CERTIFIED ISN'T ENOUGH:
THE CRITICAL INSTALLATION GAP AIRLINES CAN'T IGNORE

In the fast-paced world of aviation catering equipment, certification alone does not guarantee compliance or safety. While many suppliers focus on an airworthiness certificate with the products, a crucial step is often overlooked: **installation approval**.

This article tells the story of why installation compliance is the invisible differentiator — and how Driessen Catering Equipment sets itself apart by ensuring every trolley and galley component is not only certified but properly installed, protecting airlines from hidden risks.

01 INTRODUCTION: THE OVERLOOKED ELEMENT OF AVIATION SAFETY

For decades, airlines have trusted catering equipment suppliers to provide trolleys and galley inserts that meet international standards. While demand for operational efficiency and regulatory scrutiny grows sharper, one question arises above all:

Is the equipment truly integrated and compliant onboard?

Suppliers in general offer products with basic certifications (e.g., EASA ETSO or FAA TSO approvals). Yet, these approvals only confirm airworthiness of the design, they do not authorize installation into the aircraft. Without proper installation documentation, airlines unknowingly expose themselves to regulatory non-compliance and safety risks.

02 THE TWO-STEP PATH TO TRUE COMPLIANCE

At Driessen, we believe compliance is a **two-step journey:**

1. **Certification of the product's airworthiness**
2. **Approval and validation of the product's installation**

1. ETSO / TSO CERTIFICATION (THE FIRST STEP)

Like our competitors, Driessen's equipment is certified under ETSO / TSO standards, ensuring it meets EASA's / FAA's design and performance criteria. However, ETSO / TSO explicitly states that it does **not** cover installation approval.

Common Misstep:

Some suppliers stop here, assuming that a fit check or a simple swap is enough for operational use.

It isn't.

2. INSTALLATION APPROVAL (THE MISSING LINK)

Driessen goes further by supporting airlines through official installation pathways:

- **Minor Change to Type Design (MCtTD)** under EASA

- **Supplemental Type Certificate (STC)** under FAA (for US-registered aircraft)

- **OEM-led integration** for new aircraft (Airbus, Boeing, Embraer)

We provide a full suite of **substantiating paperwork**, including:

- Approval documents ((E)TSO)

- Main Assembly Drawing (TAD)

Interface Control Document (ICD)

- **Installation Service Bulletin (ISB)** (under our Design Organisation Approval (DOA))

This sets us apart:

Driessen ensures airlines have all required documentation, including ISBs and DOA-backed installation validation, offering unmatched support and reducing compliance risk every step of the way.

03 REAL-WORLD IMPACT: WHY INSTALLATION MATTERS

Imagine an airline installing aviation catering equipment approved only under EASA ETSO / FAA TSO C-175, without formal installation approval or substantiating paperwork:

- Liability shifts to the airline in case of an incident.
- Regulatory audits can uncover non-compliance.
- Aircraft modifications may require costly retroactive approvals.

Driessen removes these risks. We act as a compliance partner, not just a component supplier.

04 CONCLUSION: WHEN SAFETY IS NON-NEGOTIABLE

Certification is merely the beginning. **Installation approval is the ultimate safeguard**. Airlines that rely on Driessen not only meet regulatory requirements but avoid the hidden risks others overlook.

In a market where competitors shortcut compliance, **Driessen leads with rigor and responsibility** — empowering airlines with peace of mind, operational efficiency, and full regulatory protection.

If you think a fit check is enough — think again.

Choose Driessen: where compliance doesn't stop at certification.

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Installation approval is the ultimate safeguard.

PROUD OF OUR PAST, SHAPING THE FUTURE

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