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Official Notice 2013 – 2 Transition Procedure from ISO 65 to ISO 17065

Issued 1st July, 2013

ISO 17065 was issued on 15th September, 2012 with an implementation period of three years. The IOAS has adopted the following transition procedure to ensure that all current and new clients for ISO 65/17065 accreditation are in compliance by 15th September, 2015.

New applicant certification bodies

From 1st June, 2013, the IOAS will no longer offer assessment/accreditation services against ISO/IEC Guide ISO65 to new certification bodies applying for accreditation. All such certification bodies applying to the IOAS will be assessed for compliance against the ISO/IEC 17065.

Accredited certification bodies

Certification bodies already accredited for ISO/IEC Guide 65 by the IOAS and due for re-evaluation before September 15, 2014 may choose to re-apply for ISO65 (Option A) or to apply for ISO17065 (Option B).

Option A) For those who want to maintain ISO65 accreditation until the implementation deadline, the IOAS will conduct a document review against both ISO65 and ISO17065. Non compliances to ISO65 will be set as NCs (non conformity) and ISO17065 requirements additional to those in ISO65 will be set as DNCs (deferred non compliances) due September 15, 2015. Non compliances to ISO65 requirements that are no longer included in ISO17065 shall be raised as Observations. At the time of re-accreditation an ISO65 contract will be offered.

Option B) For those who wish to transfer to ISO17065 at the time they are due for re-evaluation, the IOAS will screen them against ISO17065 only and non compliances will be raised as NCs. At the time of re-accreditation an ISO17065 contract will be offered.

For certification bodies already accredited for ISO/IEC Guide 65 by the IOAS and due for re-evaluation after September 15, 2014, a gap analysis will be undertaken at the next annual surveillance visit to ensure that all additional ISO17065 requirements are assessed before the 15th September, 2015

Certification bodies accredited to the COR

As part of the surveillance to the COR, the IOAS must assess compliance with ISO/IEC 17065 requirements during their on-site audits of the Certification Bodies. Non compliances to ISO/IEC 17065 requirements that are additional to those in ISO65 will be set as DNCs due in September 15, 2015.

Certification bodies under Textile Exchange OCS (Organic Content Standard)

For certification bodies accredited to Textile Exchange before the launching of the OCS, compliance with ISO/IEC 17065 must be verified before 31st December 2014.

For certification bodies newly applying to TE OCS accreditation, compliance with ISO/IEC 17065 must be verified before OCS accreditation is granted.

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