



Submission by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) to the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade, Geneva, 22-23 March 2005

Recent changes in the internationally accepted vocabulary for standardization and conformity assessment

Introduction

1. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) have recently revised and updated their terms and definitions for the subject areas of standardization and conformity assessment.
2. Annex 1 to the WTO Agreement of Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO TBT) makes reference to the 1991 edition of the relevant ISO/IEC Guide 2, *Standardization and related activities – General vocabulary*.
3. In the most recent revision of this Guide, which was published in November 2004 and cancels and replaces all previous editions, the previous clauses numbered 12-17 that were related to conformity assessment have been removed, revised, and republished as the new separate International Standard, entitled ISO/IEC 17000:2004, *Conformity assessment – Vocabulary and general principles*.
4. Apart from this change, there are no other differences between the new 2004 edition of ISO/IEC Guide 2, and its previous edition that was published in 1996. Clauses 1-11 remain in ISO/IEC Guide 2:2004 unchanged.

Content of the new vocabulary standard for conformity assessment

5. The new ISO/IEC 17000:2004 provides internationally accepted definitions for terms that are, *inter alia*, found in Articles 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the WTO TBT Agreement. These include definitions for terms such as:
 - acceptance
 - accreditation
 - appeal
 - approval
 - attestation
 - audit
 - certification
 - complaint
 - conformity assessment
 - conformity assessment scheme
 - declaration
 - designating authority
 - designation
 - equal and national treatment
 - equal treatment
 - equivalence
 - inspection
 - first, second or third party conformity assessment
 - national treatment
 - notification
 - peer assessment
 - procedure
 - reciprocity
 - recognition
 - supplier's declaration on conformity
 - surveillance
 - sampling
 - testing

Publication of ISO/IEC 17000:2004 and link with ISO/IEC Guide 2:2004

6. ISO/IEC 17000:2004 was published in November 2004 at the same time as the revised ISO/IEC Guide 2:2004. In the place of clauses 12-17 in the previous edition of Guide 2 there is now a cross-reference from Guide 2 to ISO/IEC 17000. This maintains the necessary linkage between these two base vocabulary documents for internationally accepted standardization and conformity assessment practice.
7. WTO and its members may consider referencing ISO/IEC Guide 2:2004, which includes the cross-reference to ISO/IEC 17000:2004.
8. For any further information on this standard, or on ISO's role in providing the International Standards and Guides related to vocabulary and conformity assessment, please do not hesitate to contact the ISO Central Secretariat, 1, rue de Varembé, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland (tel: +41 22 749 01 11 or email: cas1@iso.org).

LIST OF CASCO GUIDES AND STANDARDS BY FIELD OF APPLICATION

Vocabulary, principles and common elements of conformity assessment	ISO/IEC 17000: 2004	Conformity assessment - Vocabulary and general principles
	ISO PAS 17001: 2005 Final Draft PAS approved, due to be published by end of June 2005	Conformity assessment - Impartiality - Principles and requirements
	ISO PAS 17002: 2004	Conformity assessment - Confidentiality - Principles and requirements
	ISO PAS 17003: 2004	Conformity assessment - Complaints and appeals - Principles and requirements
	ISO PAS 17004: 2005 Final Draft PAS approved, due to be published by end of June 2005	Conformity assessment - Disclosure of information - Principles and requirements
	ISO PAS 17005: 2005 Final Draft PAS approved, due to be published by end of June 2005	Conformity assessment - Use of management systems in conformity assessment - Principles and requirements
Code of good practice for conformity assessment	ISO/IEC Guide 60: 2004	Conformity assessment - Code of good practice
Writing specifications for use in conformity assessment	ISO/IEC Guide 7: 1994	Guidelines for drafting of standards suitable for use for conformity assessment
Testing/calibration	ISO/IEC 17025: 2005 (Awaiting publication due in May 2005)	General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories
	ISO/IEC Guide 43-1: 1997 Reconfirmed in 2002	Proficiency testing by interlaboratory comparisons – Part 1: Development and operation of proficiency testing schemes
	ISO/IEC Guide 43-2: 1997 Reconfirmed in 2002	Proficiency testing by interlaboratory comparisons – Part 2: Selection and use of proficiency testing schemes by laboratory accreditation bodies
Inspection	ISO/IEC 17020: 1998 Reconfirmed in 2002	General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection
Supplier's Declaration of Conformity (SDoC)	ISO/IEC 17050-1: 2004	Conformity assessment - Supplier's declaration of conformity - Part 1: General requirements
	ISO/IEC 17050-2: 2004	Conformity assessment - Supplier's declaration of conformity - Part 2: Supporting documentation
Product certification	ISO/IEC Guide 23: 1982 Reconfirmed in 2003	Methods of indicating conformity with standards for third-party certification systems
	ISO/IEC Guide 28: 2004	Conformity assessment - Guidance on a third-party certification system for products
	ISO/IEC Guide 53: 2005	An approach to the utilization of a supplier's quality system in third party product certification
	ISO/IEC Guide 65: 1996 Reconfirmed in 2000	General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems
	ISO/IEC Guide 67: 2004	Conformity assessment - Fundamentals of product certification
System certification	ISO/IEC Guide 62: 1996	General requirements for bodies operating assessment and certification/registration of quality systems
	ISO/IEC Guide 66: 1999	General requirements for bodies operating

		assessment and certification/registration of environmental management systems (EMS)
Certification of persons	ISO/IEC 17024: 2003	General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons
Marks of conformity	ISO Guide 27: 1983 Reconfirmed in 2003	Guidelines for corrective action to be taken by a certification body in the event of misuse of its mark of conformity
	ISO/IEC 17030: 2003	General requirements for third-party marks of conformity
Accreditation	ISO/IEC 17011: 2004	Conformity assessment - General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies
Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs)	ISO/IEC Guide 68: 2002	Arrangements for the recognition and acceptance of conformity assessment results
Peer assessment	ISO/IEC 17040: 2005	Conformity assessment - General requirements for peer assessment of conformity assessment bodies and accreditation bodies

LIST OF CASCO PROJECTS UNDER WAY

Writing specifications for use in conformity assessment	ISO/IEC Guide 7: 1994 New Work Item Proposal for revision of ISO/IEC Guide 7 expected in early 2005	Conformity assessment - Guidelines for drafting specified requirements suitable for use for conformity assessment
System certification	ISO/IEC 17021 [CASCO WG 21] Revision of Guide 62:1996 and ISO/IEC Guide 66:1999, with the new standard being applicable for audit and certification of all types of management system DIS vote approved on ISO side but not IEC side. Will be released for 5-month DIS2 ballot by June 2005	Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems
Sector specific <i>Greenhouse Gases</i>	ISO 14065 [Joint CASCO-ISO/TC 207 WG 6] WD prepared and will released for a CD consultation after the next WG meeting in March 2005	Greenhouse gases - Requirements for validation and verification bodies for use in accreditation and other forms of recognition