

GCC Consumer Product Regulatory Matrix

Dubai & Federal UAE Gateways
Montaji • ZAD • MOIAT ECAS

Executive Purpose: This reference matrix provides trade compliance teams, customs brokers, and brand managers with a clear cross-mapping of regulatory pathways for consumer products in Dubai and the broader UAE. Misrouting a product to the wrong portal (e.g., submitting food to Montaji or omitting federal ECAS conformity) causes immediate customs detention at Jebel Ali or port of entry.

1. REGULATORY PATHWAY EXECUTIVE COMPARISON

GATEWAY OVERVIEW

Gateway / Portal	Issuing Authority	Jurisdiction & Scope	Est. Fees (AED)	Review Time	Validity
Montaji	Dubai Municipality (Health & Safety Dept.)	Dubai Local Market (Mainland) Non-food consumer products	150 – 700 AED (per product/SKU)	14–21 Days (up to 45 for biocides)	5 Years (subject to changes)
ZAD / FIRS	Dubai Municipality & MOCCAE (Food Safety Dept.)	Dubai & UAE Federal Edible food & beverages	100 – 500 AED (per product)	5–12 Days	5 Years
MOIAT ECAS	Ministry of Industry & Advanced Technology	UAE Federal Level Technical safety standards	600 – 2,500 AED (+ testing fees)	7–15 Days	1 Year (Annual Renewal)

2. CATEGORY CLASSIFICATION MATRIX (PART 1: COSMETICS, PERFUMES & PERSONAL CARE)

30+ PRODUCT TYPES

Product Sub-Category	Primary Gateway	Parallel Requirement	Key Compliance Focus
Skincare (Creams, Serums, Lotions)	Montaji	None	INCI ingredients, heavy metal CoA, Arabic artwork.
Color Cosmetics (Lipstick, Foundation, Eye Makeup)	Montaji	None	CI colorant limits, heavy metals, microbial limits.
Haircare (Shampoo, Conditioner, Hair Dyes)	Montaji	None	Preservatives, peroxide limits in dyes, IFRA.
Perfumes, Colognes & Fragrances	Montaji	MOIAT ECAS	IFRA certificate, methanol limits, alcohol testing.
Deodorants & Antiperspirants	Montaji	None	Aluminum salt limits, aerosol stability tests.
Oral Hygiene (Toothpaste, Mouthwash)	Montaji	MOIAT ECAS	Fluoride concentration, pH levels, microbial CoA.
Soaps & Hand Washes (Cosmetic)	Montaji	None	Free alkali limits, skin compatibility, Arabic packaging.
Antibacterial Hand Sanitizers (Alcohol-based)	Montaji + ECAS	MOIAT ECAS	Alcohol % validation (60-80%), biocide efficacy tests.
Wet Wipes & Baby Tissues	Montaji	None	Preservatives, hypoallergenic claims, challenge tests.
Sunscreen & UV Protection Products	Montaji	None	SPF validation report, broad-spectrum UV filters.

2. CATEGORY CLASSIFICATION MATRIX (PART 2: HOUSEHOLD, SUPPLEMENTS & FOOD CONTACT)

OPERATIONAL RULES

Product Sub-Category	Primary Gateway	Parallel Requirement	Key Compliance Focus
Household Detergents & Laundry Liquids	Montaji	MOIAT ECAS	16-section SDS, biodegradable surfactant limits.
Disinfectants & Surface Sanitizers	Montaji	MOIAT ECAS	Biocide efficacy testing, active substance %, SDS.
Household Pesticides & Insecticides	Montaji	MOIAT ECAS	Active ingredient toxicity, hazard symbols, MSDS.
Air Fresheners & Room Sprays	Montaji	None	IFRA compliance, volatile organic compound limits.
Nutritional & Dietary Supplements (Vitamins, Minerals)	Montaji	None	No medicinal claims, RDA limits, CoA stability.
Sports Protein Powders & Amino Acids	Montaji	None	Banned substance screening, protein % verification.
Food Contact Packaging (Plastic/Metal Containers)	Montaji	MOIAT ECAS	Migration testing report, heavy metal migration limits.
Disposable Cutlery, Straws & Food Wraps	Montaji	MOIAT ECAS	Food-grade material certification, migration CoA.
Packaged Food & Beverages (Edible)	ZAD / FIRS	None	Ingredient clearance, nutritional facts, Halal.
Toys & Children Products	MOIAT ECAS	G-Mark (GCC)	EN 71 safety standard, mechanical/physical safety.
Small Household Electrical Appliances	MOIAT ECAS	G-Mark (GCC)	Low Voltage Directive (LVD), Gulf Conformity Mark.
Apparel, Textiles & Leather Goods	Direct Customs	None	Azo dye testing, fibre composition labelling.

3. INTERLOCKING COMPLIANCE GUIDANCE (DUBAI VS. FEDERAL UAE)

OPERATIONAL SEQUENCE

Step 1: Local Municipal Registration (Montaji) Submit product artwork, ISO 17025 CoA, and composition files on the Montaji portal to secure municipal approval for Dubai Mainland clearance.	Step 2: Federal Conformity (MOIAT ECAS) For regulated categories (detergents, cosmetics, food contact), attach approved Montaji reports to the MOIAT portal for nationwide ECAS certification.	Step 3: Customs & Port Clearance Provide both Montaji CPRE certificate and federal ECAS certificate numbers on the Dubai Customs declaration to release shipments without delay.
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