

# Technical Bulletin - The Single Schedule for Accredited Management Systems Certification



24 August 2018

Following discussions with Certification Bodies (CBs) and other stakeholders, UKAS has been developing a new format of accreditation schedule to present the accredited scope of management systems CBs under ISO/IEC 17021-1. The aim of the new format is to provide a single accreditation schedule that will specify each of the management system standards for which a CB is accredited to provide as a certification service.

The introduction of the single schedule is being undertaken in conjunction with the reconciliation of NACE 1 and NACE 2 ([See earlier Bulletin](#)), and will result in all key information for a CB being available in one document and therefore improve its accessibility to potential customers. This should be particularly useful where a customer is looking for certification against a range of management systems standards.

In addition, the opportunity is being taken to review and clarify the representation of geographical activities and locations into which certificates are issued. Changes to the presentation of geographical information in schedules are being introduced as a result of feedback from external stakeholders.

UKAS is also making plans to move towards a single ISO/IEC 17021-1 Certificate of Accreditation to cover all management systems for which a CB is accredited: This will be rolled out at a later date.

The purpose of this communication is to provide information on the status and progress towards the single schedule.

## Revised Format

The new schedule will consist of an initial section providing the overall information regarding the CB including a summary of accredited management system certification standards under ISO/IEC 17021-1, a cross-reference matrix of any critical locations and related key activities, contact details, and a statement on geographical coverage (see below).

This will be followed by a separate section for each accredited management system standard showing the accredited scopes and activities, including any related sector schemes.

## Geographical Coverage

The new format will no longer include a table of individual countries where certificates have been issued. Although this information may be useful, it was difficult to maintain fully up-to-date, which sometimes created difficulties for the CB and confusion in the marketplace. However, to maintain the recognition of CBs that have demonstrated their competence and capabilities in providing certification outside their home market, a new statement will be included that will reflect the degree to which the geographical coverage of their services is included within their accreditation. One of three statements will be included on schedules detailing the geographical coverage permitted under the CB accreditation: -

- This Certification Body has demonstrated to UKAS that it has the systems and processes in place to provide the competence and capability, including understanding of local requirements, to manage and issue accredited management systems certification in the country in which it is established and in any other country, for the standards and scopes detailed on this schedule, unless specifically detailed in the individual Management System scope table

# Technical Bulletin - The Single Schedule for Accredited Management Systems Certification



24 August 2018

- This Certification Body has demonstrated to UKAS that it has the systems and processes in place to provide the competence and capability, including understanding of local requirements, to manage and issue accredited management systems certification in the country in which it is established and the countries or Region detailed in the table below, for the standards and scopes detailed on this schedule, unless specifically detailed in the individual Management System scope table
- This Certification Body has demonstrated to UKAS that it has the systems and processes in place to provide the capability to manage and issue accredited management systems certification only in the country in which it is established for the standards and scopes detailed on this schedule, unless specifically detailed in the individual Management System scope table

The Initial determination of the applicable statement for existing accredited bodies will be based on historic evidence of overseas activities, including the existing table in the schedules, and the business needs of the CB concerned. In some instances, necessary clarification may be sought through the assessment process.

Going forward, if a CB wishes to change its geographical capability, this will be processed as a formal extension to scope with an assessment of the processes, competences and procedures necessary to confirm the relevant statement above.

## Next Steps

Each Certification Body will be contacted shortly with regard to the geographical statement that will appear on its schedule to replace the table of countries where certification has been undertaken.

We appreciate the time scales are quite short, but we are conscious that the schedules need to be updated over a limited time to minimise disruption/confusion due to their dynamic nature.

It is planned that the revised format schedules will be available on the UKAS Website from the 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

If you have any queries regarding this technical bulletin please contact Steve Randall – UKAS Accreditation Specialist – Certification: [steve.randall@ukas.com](mailto:steve.randall@ukas.com); or Kevin Belson - UKAS Technical Manager: [kevin.belson@ukas.com](mailto:kevin.belson@ukas.com)