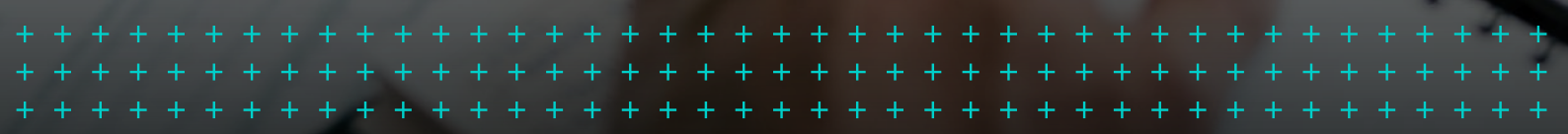


Development services

Accredited conformity assessment



How can accredited conformity assessment provide confidence for your requirements?

Conformity assessment can take many forms (e.g. testing, inspection, certification). It can be undertaken by those with a user interest, for example a manufacturer, in the object of conformity assessment i.e. particular material, product, installation, process, system, person or body, or by those totally independent, for example a certification body.

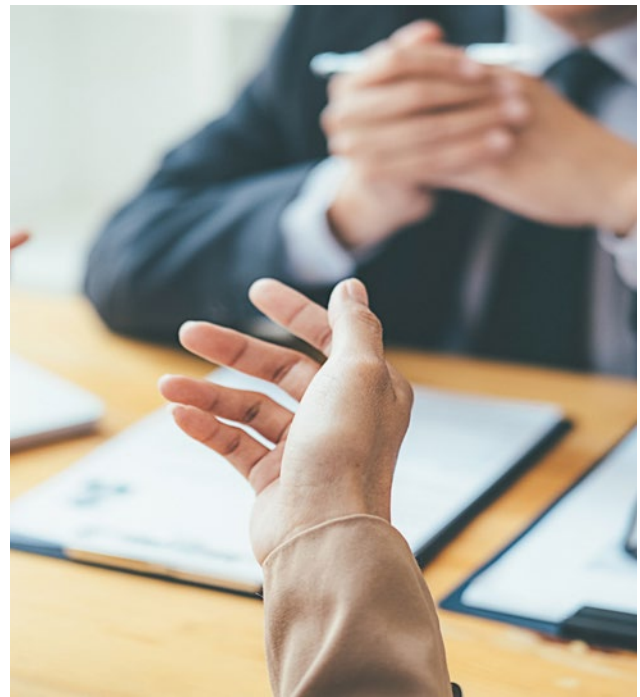
It could also be a combination of the two Consequently, the level of 'confidence' in that conformity assessment and any resulting declaration of conformity/attestation can vary enormously.

Accreditation provides an assurance of the competence, impartiality and consistency of the bodies carrying out the conformity assessment. This document describes some forms of accredited conformity assessment available and the outcome that might be expected from them.

For more details on what conformity assessment is please refer to http://www.iso.org/sites/cascoregulators/01_0_conformity-assessment-basic-concepts.html

Objects of conformity assessment

- + **Management System (MS)** – Accredited conformity assessment focuses on the effectiveness of the management system in consistently meeting its customer requirements. Accredited management system certification confirms the implementation of the management system for the specific scope.
- + **Product/Process/Service** – Accredited conformity assessment confirms (by an independent party) that the output (the product, process or service) meets specified requirements either at a specific point in time (testing and inspection) and/or on an on-going basis (certification).
- + **Personnel** – Accredited conformity assessment confirms that a person meets specified competence requirements.



Types of conformity assessment

- + **Inspection** – Accredited inspection provides confirmation that a product, installation, process or service meets the specification at the time of inspection.
- + **Testing** – Accredited testing provides information about a single object at the time of testing.
- + **Certification** – Accredited certification provides assurance that a management system, product, service, process or person meets the specification and that processes are in place to ensure continuing conformity.
- + **Validation / Verification** – Accredited validation provides assurance on the validity or plausibility of claims for planned activities, whereas accredited verification provides assurance of a claim by verification of historic data.

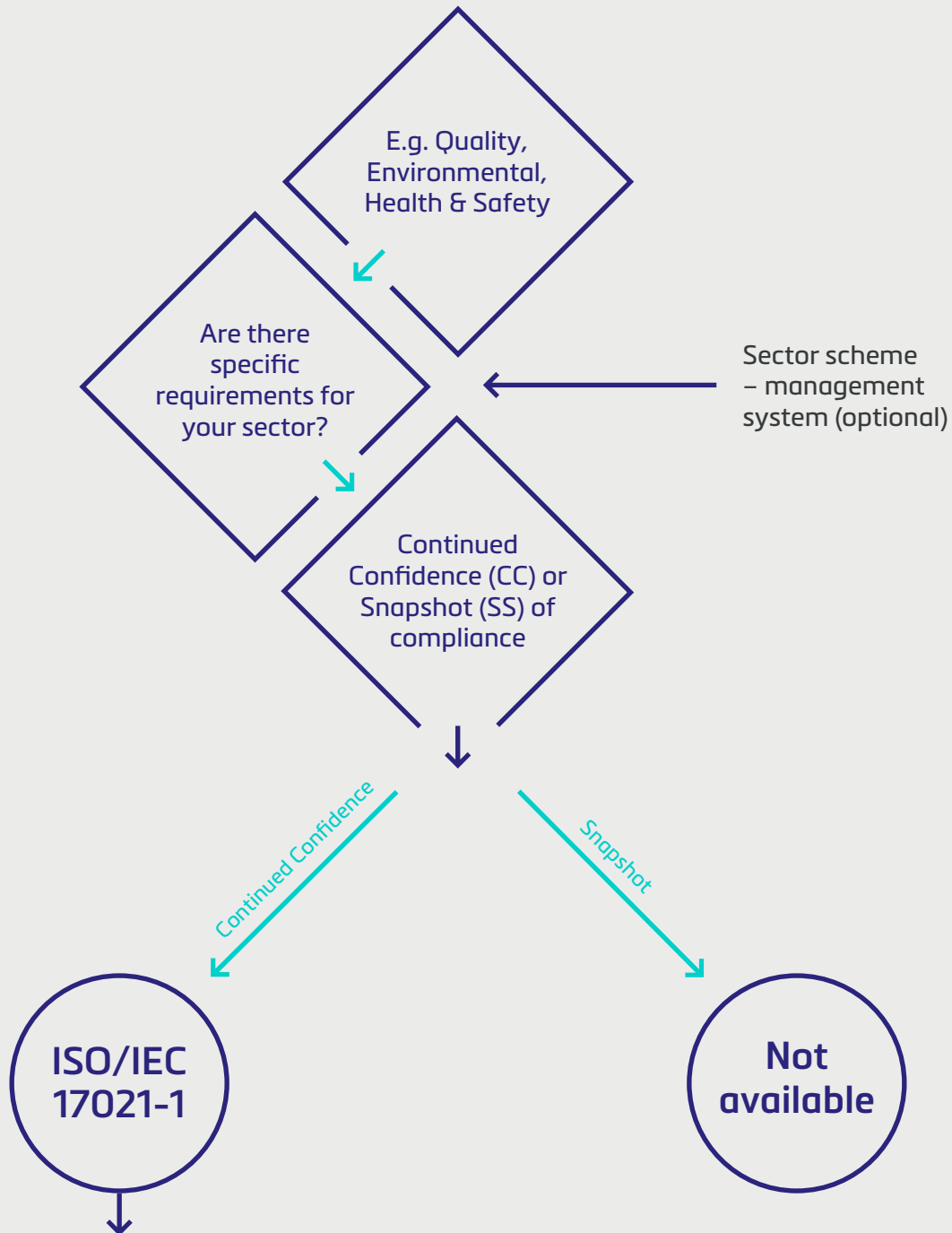
Other useful definitions:

- + **Scheme** – specified requirements, rules and procedures that are applied to specified objects of conformity assessment.
- + **Sector schemes** – Sector-specific requirements based on the requirements of ISO 9001.

UKAS cannot accredit individuals, training or qualifications. Nor can it accredit the certification of other conformity assessment activities (e.g. testing, inspection, certification and validation/verification).

Which conformity assessment standard meets your requirements?

Organisation management/control

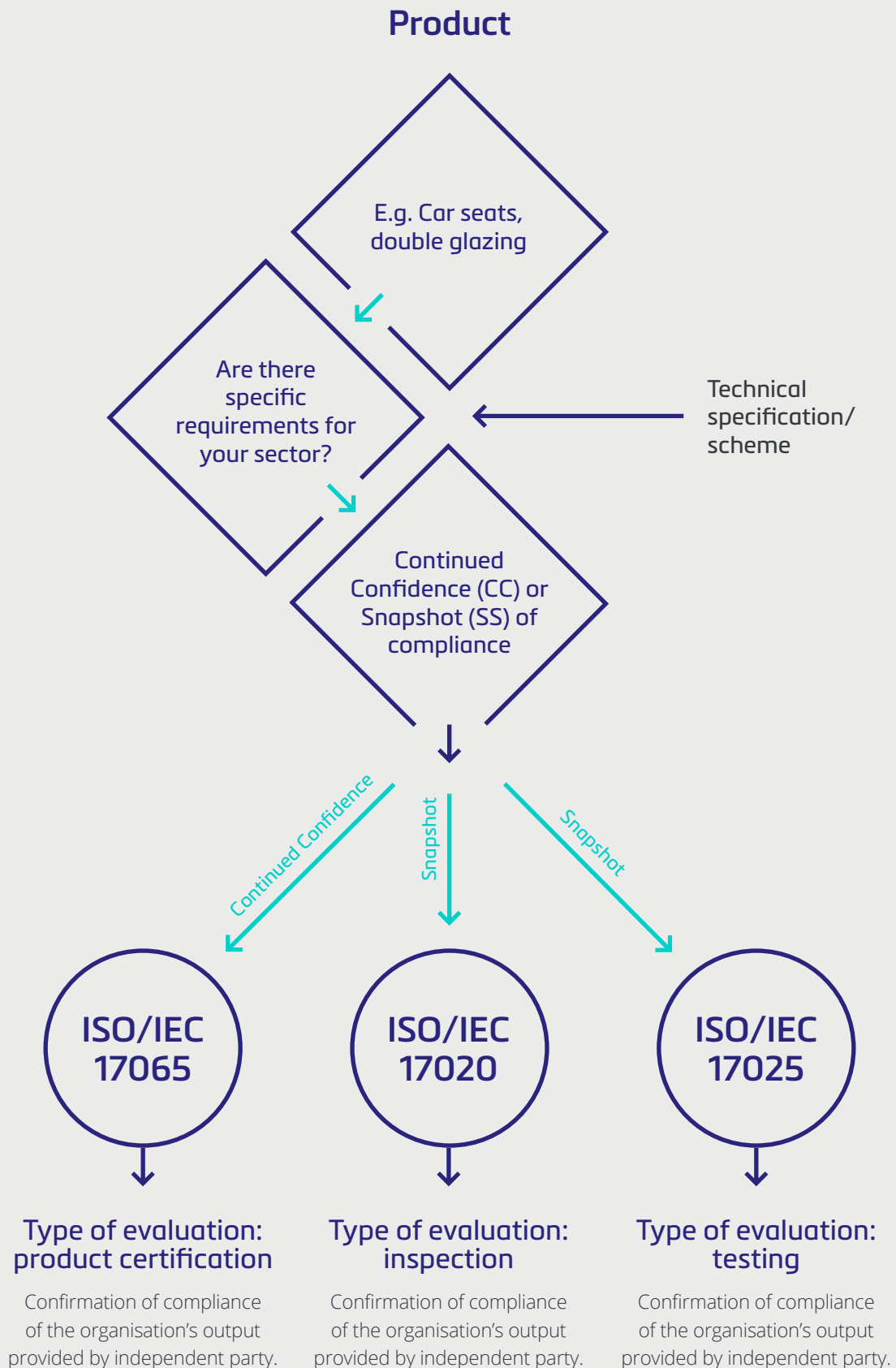


**Type of evaluation:
management system
certification**

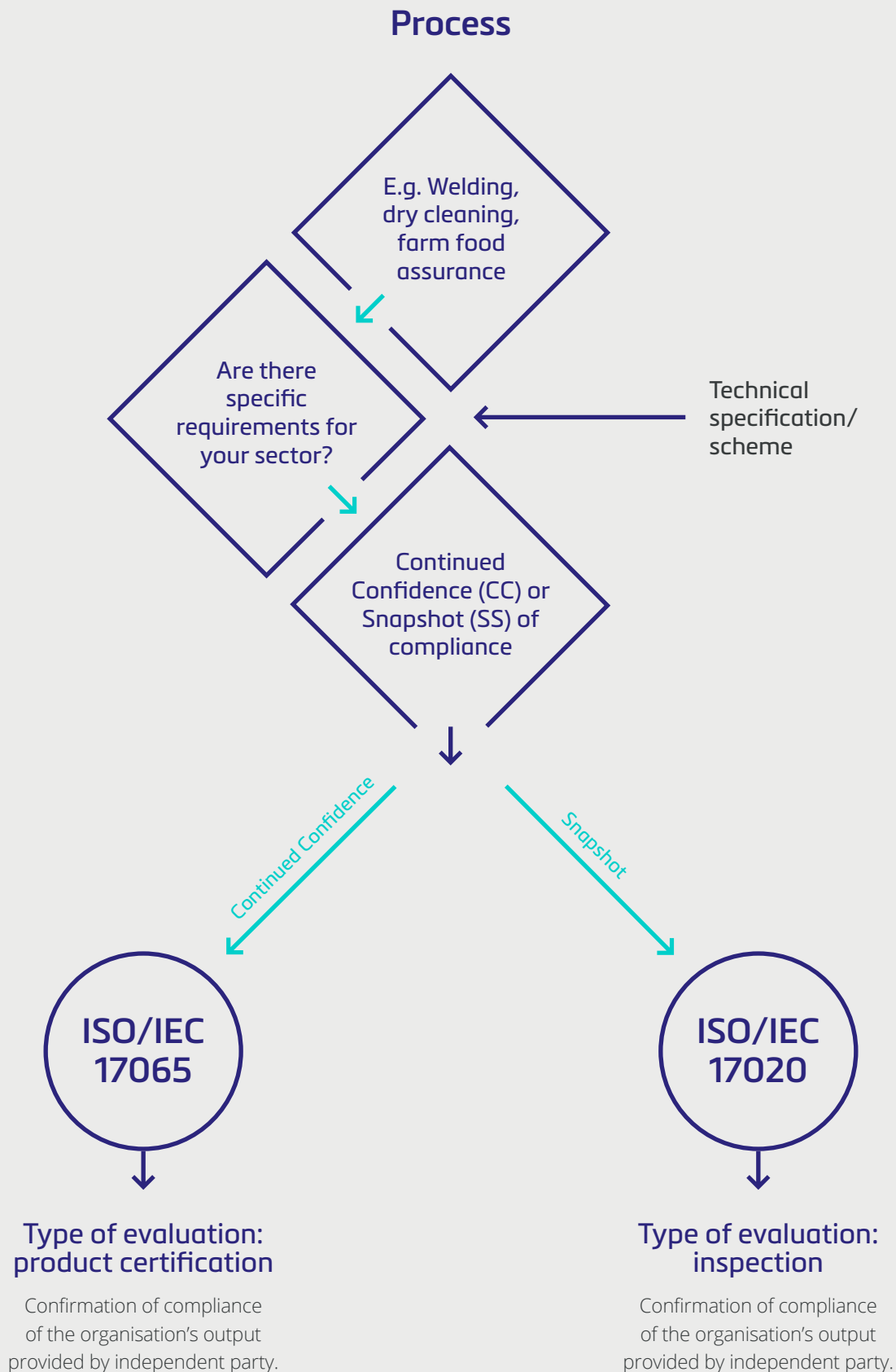
Confirmation of compliance
of the organisation's
management system.



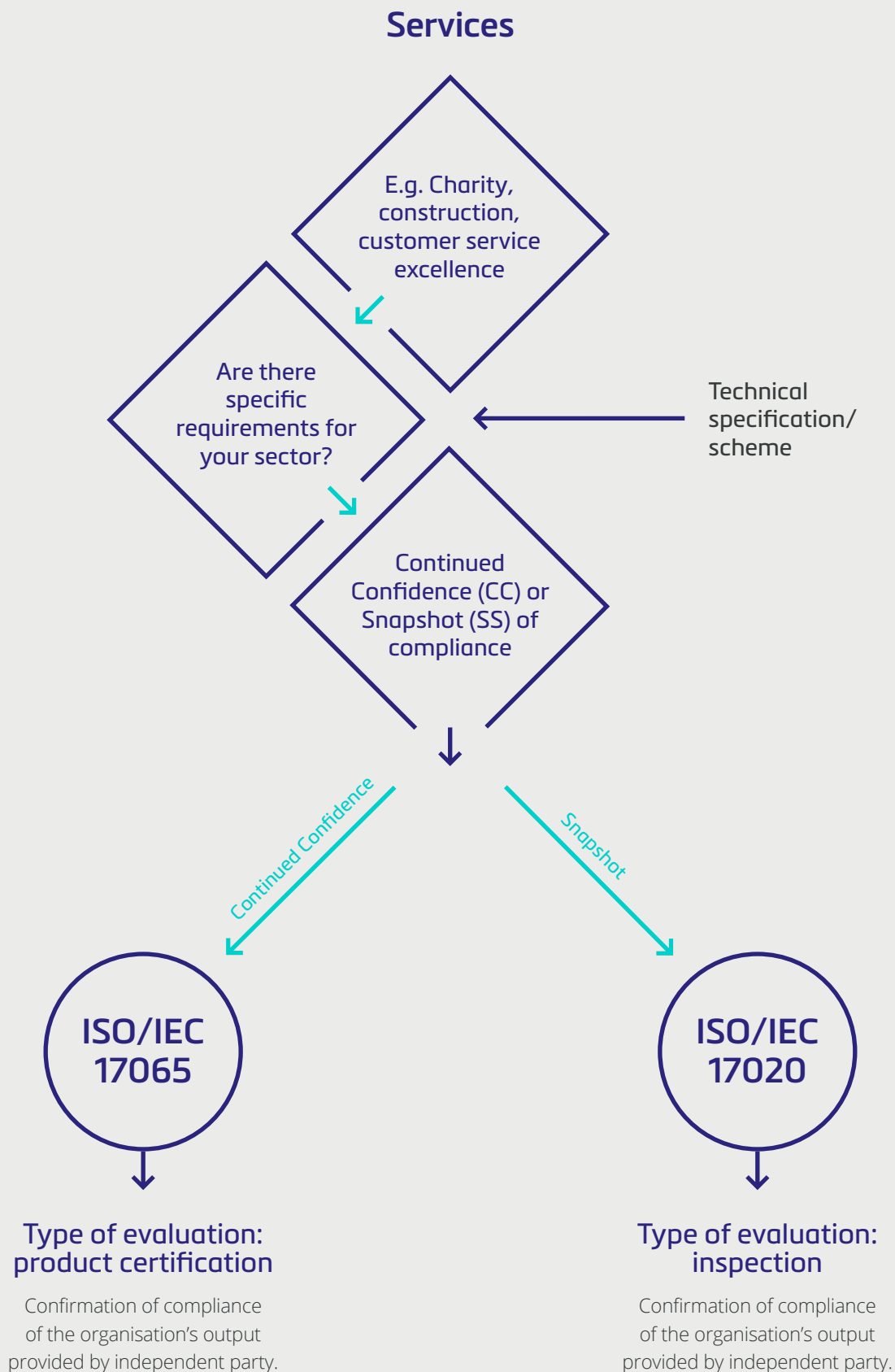
Which conformity assessment standard meets your requirements?



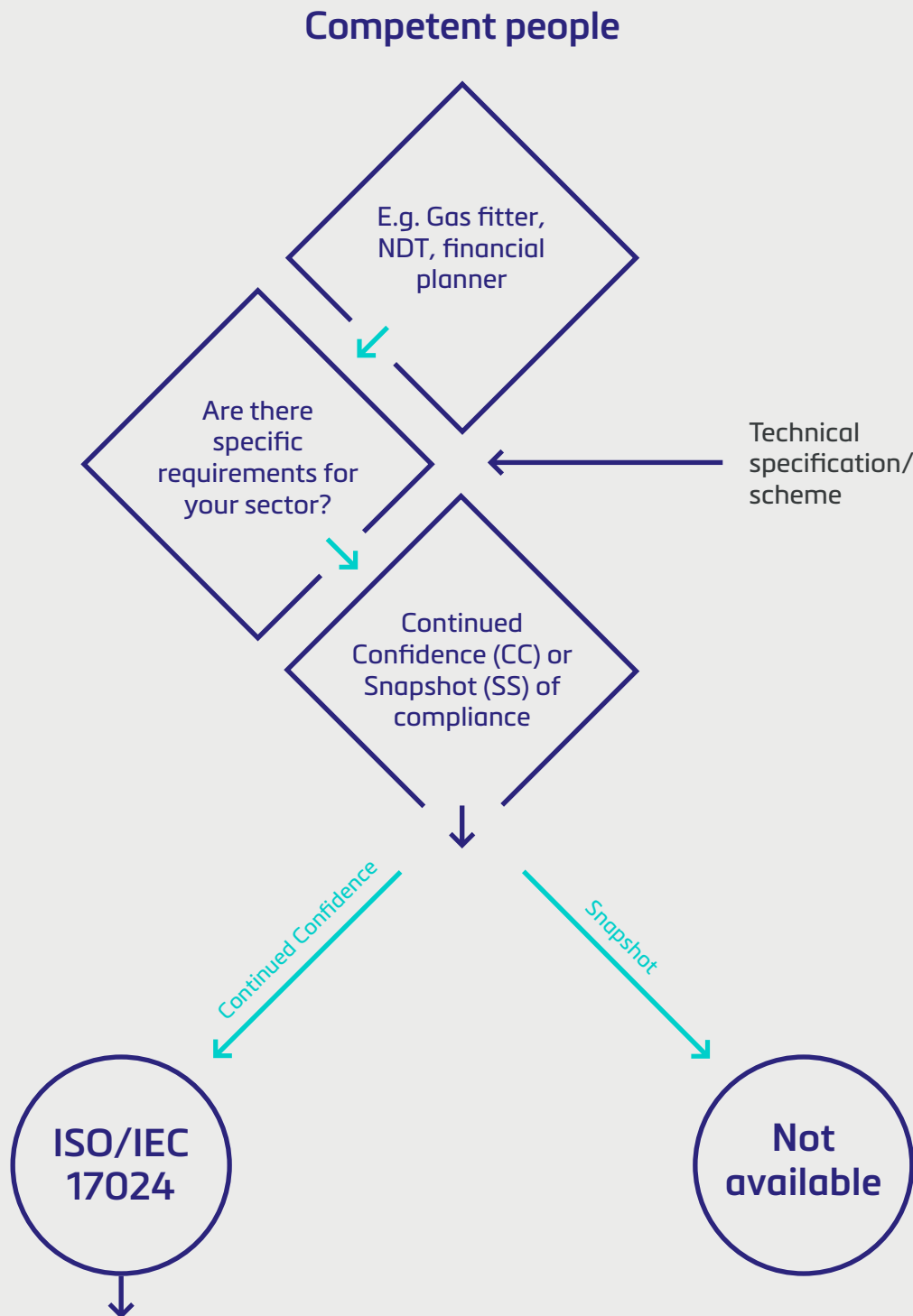
Which conformity assessment standard meets your requirements?



Which conformity assessment standard meets your requirements?



Which conformity assessment standard meets your requirements?



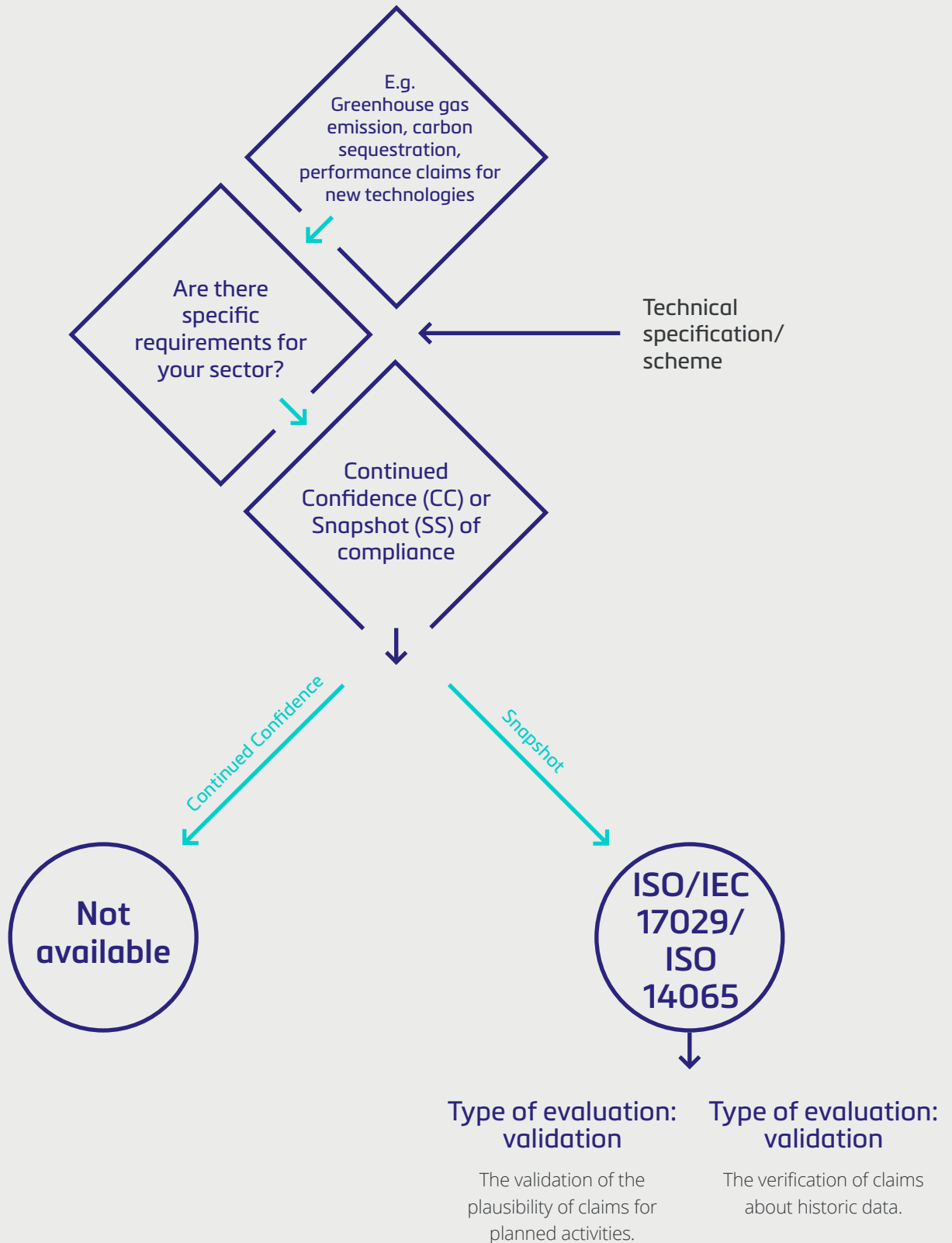
Type of evaluation:
personnel
certification

Confirmation of the competence
of an individual.



Which conformity assessment standard meets your requirements?

Validation/Verification of claims





Further information:

If you are a Government official, Scheme Owner, healthcare professional body or conformity assessment body, and you are interested in using accreditation to underpin the quality of evaluations carried out by conformity assessment bodies, get in touch with our team to discuss your development enquiry.

Get in touch

developmentenquiries@ukas.com

+44 (0) 1784 429000

[ukas.com](https://www.ukas.com)

