



**International
Standard**

ISO/IEC 17067

**Conformity assessment —
Fundamentals of and guidelines for
conformity assessment schemes**

*Évaluation de la conformité — Éléments fondamentaux et lignes
directrices pour les systèmes particuliers d'évaluation de la
conformité*

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives or www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html. In the IEC, see www.iec.ch/understanding-standards.

This document was prepared by the ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO), in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/CLC/JTC 1, *Criteria for conformity assessment bodies*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 17067:2013), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- the scope has been expanded to apply to conformity assessment schemes in general;
- the title has been updated to reflect the extended scope;
- individual clauses have been rephrased to apply to conformity assessment schemes in general;
- clauses have been added to provide specifics (e.g. on product certification schemes) where necessary;
- guidelines for product certification schemes are maintained and moved to Annex A;
- annexes have been added to provide guidelines for other schemes (e.g. schemes including inspection, management system certification, peer assessment, accreditation).

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html and www.iec.ch/national-committees.

Introduction

This document provides fundamental concepts, principles and guidelines for conformity assessment schemes (which are sometimes referred to as “conformity assessment programmes”).

Conformity assessment performed in accordance with a conformity assessment scheme can provide assurance to interested parties via demonstration that specified requirements are fulfilled. Conformity assessment can thus provide assurance to interested parties in various areas, including, but not limited to, legal compliance, health and safety, suitability for intended use, performance, durability, compatibility, environmental impacts, governance and social impacts, resource use efficiency and resource circularity, management and use of information technology, climate change and sustainability matters.

This document is intended for those who have an interest in conformity assessment schemes, particularly those who own or operate schemes, or are considering development of a scheme. These people and their organizations can include:

- a) governments and regulatory authorities;
- b) industry, trade associations and organizations (e.g. retailers) within value chains;
- c) procurement and purchasing agencies;
- d) non-governmental organizations (NGOs);
- e) consumer organizations;
- f) bodies undertaking conformity assessment activities.

A conformity assessment scheme can be operated at an international, regional, national, sub-national level, or for a specific industry sector or value chain. A scheme can be documented or only orally created.

A conformity assessment scheme is defined as a set of rules and procedures that:

- describes objects of conformity assessment;
- identifies the specified requirements; and
- provides the methodology for performing conformity assessment.

This document is one of the ISO/IEC and ISO documents on conformity assessment that are developed and maintained by the ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO). These ISO/IEC and ISO documents are colloquially known as the “CASCO toolbox” and contribute to the development of “conformity assessment procedures” as referenced in the World Trade Organization Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO/TBT). These documents are applied and used by ISO and its members, IEC and its national committees, and organizations outside of ISO and IEC (e.g. regulatory authorities, NGOs, accreditation bodies and agreement groups) for globally accepted conformity assessment practice.

Where the context is unambiguous, “scheme” is used in short for the full terms “conformity assessment scheme” and “conformity assessment programme”. For ease of comprehension of this document, the terms “conformity assessment scheme” and “conformity assessment programme” are considered synonyms, unless explicitly stated otherwise.

Where the context is unambiguous, “system” is used in short for the full term “conformity assessment system”.

Where the context is unambiguous, “object” is used in short for the full term “object of conformity assessment”.

Conformity assessment — Fundamentals of and guidelines for conformity assessment schemes

1 Scope

This document specifies the fundamental principles and concepts of conformity assessment schemes (programmes) and provides guidelines for understanding, developing, operating or maintaining them.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

Conformity assessment — Vocabulary and general principles

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