

Australian Standard™

**General requirements for bodies
providing accreditation of inspection
bodies**

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee QR-010, Conformity Assessment. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 28 May 2003 and published on 5 August 2003.

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- Australian Industry Group
- Australian Information Industry Group
- Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (Commonwealth)
- Bureau Veritas (New Zealand)
- Consumers Electronics Suppliers Association
- Independent Certification Bodies
- International Accreditation New Zealand
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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee QR-010, Conformity Assessment.

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from ISO/IEC TR 17010:1998, *General requirements for bodies providing accreditation of inspection bodies*.

The objective of this Standard is to provide requirements for bodies providing accreditation of inspection bodies so the accreditations granted, services covered and the body operating the accreditation system are recognized as reliable and competent.

As this Standard is reproduced from an International Standard, the following applies:

- (a) Its number does not appear on each page of text and its identity is shown only on the cover and title page.
- (b) In the source text 'this Technical Report' should read 'this Australian Standard'.
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<i>Reference to International Standard</i>		<i>Australian/New Zealand Standard</i>	
ISO/IEC		AS/NZS ISO/IEC	
17020	General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection	17020	General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection

Only International Standard referenced documents identical to Australian Standards are listed.

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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

General requirements for bodies providing accreditation of inspection bodies

1 Scope

This Technical Report gives general requirements for bodies providing accreditation of inspection bodies so that the accreditations granted and the services covered by the accreditations may be recognized at a national or an international level and the body operating the accreditation system may be recognized at national or international level as competent and reliable. Users of accreditation, other than the inspection body, may require compliance with requirements additional to those specified in this Technical Report.

The object of this Technical Report is to provide the basis for the setting up and operation of an accreditation body and to facilitate agreements, between such bodies, on mutual recognition of accreditation of inspection bodies.

NOTE 1 It is recognized that agreements on mutual recognition of accreditations aimed at the removal of barriers to cross-border trade may have to cover other aspects not explicitly specified in these general requirements, such as exchange of any relevant information between inspection bodies and exchange of staff or training programmes. In particular, with a view to creating confidence and harmonizing the interpretation and implementation of standards, each accreditation body should encourage technical cooperation and exchange of experience among inspection bodies accredited by it, and should be prepared to exchange information on accreditation procedures and practices with other accreditation bodies.

NOTE 2 This Technical Report is based on ISO/IEC Guide 58:1993, and on ISO/IEC Guide 61:1996. To facilitate a comparison between requirements on bodies that accredit inspection bodies, testing laboratories and certification bodies, an extensive cross-reference table between the clauses of this Technical Report and the corresponding clauses of the two above-mentioned Guides has been prepared and is available on request.

2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Technical Report. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this Technical Report are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO/IEC 17020, *General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection*.

ISO/IEC Guide 2, *Standardization and related activities — General vocabulary*.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this Technical Report, the terms and definitions given in ISO/IEC Guide 2 apply, with the exception of the terms *inspection* and *inspection body*, for which the definitions given in ISO/IEC 17020 apply.

4 Accreditation body

4.1 General provisions

4.1.1 The procedures under which the accreditation body operates shall be administered in a non-discriminatory manner.