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Introduction

This draft standard is based on national and international discussions. Your comments on this draft are invited and will assist in the preparation of the consequent standard.

For international standards, comments will be reviewed by the relevant UK national committee before sending the consensus UK vote and comments to the international committee, which will then decide appropriate action. If the international standard is approved, it is usual for the text to be published as a British Standard.

For national standards, comments will be reviewed by the relevant UK national committee and the resulting standards published as a British Standard.

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Template for comments and secretariat observations

Date: xx/xx/20xx	Document: ISO/DIS xxxx
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1	2	(3)	4	5	(6)	7
MB	Clause No./ Subclause No./Annex (e.g. 3.1)	Paragraph/ Figure/Table/Note	Type of comment	Comment (justification for change) by the MB	Proposed change by the MB	Secretariat observations on each comment submitted
	3.1	Definition 1	ed	Definition is ambiguous and needs clarifying.	Amend to read '...so that the mains connector to which no connection...'	
	6.4	Paragraph 2	te	The use of the UV photometer as an alternative cannot be supported as serious problems have been encountered in its use in the UK.	Delete reference to UV photometer.	



DRAFT International Standard

ISO/IEC DIS 17067

Conformity assessment — Fundamentals of and guidelines for conformity assessment schemes

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ISO/CASCO

Secretariat: **ISO**

Voting begins on:
2025-08-01

Voting terminates on:
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This document is circulated as received from the committee secretariat.

This draft is submitted to a parallel vote in ISO and in IEC.

ISO/CEN PARALLEL PROCESSING

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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).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents) or the IEC list of patent declarations received (see <https://patents.iec.ch>).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

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).

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 of the standard expanded to apply to conformity assessment schemes in general;
- The title of the standard updated to reflect the extended scope;
- Individual clauses rephrased to apply to conformity assessment schemes in general;
- Clauses added to provide specifics (e.g. on product certification schemes) where necessary.

Introduction

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

0.2 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 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.

0.3 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; and
- f) bodies undertaking conformity assessment activities.

0.4 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.

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

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

0.6 This document is part of the series of ISO/IEC and ISO documents on conformity assessment that is developed and maintained by the ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO). This series of ISO/IEC and ISO documents is colloquially known as the “CASCO Toolbox” and contributes to the development of “conformity assessment procedures” as referenced in the World Trade Organization Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO/TBT). This series is 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 and accreditation bodies) for globally accepted conformity assessment practice.

0.7 In this document, the following verbal forms of expression are used:

- “should” indicates a recommendation;
- “may” indicates a permission;
- “can” indicates a possibility or a capability.

The modal verb “shall”, which indicates a requirement, is not used because this document only provides guidelines. Further details can be found in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

0.8 Unless explicitly stated otherwise, for ease of comprehension of this document, the terms *conformity assessment scheme* and *conformity assessment programme* are considered synonyms, and referred to in this document by the short term *scheme*.

0.9 Where the context is unambiguous, *scheme* and *system* are used in short for the full terms *conformity assessment scheme* and *conformity assessment system*, respectively.

0.10 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 describes 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.

ISO/IEC 17000:2020, *Conformity assessment — Vocabulary and general principles*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO/IEC 17000 (2020) and the following apply. ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

conformity assessment

demonstration that *specified requirements* (3.3) are fulfilled

Note 1 to entry: The process of conformity assessment as described in the functional approach in Annex A of ISO/IEC 17000 can have a negative outcome, i.e. demonstrating that the specified requirements are not fulfilled.

Note 2 to entry: Conformity assessment includes activities, such as but not limited to testing, inspection, validation, verification, *certification* (3.17), and *accreditation* (3.18).

Note 3 to entry: Conformity assessment is explained in Annex A of ISO/IEC 17000 as a series of functions. Activities contributing to any of these functions can be described as conformity assessment activities.

Note 4 to entry: This document does not include a definition of “conformity”. “Conformity” does not feature in the definition of “conformity assessment”. Nor does this document address the concept of compliance.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 4.1, modified – Notes to entry 1 and 3, words “of ISO/IEC 17000” added.]

3.2

object of conformity assessment

object

entity to which *specified requirements* (3.3) apply

EXAMPLE Product, process, service, system, installation, project, data, design, material, claim, person, body or organization, or any combination thereof.

Note 1 to entry: The term “body” is used in this document to refer to the *conformity assessment body* (3.19) and *accreditation body* (3.20). The term “organization” is used in its general meaning and may include bodies according to the context. The more specific ISO/IEC Guide 2 definition of an organization as a body based on membership is not applicable to the field of *conformity assessment* (3.1).

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 4.2]

3.3

specified requirement

need or expectation that is stated

Note 1 to entry: Specified requirements can be stated in normative documents such as regulations, standards and technical specifications.

Note 2 to entry: Specified requirements can be detailed or general.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 5.1]

3.4

conformity assessment scheme

conformity assessment programme

set of rules and *procedures* (3.21) that describes the *objects of conformity assessment* (3.2), identifies the *specified requirements* (3.3) and provides the *methodology* (3.22) for performing *conformity assessment* (3.1)

Note 1 to entry: A conformity assessment scheme can be managed within a *conformity assessment system* (3.5).

Note 2 to entry: A conformity assessment scheme can be operated at an international, regional, national, sub-national, or industry sector level.

Note 3 to entry: A scheme can cover all or part of the conformity assessment functions explained in Annex A of ISO/IEC 17000.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 4.9, modified – Note to entry 3, words "of ISO/IEC 17000" added.]

3.5

conformity assessment system

set of rules and *procedures* (3.22) for the management of similar or related *conformity assessment schemes* (3.4)

Note 1 to entry: A conformity assessment system can be operated at an international, regional, national, sub-national, or industry sector level.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 4.8]

3.6

owner

owner of a system

owner of a scheme

system owner

scheme owner

person or organization responsible for the development and maintenance of a *conformity assessment system* (3.5) or *conformity assessment scheme* (3.4)

Note 1 to entry: A scheme owner does not necessarily operate the *scheme* (3.4).

Note 2 to entry: A system owner or a scheme owner can be a *conformity assessment body* (3.19) itself, a governmental authority, a trade association, a group of conformity assessment bodies or others.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 4.13]

3.7

participant

participant in a system

participant in a scheme

person or organization that implements or operates under the rules and *procedures* (3.21) of a *conformity assessment system* (3.5) or *scheme* (3.4) without being involved in their development, revision or approval

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 4.11]

3.8

member

member of a system

member of a scheme

person or organization that is involved in the development, revision or approval of the rules and *procedures* (3.21) of a *conformity assessment system* (3.5) or *scheme* (3.4)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 4.12]

3.9

first-party conformity assessment activity

conformity assessment activity that is performed by the person or organization that provides or that is the *object of conformity assessment* (3.2)

Note 1 to entry: The first-, second- and third-party descriptors used to characterize conformity assessment activities in relation to a given object are not to be confused with the legal identification of the relevant parties to a contract.

EXAMPLE Activities performed by providers, designers or owners of the object, investors in the object, and advertisers or promoters of the object.

Note 2 to entry: If an activity is performed by an external body acting on behalf of and controlled by a person or organization that provides or is the object, the activity is still called a first-party conformity assessment activity (e.g. internal audits performed by a consultant who is not part of the organization).

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 4.3]

3.10

second-party conformity assessment activity

conformity assessment activity that is performed by a person or organization that has a user interest in the *object of conformity assessment* (3.2)

Note 1 to entry: The first-, second- and third-party descriptors used to characterize conformity assessment activities in relation to a given object are not to be confused with the legal identification of the relevant parties to a contract.

EXAMPLE Persons or organizations performing second-party conformity assessment activities include, for example, purchasers or users of products, or potential customers seeking to rely on a supplier's management system, or organizations representing those interests. Examples of organizations representing user interest include consumer advocacy organizations, regulatory authorities implementing legislation governing products and services for the protection of consumer and public interests, centralized government procurement organizations and private sector purchasing agents.

Note 2 to entry: If an activity is performed by an external body acting on behalf of and controlled by a person or organization with a user interest, the activity is still called a second-party conformity assessment activity (e.g. supply chain audits conducted by an external body on behalf of the purchaser).

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 4.4]

3.11

third-party conformity assessment activity

conformity assessment activity that is performed by a person or organization that is independent of the provider of the *object of conformity assessment* (3.2) and has no user interest in the object

Note 1 to entry: The first-, second- and third-party descriptors used to characterize conformity assessment activities in relation to a given object are not to be confused with the legal identification of the relevant parties to a contract.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 4.5]

3.12

review

consideration of the suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of selection and determination activities, and the results of these activities, with regard to fulfilment of *specified requirements* (3.3) by an *object of conformity assessment* (3.2)

Note 1 to entry: A description of “selection and determination activities” is included in [Clauses 5.1](#) and [5.3](#) of this standard and in ISO/IEC 17000 A.2 and A.3.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 7.1, modified – Note to entry 1 added.]

3.13

decision

conclusion, based on the results of *review* (3.12), that fulfilment of *specified requirements* (3.3) has or has not been demonstrated

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 7.2]

3.14

attestation

issue of a statement, based on a *decision* (3.13), that fulfilment of *specified requirements* (3.3) has been demonstrated

Note 1 to entry: The resulting statement, referred to in this document as a “statement of conformity”, is intended to convey the assurance that the specified requirements have been fulfilled. Such an assurance does not, of itself, provide contractual or other legal guarantees.

Note 2 to entry: First-party attestation and third-party attestation are distinguished by the terms *declaration* (3.16), *certification* (3.17) and *accreditation* (3.18), but there is no corresponding term applicable to second-party attestation.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 7.3]

3.15

surveillance

systematic iteration of conformity assessment activities as a basis for maintaining the validity of the statement of conformity

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 8.1]

3.16

declaration

first-party *attestation* (3.14)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 7.3]

3.17

certification

third-party *attestation* (3.14) related to an *object of conformity assessment* (3.2), with the exception of *accreditation* (3.18)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 7.6]

3.18

accreditation

third-party *attestation* (3.14) related to a *conformity assessment body* (3.19), conveying formal demonstration of its competence, impartiality and consistent operation in performing specific conformity assessment activities

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 7.7]

3.19

conformity assessment body

body that performs conformity assessment activities, excluding *accreditation* (3.18)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 4.6]

3.20

accreditation body

authoritative body that performs *accreditation* (3.18)

Note 1 to entry: The authority of an accreditation body can be derived from government, public authorities, contracts, market acceptance or scheme owners.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 4.7]

3.21

procedure

specified way to carry out an activity or a process

Note 1 to entry: In this context, a process is defined as a set of interrelated or interacting activities that use inputs to deliver an intended result.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 5.2]

3.22

methodology

systematic collection of methods

3.23

complaint

expression of dissatisfaction, other than *appeal* (3.24), by any person or organization to a *conformity assessment body* (3.19) or an *accreditation body* (3.20), relating to the activities of that body, where a response is expected

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 8.7]

3.24

appeal

request by the person or organization that provides, or that is, the *object of conformity assessment* (3.2) to a *conformity assessment body* (3.19) or an *accreditation body* (3.20) for reconsideration by that body of a *decision* (3.13) it has made relating to that object

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2020, 8.6]

4 Conformity assessment schemes (programmes) and systems

4.1 Schemes and systems

4.1.1 The set of rules and procedures defined as a “conformity assessment scheme” or “conformity assessment programme” relates to:

- 1) a description of the object of conformity assessment (see [Clause 4.2](#));
- 2) identification of the specified requirements (see [Clause 4.3](#)); and
- 3) provision of the methodology (see [Clause 4.4](#) and [5](#)) for performing conformity assessment (e.g. rules for persons and organisations involved in conformity assessment, procedures for individual activities, rules and procedures for issuing statements of conformity).

4.1.2 Rules and procedures can be unique to a conformity assessment scheme or shared by multiple schemes. The rules and procedures shared by multiple schemes can be described and documented separately

from the content of the individual schemes. Such common rules and procedures can relate to concepts (e.g. specific to a sector or an application), structure, methodology, requirements, or other content shared by the schemes. Documents providing such general contents for multiple schemes are different from documents establishing an individual conformity assessment scheme. Sometimes these documents are referred to as “frameworks”.

4.1.3 Depending on the object of conformity assessment, and the needs of users of conformity assessment, a scheme can be used only once or repeatedly.

4.1.4 The rules and procedures in a scheme can be recorded in a single document or recorded in multiple documents linked by reference. Documented schemes can be a set of rules and procedures in many documents and can be intended for repeated use over a long period of time.

4.1.5 A conformity assessment system is also a set of rules and procedures. A conformity assessment system can be applied to manage several conformity assessment schemes that are similar or related. Whenever conformity assessment is performed a scheme always exists, but a system for managing schemes is optional. [Figure 1](#) illustrates the relationship between a scheme and a system.

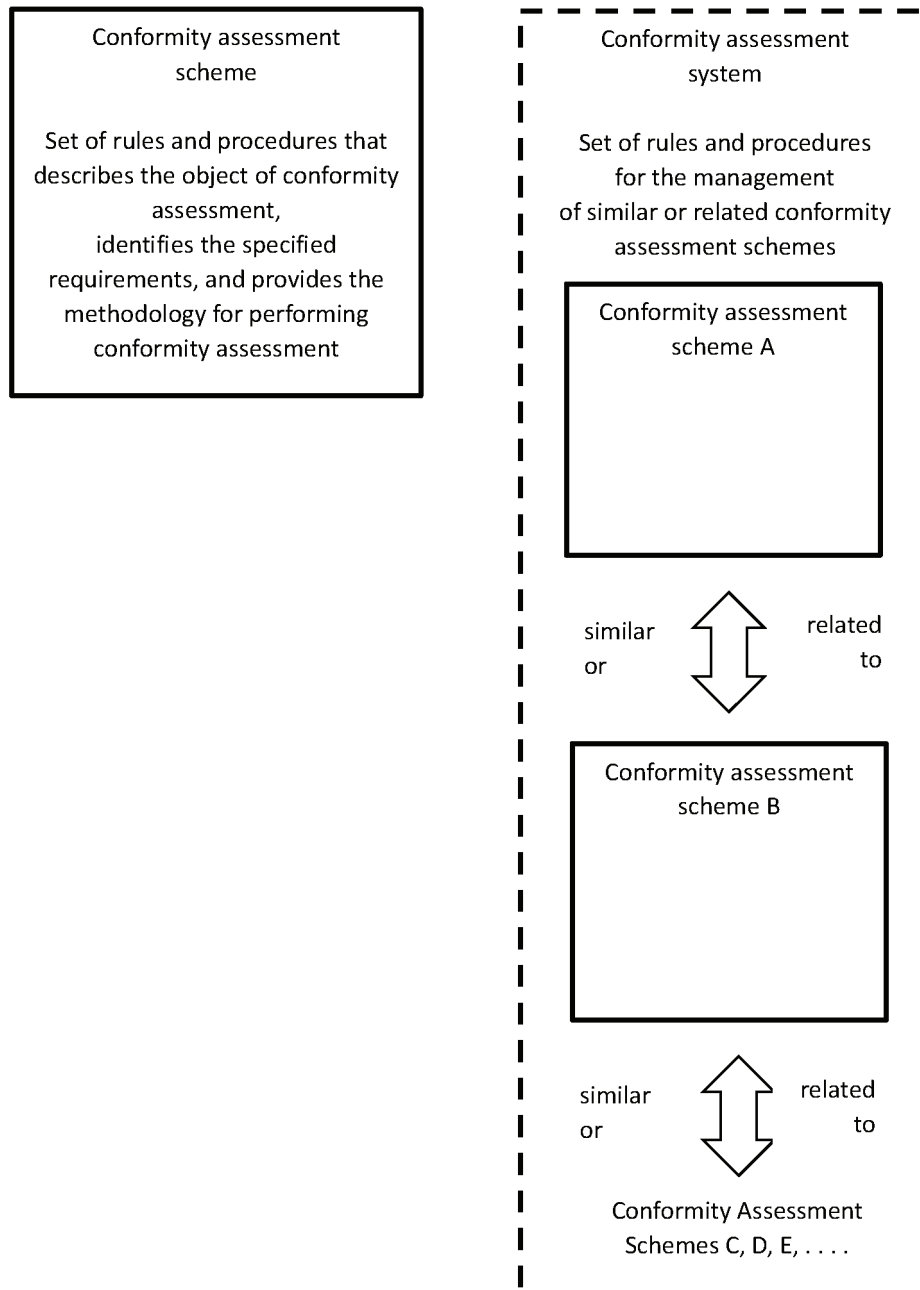


Figure 1 — Relationship between conformity assessment scheme and conformity assessment system

4.2 Objects of conformity assessment

4.2.1 An object of conformity assessment can be, for example, a product, process, service, management system, system, design, project, data, information, programme, material, installation, claim, person, body or organization, or any combination thereof (e.g. a product and its production process, an installation and its maintenance service). The conformity assessment scheme should clearly describe the object of conformity assessment and its characteristics to which the specified requirements within the scheme will apply.

4.2.2 The object can be a single item or a group of items based on common characteristics (e.g. any area of land used for a specific purpose, any person with a specific ability, any management system for a specific discipline within organizations, or anybody performing a specific type of activity).