MB) files of submission material will need to be submitted via our NTG secure FTP facility. These files should be PGP encrypted using Licensing NT’s Public Key.
6. Please contact this Office for a copy of Licensing NT’s Public Key.

# Division Contact

## Correspondence

1. General correspondence shall be sent to the following address.

**Postal**:

Manager Gambling Systems,

Licensing NT,
Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade.

Northern Territory Government, Australia
GPO Box 1154,

DARWIN NT 0801

**Business**:
Level 3, NAB House, 71 Smith Street,

DARWIN NT 0800

**Email**: Electronic.Gaming@nt.gov.au
Telephone: 08 8999 1308
Facsimile: 08 8999 1888

# Consignment or Movement of Gaming Machines

## Consignment or Movement Advice

1. Suppliers of gaming machines and/or Licensees shall provide a Consignment or Movement Advice to the Division, containing information relating to all gaming machines being transported to, from, or within the Northern Territory.
2. Consignment or Movement Advice shall be provided via email to the division email contact. This Advice shall include the following detail for each gaming machine being transported: make, model, serial\_number, game\_name, game\_version\_ID, origin & destination, intended transport dates, manner of transport and carrier.

# Revision History

| Date | Version | Description | Author |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 12/01/2001 | 1.0 | This is the new ‘Northern Territory Submission Requirements & Appendix’ to the Australian / New Zealand Gaming Machine National Standards. The document replaces the ‘Submission requirements for the technical evaluation of electronic gaming equipment for use within NT casinos and community gaming venues’ dated 29-Jun-97. |  |
| 17/05/2001 | 2.0 | Changes to effect the change of community EGM communications protocol to QCOM. |  |
| 17/08/2005 | 8.0 | * Incorporates up to and including Version 8.xx of the National Standards.
* Version number change to reflect associated version of the National Standards.
* QCOM version 1.6 implementation.
* HMAC-SHA1 signatures for PSD’s.
* PGP Public Key included.
* General update of document.
 | S. Newland |
| 1/11/2007 | 9.0 | * Incorporates up to and including Version 9.xx of the National Standards.
* Version number change to reflect associated version of the National Standards.
* Change of Department name to Department of Justice.
* Submission Notice is no longer required.
* Transportation Notice is no longer a separate form.
* General update of document.
* NSD references added.
 | S. Newland |
| 5/12/2007 | 9.1 | Dispensation may be considered regarding HMAC-SHA1 PSD Verification for previously approved EGM’s, effective only until 30th June 2009. | S. Newland |
| 30/6/2008 | 9.2 | Typos corrected in clause NT.3.4 | S. Newland |
| 12/12/2008 | 9.3 | Major revision. Gaming Operators may install gaming equipment as detailed on the “Certification & Conditional Approval” issued by an Accredited Test Facility. | S. Newland |
| 5/06/2009 | 10.0 | Adoption of National Standards Revision 10.0 | S. Newland |
| 17/07/2009 | 10.1 | Dispensation may be considered regarding HMAC-SHA1 PSD Verification for EGM’s approved prior to 5th Dec 2007. | S. Newland |
| 1/03/2013 | 10.2 | * Removal of clauses in line with National Standards Reform objectives.
* Change of Department name to ‘Department of Business’.
* Term ’Recommendation for Approval’ added.
* Term ’Licensee’ added.
* The word ‘link’ removed from NT.3.5.1. & NT.3.5.2.
* NSD section expanded.
* TITO clause added.
* Colour photo of gaming equipment.
* Sample of gaming machine platform requirement.
* Submission material may be supplied via FTP.
* Expansion of Consignment or Movement Advice.
 | S. Newland |
| 28/05/2013 | 10.3 | * Banknote Acceptors approved for Community gaming machines.
 | S. Newland |
| 21/4/2015 | 10.4 | * Remove section 3.5 of general requirements.
* Adoption of National Standards 2015.
 | J Sealy |
| 1/09/2015 | 10.5 | * Changed Title Page date and revision to 10.5.
* Contents NT2.0 Policies removed "Games that have a component of strategic skill (refer clause 3.9.13....as this is now covered in the NS 2015.
* In the Glossary page 2 Removed the NSD referenced clause in the NS for clarity.
* Page 4 NT 1.4 changed reference from NS 10.3 to 2015.
* Page 5 NT 2.10 Removed clause for Games with strategic skill as this is fully captured in the NS 2015 and we are starting to align the standards and minimise the appendix.
* Page 6 NT 3.15 Updated reference from NS 10.3 to 2015.
* Page 6 NT 3.16 Changed the RTP in NT Casinos from 88% to 85%.
* Page 8 NT 5.2.1 Mandatory Sub Material changed per clauses from 6.1.2b to be 9.2b and changed reference to Appendix I of the NS to be generic “Appendix”.
* Page 8 NT 5.2.5 Mathematics - added reference to NS 9.44.
* Page 8 NT 5.2.6 Game Artworks change reference from clause 6.4.18 to be 9.51 of the NS.
* Page 9 NT 5.2.9 'Game Profile' clause changed from 6.4.7 to NS 9.43 and 9.43 then changed reference to Appendix II of the NS to be generic “Appendix”.
* Page 9 NT 5.2.10 'Progressive Summary' changed reference to Appendix III of the NS to be generic “Appendix”.
* Page 9 NT 5.4 Changed Chapter from 6 to 9 of the National Standard.
* Page 9 NT 5.7 Removed reference to CD/DVD submission material. Added ftp detail.
 | G Huckel |
| 9/5/2018 | 10.6 | * Page 6: NT 3.13 Include TITO Systems
* Page 6: NT 3.14 Include Card Based Gaming Systems
* Effective only after 1st July 2018
 | G Huckel |
| 8/9/2021 | 10.7 | * Department Change
* Apply V11 of the National Standards
* All references to DG changed to Director Gaming Machines and Director Gaming Control.
* 3.22 Included Card Based systems
* 5.7 and 5.8 – Include reference to Registered User Portal
 | J Sealy |
| 13/4/2022 | 10.8 | * Glossary updated to reflect GMNS V11.1
* Clarified NT 3.7
* Page 7: Added NT 3.15
 | J Sealy |

# Release Information

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