

Issue: 303

Date: 2015/02/17

To: ANAB-Accredited and Applicant CBs and MS Accreditation Assessors

From: Tina Garner, EHS Program Manager, and Lori Gillespie, Director of Accreditation

Re: Process to Transition CBs and CB Clients for ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015

Transition Process for Clients of CBs Accredited for ISO 9001 and/or ISO 14001

ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 are being revised and are scheduled for publication later this year. International Accreditation Forum (IAF) members agreed on transition periods for certified clients as follows:

IAF Resolution 2013–15 – Endorsement of Revision of ISO 9001:2008

The General Assembly acting on the recommendation of the Technical Committee, resolved to endorse the next revision of ISO 9001:2008 Quality management systems — Requirements, as a normative document. The General Assembly further agreed that the transition period for the next revision of ISO 9001:2008 will be three years from the date of publication.

Note: It was suggested that Conformity Assessment Bodies should encourage their clients to commence working on the transition as early as possible.

IAF Resolution 2014–11 – ISO 14001: 2015: Environmental Management Systems – Requirements with guidance for use

The General Assembly, acting on the recommendation of the Technical Committee, resolved to endorse ISO 14001: 2015 as a normative document. The General Assembly further agreed that the transition period of ISO 14001:2015 will be three years from the date of publication.

IAF has developed two informative documents (IDs) to guide in the transition process: IAF ID 9:2015, Transition Planning Guidance for ISO 9001:2015 (published 2015/01/12), and IAF ID X: Transition Planning Guidance for ISO 14001:2015 (publication date TBD). IAF IDs are available at http://www.iaf.nu/articles/Informative Documents /32.

In addition to transitioning all clients by the three-year transition deadline (per the IAF resolutions), ANAB-accredited CBs must follow the timelines outlined in the IAF IDs with regard to issuing new certifications, including appropriate certification expiration dates. Please see the IAF IDs for detail.

Transition Process for CBs Accredited by ANAB to offer ISO 9001 and/or ISO 14001 Certification

ANAB also will use the IAF IDs as guidance for the transition of currently accredited CBs.

Proactive and early transition of accreditation will be key to meeting the demands of the marketplace for transition of ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certifications to the new standards. The transition of accreditation to the final standards is critical because the CB cannot issue or reissue ANAB-accredited certificates until the CB's accreditation has been transitioned by ANAB and the standards have been published. Prior to the CB's transition with ANAB, however, the CB is allowed to conduct transition audits to FDIS 9001 and/or FDIS 14001 following the IAF IDs and the CB's own process.

To ensure timely application, processing, and completion of transition, ANAB will allow CBs to transition using the FDIS version of the standards.

The transition fee is \$500 for each standard. The transition application will be available for purchase in EQM on 2015/03/01. Supporting documentation required from the CB includes the transition plan for existing and new certification clients, competence of personnel, transition audit durations, use of FDIS within the certification process (if applicable), and management of the published standard compared with the FDIS.

An EATL or technical reviewer will review the CB application and supporting documents; when these are accepted, ANAB management will make a transition decision. When the CB has successfully transitioned; ANAB will update EQM and http://anab.org/programs/isoiec-17021/certification-bodies/transitions/.

ANAB will confirm full implementation at the CB's next normal office assessment, including management of the potential differences in the FDIS compared with the final published standards.

Accreditation Rules to Come

ANAB will document the transition processes in Accreditation Rules to be published in the coming months. The Accreditation Rules will include transition deadlines for CBs – which will be considerably less than the three years allowed for CB clients – and the potential for suspension three months prior to the transition deadlines. ANAB is considering requiring CBs to be transitioned for ISO 9001 and/or ISO 14001 within six months following publication of the standard.

For CBs Accredited to ISO/IEC 17021, Option 1 (ISO 9001:2008)

CBs that chose option 1 (ISO 9001) need to make any necessary changes to their management systems. ANAB must verify that the CB's management system is in conformance with ISO 9001:2015. This process will include an (off-site) document review and time added (as necessary) to the normally scheduled office assessment. The timing for this activity will be based on the CB's readiness but it must be completed within the three-year transition period or ANAB will assess the CB to ISO/IEC 17021 option 2 and revise the CB's accreditation certificate to refer to option 2.