

Basic requirement and fulfilling its function	When a credit requires the presentation of such a certificate, this will be satisfied by the presentation of a signed document titled as called for in the credit, or bearing a similar title or untitled, that fulfils its function by certifying the outcome of the required action, for example, the results of the analysis, inspection, health, phytosanitary, quantity or quality assessment.
Dating	When a credit requires the presentation of a certificate that relates to an action required to take place on or prior to the date of shipment, the certificate is to indicate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. an issuance date that is no later than the date of shipment; or b. wording to the effect that the action took place prior to, or on the date of, shipment, in which event, when an issuance date is also indicated, it may be subsequent to the shipment date but no later than the date of presentation of the certificate; or c. a title indicating the event, for example, "Pre-shipment Inspection Certificate".
Content of a certificate	A certificate may indicate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. that only a sample of the required goods has been tested, analyzed or inspected; b. a quantity that is greater than that stated in the credit or on any other stipulated document; or c. more hold, compartment or tank numbers than that stated on the bill of lading or charter party bill of lading.
Issuance	A certificate is to be issued by the entity stated in the credit. When a credit does not indicate the name of an issuer, any entity including the beneficiary may issue a certificate. When a credit makes reference to an issuer of a certificate in the context of its being "independent", "official", "qualified" or words of similar effect, a certificate may be issued by any entity except the beneficiary.
Description of Goods	In documents other than the commercial invoice, the description of the goods, services or performance, if stated, may be in general terms not conflicting with their description in the credit.
Original	At least one original of each document stipulated in the credit must be presented.*
Signing	An Analysis, Inspection, Health, Phytosanitary, Quantity, Quality and other certificates must be signed.
Consignor/Consignee/Invoice no.	Consignee information, when shown, is not to conflict with the consignee information in the transport document. However, when a credit requires a transport document to be issued "to order", "to the order of shipper", "to order of issuing bank", "to order of nominated bank (or negotiating bank)" or "consigned to issuing bank", a certificate may show the consignee as any entity named in the credit except the beneficiary. When a credit has been transferred, the first beneficiary may be stated to be the consignee. A certificate may indicate as the consignor or exporter an entity other than the beneficiary of the credit or the shipper as shown on any other stipulated document. A certificate may indicate a different invoice number, invoice date and shipment routing to that indicated on one or more other stipulated documents, provided the exporter or consignor shown on the certificate is not the beneficiary.
Correction and alteration ("correction")	Any correction of data in a document, other than in a document issued by the beneficiary, is to appear to have been authenticated by the issuer or an entity acting as agent, proxy or for [or on behalf of] the issuer. Such authentication is to indicate the name of the entity authenticating the correction either by use of a stamp incorporating its name, or by the addition of the name of the authenticating entity accompanied by its signature or initials. In the case of authentication by an agent or proxy, the capacity of acting as agent or proxy for [or on behalf of] the issuer is to be stated.
Terms & Condition of the credit/Other data	General Conditions/Additional Conditions/LC reference/Additional data (such as q.ty) that must not conflict with data in any other stipulated document.

This chart is intended to offer a general overview. For further details, please consult the official UCP 600/ISBP publications and ICC Opinions. The content has been prepared with care and to the best of our knowledge; however, no liability is assumed for its timeliness, completeness, or accuracy.

*: ICC Policy statement The determination of an "Original" document in the context of UCP 500 sub Article 20(b) Commission on Banking Technique and Practice, 12 July 1999

