



BREXIT FAQs

UKAS will continue to update and augment these questions as the situation develops over the next few months.

Q: *Will UKAS continue to be a member of EA, ILAC and IAF post Brexit?*

UKAS' membership of ILAC and IAF is unaffected by Brexit. As the UK has now left the European Union, UKAS no longer meets the EA membership criteria as the UK is not a Member State or candidate country. However, EA has expressed the importance of retaining UKAS as a member, even after the withdrawal of the UK from the EU. Accordingly, EA has revised its Articles of Association which will allow UKAS to maintain its membership for a further 2 years after 31 January 2020. During this time EA will work with UKAS to review the results of the negotiation between the EU and the UK and then revise the EA membership criteria with the aim that UKAS can permanently remain a full EA member. That means also that UKAS will continue to be peer evaluated by EA in order to maintain its MLA signatory status and that UKAS accreditation will continue to fall under the EA MLAs as well as the ILAC MRAs and IAF MLAs.

Q: *What is the legal status under EU law, as from the withdrawal date, of accreditation certificates delivered by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS)?*

During the transition period UKAS accreditation is expected to be recognised in the same way as it was before Brexit.

If no deal is reached at the end of the transition period, the European Commission will no longer recognise UKAS accredited certificates where EU legislation requires conformity assessment to be awarded by a national accreditation body of a Member State.

In the non-regulatory area UKAS accreditation will continue to be recognised as equivalent as UKAS will remain a signatory of the European cooperation for Accreditation (EA) multilateral agreements, as well as the ILAC and IAF mutual recognition arrangements which are unaffected by Brexit.

Q: *Will UK Regulators continue to recognise UKAS accredited conformity assessment activities?*

Yes, the situation is not expected to change.

Q: *Will UKAS accreditation be valid for non-regulatory purposes ?*

Yes. Outside of relevant EU regulatory requirements UKAS accreditation will still be recognised and accreditation certificates will continue to be valid. The UK Government has

confirmed that UKAS' role as the national accreditation body will remain as it is now. Other UKAS accreditation activities will be unaffected by the UK's exit from the EU.

Q: *Will UKAS accredited ISO 9001 certificates still be valid now the UK has left the EU?*

Yes. UKAS' membership of the EA, IAF, and ILAC will continue and as such all UKAS accredited certificates, including all management system certificates, will maintain their status under the Multi-Lateral Agreements so will continue to be accepted. However, the exception to this will be for any certificate directly related to certain European Legislation that requires the accreditation to be issued by a national accreditation body of an EU Member State, for example, the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS).

Q: *My organisation is currently a Notified Body. Do I have to do anything to become a UK Approved Body now the UK has left the EU?*

The Government has stated that UK-based Notified Bodies will automatically have their status converted to become UK Approved Bodies, and UK-based Recognised Third Party Organisations (RTPOs), User Inspectorates (UIs) and Technical Assessment Bodies (TABs) will become UK-recognised RTPOs, UIs and TABs respectively.

Existing UK NBs which wish to continue carrying out conformity assessment do not need to take any action to be transferred under this arrangement. More information is available from <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/status-of-conformity-assessment-bodies-after-brexite#conversion-to-uk-arrangements>

Q: *Will my status as an EU Notified Body continue post Brexit?*

Yes, during the transition period nothing will change, but, depending on the detail of any subsequent deal between the UK and EU, at the end of the transition period (31st December 2020) UK Notified Bodies may no longer be recognised for CE marking purposes.

Q: *UKCA Mark – when does it come into force?*

The UKCA Mark will automatically come into force at the end of the transition period on 1 January 2021 if the UK leaves without a deal in place.

Q: *How long will the Government continue to accept the CE Marking for goods to access the UK market?*

The Government has stated that in the majority of cases manufacturers will still be able to use the CE marking, for a limited time, if they are selling goods on the UK market after the UK leaves the EU. The Government has not stipulated how long this period will be but has stated its intention to consult businesses before this period ends. UKAS continues to work closely with Government and will keep customers and broader stakeholders updated of all further developments or if this position changes.

Q: *Will there be a NANDO database equivalent in the UK?*

The Government will establish a new database of UK Approved Bodies which will be fully operational from 1 January 2021.

If a deal is reached before the end of the transition period and depending on the detail of such a deal, there is a possibility that UK Approved Bodies will also continue to be listed on the EU's NANDO Database.

Q: *My organisation can no longer attend relevant EU committees which is a condition of UKAS accreditation . Does this mean that the organisation can no longer be accredited ?*

UKAS is aware that following the UK's exit from the EU on 31st January UK Notified Bodies (and other designations such as Recognised Third Party Organisations, User Inspectorates and Technical Assessment Bodies) are no longer able to attend EU GNB Coordination Group meetings. UKAS recognises that the EU decision to exclude Notified Bodies from these meetings during the transition period is not one that CABs can influence and that it would therefore be unfair for it to impact on their accreditation status. In the absence of attendance at these meetings UKAS requires that Notified Bodies should use all other available methods to keep apprised of coordination activities through for example, accessing and reading the minutes of relevant Committee meetings and are able to demonstrate implementation of any changes and development agreed by Committees which might impact on their accredited services.