ACCREDITATION RULE 17

Issue Date: 2017/12/01
Implementation Date: 2018/06/15
Supersedes: 2014/01/01

SUBJECT: Application of IAF MD 2 for the Transfer of Accredited Certification of Management Systems for ANAB Accreditation Programs

APPLIES TO: ANAB-Accredited and Applicant Certification Bodies

PREFACE
This Accreditation Rule clarifies the requirements in IAF Mandatory Document for the Transfer of Accredited Certification of Management Systems (IAF MD 2), which can be found at http://www.iaf.nu/ and should be read in conjunction with this AR.

TERMS AND REFERENCES

Accredited certification: Identified by an IAF MLA signatory accreditation body symbol on the certification documents. Certification documents that do not include the accreditation symbol of an IAF MLA signatory are unaccredited.


ACCREDITATION RULE

1. Per IAF MD 2, section 2.1.1, only certifications covered by an accreditation of an IAF or Regional MLA signatory at level 3 (e.g., ISO/IEC 17021-1) and where applicable level 4 and 5 (e.g., ISO 9001, ISO 14001) shall be eligible for transfer. Because of the number of accredited programs, the many markets in which ANAB-accredited certification bodies operate, and the demand of certified organizations to have options for ANAB-accredited certification, the following certifications are eligible to be transferred to an ANAB-accredited certification provided the requirements of IAF MD 2 and this AR are met:

1.1. All ANAB-accredited certifications are eligible for transfer.

1.2. All certifications accredited by an IAF MLA management systems signatory at level 3 (i.e., ISO/IEC 17021-1) are eligible for transfer even if the accreditation body is not an MLA signatory at level 4 or 5 (e.g., ISO 13485). Therefore, any certification accredited by an IAF MLA signatory accreditation body is eligible for transfer to an ANAB-accredited certification.

2. Per IAF MD 2, section 2.1.2, “Only valid accredited certification shall be transferred….” The accepting CB shall validate the certification by contacting the issuing CB unless the issuing CB has ceased trading. The accepting CB shall maintain evidence of this communication (e.g., note to file on person with whom the accepting CB communicated and date and outcome of communication or email response).

3. Per IAF MD 2, section 2.4.1, “When requested, the issuing certification body shall provide to the accepting certification body all the documents and information required by this document….” For the accepting CB to have confidence in the certification being transferred, it is recommended that the documentation be obtained from the issuing CB. However, if the documentation is provided by the certified organization, the accepting CB must confirm with the issuing CB that all documentation is complete and the certification is valid and eligible for transfer.

4. Per IAF MD 2, section 2.4.2, “The issuing certification body shall not suspend or withdraw the organization’s certification following the notification that the organization is transferring to the
accepting certification body if the client continues to satisfy the requirements of certification.” When extenuating circumstances (e.g., nonconformance, lack of payment, or client request) require suspension or withdrawal, the issuing CB shall follow its suspension or withdrawal process.

5. When industry-specific programs that allow transfers have requirements that differ from or are in addition to the requirements in IAF MD 2, IAF MD 2 is fully applicable and cannot be superseded. Industry requirements that are in addition to IAF MD 2 apply.

Note: Some industry-specific programs may not allow transfers.