



# RCEP establishes free trade agreement among 15 member states



## **The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership facilitates access to markets in 15 Southeast Asian and Northeast Asian countries**

### **RCEP creates access and opportunity**

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) is a multilateral free trade agreement (FTA) among the 10 member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN): Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam; and five regional partners: Australia, China, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea.

According to its charter, RCEP seeks to progressively eliminate tariff and non-tariff barriers on all trade in goods, establishing a free trade area among the participating countries to facilitate market access and regulatory compliance. Initially proposed in 2011, the partnership officially became effective in 2022.

The agreement establishes common rules of origin for all goods traded, proposes guidelines for government procurement, and generally aims to establish open and competitive markets in the area. RCEP signatories are projected to make significant gains in gross domestic product over the first decade of the pact.

RCEP cumulatively affects markets that include about 30% of the world's population and \$26.2 trillion (USD) of global trade, making it one of the largest free trade agreements or international trading blocs today. Economic activity for the region is projected to remain strong in the coming decades, with particular growth in household appliances and electronic consumer goods markets.

Even with the advent of RCEP, manufacturers seeking to market their products across the region must navigate a complex environment of safety and regulatory requirements. Objective third-party guidance, such as testing, certification and global market access services from UL Solutions, can be vital tools for success.

## UL Solutions provides targeted services for RCEP countries

### Global resources and local services

With a global network of laboratories, state-of-the-art testing facilities and recognized experts across a range of industries, UL Solutions is uniquely positioned to provide local services in local languages to manufacturers seeking to compete effectively in RCEP countries. Our large household appliances testing facility in Suzhou, China, is the Asia Pacific region's most comprehensive safety and performance testing laboratory.

### UL Solutions locations in RCEP countries

RCEP countries	UL Solutions office	UL Solutions test laboratory
Brunei	No	No
Cambodia	No	No
Laos	No	No
Myanmar	No	No
Malaysia	Yes	No
The Philippines	Yes	No
Indonesia	Yes; also a certification office	Yes
Singapore	Yes; also a certification office	Yes
Thailand	Yes	Yes
Vietnam	Yes	Yes
Australia	Yes	Yes
New Zealand	Yes; also a certification office	Yes
China	Yes; also a certification office	Yes
Japan	Yes; also a certification office	Yes
South Korea	Yes	Yes

We offer a range of testing, certification, inspection and surveillance services designed to help manufacturers bring their products to market successfully, demonstrate compliance and build consumer trust. Manufacturers can rely on UL Solutions to help them understand and serve the wide range of local markets now more easily accessible under the RCEP umbrella.

To read more about RCEP, visit: [URL to be determined](#)

To view our RCEP map, visit: [URL to be determined](#)

### Why choose UL Solutions?

From materials testing to supply chain management, new energy options to interoperability solutions, companies and business owners leverage our expertise and insights to navigate the global regulatory environment and bring their products to market.

Our global network of state-of-the-art facilities, technical experts, partner laboratories and extensive regulatory knowledge help manufacturers build brand trust and compete in an increasingly complex global supply chain.



**Knowledge you can trust** – Our experienced personnel can support you from the initial stages of product design through development, testing and production. Our expertise can help you understand certification requirements for your specific target markets.



**Speed and efficiency** – Cost-effective systems and technologically advanced facilities allow us to help you overcome regulatory challenges and reduce time to market for your products.



**Flexibility and convenience** – We meet all of your compliance needs, bundling safety, performance and interoperability services to help you save money and valuable time.



**Global reach and access** – Our worldwide network of expert engineers helps you understand various national and international requirements for your specific markets and applications.

For more information about UL Solutions services in RCEP countries, visit: [URL to be determined](#)



**Safety. Science. Transformation.™**