

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO.: 22-03
Series of 2022

**GRANT OF GRACE PERIOD ON THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS
FOR RENEWAL OF ACCREDITATION OF SERVICE AND REPAIR
ENTERPRISES**

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree No. 1572 empowers the Secretary of Trade and Industry to regulate service and repair enterprises (SREs) in order to provide adequate protection to safeguard the interest of the public against unethical, unfair and incompetent practice of service and repair enterprises and protect reliable and competent service and repair enterprises against such malpractices which undermine their good name and established reputation;

WHEREAS, Article 125 of Republic Act No. 7394, otherwise known as the Consumer Act of the Philippines, declares that the State shall cause the accreditation of repair and service firms or establishments and their technical personnel in order to protect the interest of the consumers availing of their services;

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, in order to address the public health crisis brought about by the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19), issued Proclamation No. 922 (s.2020) declaring a "State of Public Health Emergency" throughout the Philippines and subsequently Proclamation No. 1218 (s.2021) "Further Extending the Period of a State of Calamity Throughout the Philippines Due to Corona Virus Disease 2019 Declared under Proclamation No. 1021 (s. 2020)" which extended the said declaration until 12 September 2022;

WHEREAS, the President subsequently issued Executive Order No. 151 (s.2021) on 11 November 2021 which approves the nationwide implementation of the Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response replacing the quarantine classifications previously implemented;

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court has ruled in favor of extending statutory deadlines in order to address exigencies and prevent injustice;

WHEREAS, the DTI recognizes the need to grant a grace period on the renewal of Certificates of Accreditation of SREs to allow ample time for previously accredited service and repair shops to file application for renewal and ensure the public's continuous access to competent service and repair services.

WHEREFORE, foregoing premises considered, this Memorandum Circular (MC) is hereby issued for the information and guidance of those concerned:

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Section 1. Objective. – To ensure that SREs shall continue to operate and render services during the implementation of the alert levels system.

Section 2. Scope. – The provisions hereof shall apply to all SREs holding Certificates of Accreditation expiring on 31 December 2021.


Section 3. Grant of Grace Period. – Holders of Certificates of Accreditation expiring on 31 December 2021 are granted until 31 March 2022 to file their application for the renewal of accreditation.

During the said period, SREs shall be allowed to operate under the same terms and conditions unless their Certificate of Accreditation is revoked or cancelled by virtue of a decision rendered against said SREs for any reason other than the expiration of the term of its validity.

Section 4. Monitoring and Enforcement. – Upon the expiration of the grace period, the DTI-FTEB and the Regional/Provincial Offices performing monitoring and enforcement activities shall ensure strict compliance with the accreditation requirements. Further, enforcement activities shall continue against SREs not covered by this MC or those operating without prior accreditation and/or those which accreditation expired on or before 31 December 2021.

Section 5. Effectivity. – In view of the declared state of public health emergency, this MC shall be effective immediately upon its publication and its filing with the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR) of the U.P. Law Center.

Issued this 31st day of January 2022 in Makati City, Philippines.


RAMON M. LOPEZ
Secretary