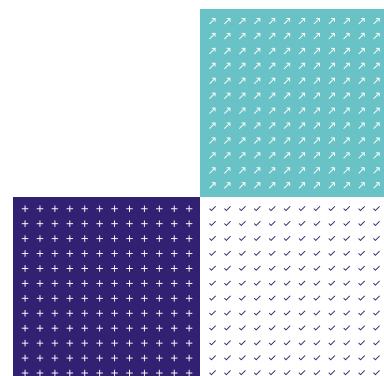


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UKAS approach to accreditation of bodies offering certification of Collaborative Business Relationship Management Systems against ISO 44001:2017



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1. Introduction

Scope

This document provides information on the application of the ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 requirements related to the delivery of accredited conformity assessment against ISO 44001:2017 *Collaborative business relationship management systems - requirements and framework*.

Background

ISO 44001:2017 *Collaborative business relationship management systems - requirements and framework* was published on 31 March 2017 and is based on and supersedes the British Standard BS 11000-1:2010 *Collaborative business relationships - A framework specification*.

UKAS implemented a development project and pilot programme aimed at identifying and validating the arrangements required to deliver ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 accredited conformity assessment of ISO 44001:2017. This document provides information and guidance to certification bodies seeking accreditation for the delivery of accredited ISO 44001:2017 conformity assessment.

Organisations wishing to deliver accredited conformity assessment of ISO 44001:2017 will be assessed by UKAS utilising the criteria of ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 supported by PD ISO/IEC TS 17021-12:2020 *Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems – Part 12: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of collaborative business relationship management systems*.

2. Assessment approach

2.1 Accreditation

UKAS publication GEN 1 *General Principles for the Assessment of Conformity Assessment Bodies by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service* provides the general description of the process for initial and ongoing accreditation. This publication provides additional clarification in respect to the field of ISO 44001:2017. Witness assessment for certification bodies conducting ISO 44001:2017 audits will be managed using the principles detailed in IAF MD 17 *Witnessing activities for the accreditation of management systems certification bodies* as detailed below:

1. For initial accreditation refer to IAF MD 17 clause 4.2.6
2. For surveillance and renewal of accreditation a baseline of one witness assessment each year of the 4-year accreditation life cycle. Additional witnessed assessments will be undertaken taking into consideration the risk factors detailed in IAF MD 17

ISO 44001:2017 specifies general management principles to lead and control collaborative business relationships within the context of 4 dimensions comprising, internal departments, external collaborators, customers, suppliers. Certification bodies will need to demonstrate process and competence to certify all 4 relationship dimensions irrespective of industry sector.



3. Requirements for certification bodies

3.1 Scope

To ensure consistency in certification scope statements, the applicable relationship dimensions as detailed in Section 2.1 shall be included, and for collaborative business relationship management systems implemented by multiple organisations (joint venture, alliance etc) the sites and activities which are covered within the certification shall be identified. ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 clause 8.2.2. (f) refers.

3.2 Legally enforceable certification agreements

ISO 44001:2017 clause 8.6.10 allows collaborative business relationships (JV, Alliance, Partnership etc) to be enacted by informal arrangements which may become complex in large high value projects. Certification bodies shall ensure that such informal arrangements enable the engagement of legally enforceable certification agreements.

3.3 Certification documentation

As BS 11000-1:2010 certification was not delivered under accreditation it and any legacy related reference shall not be detailed on ISO 44001:2017 certificates issued under accreditation. See also section 3.6 for transition of certification.

The principles of IAF MD 1 *Mandatory Document for the Audit and Certification Management System Operated by a Multi-Site Organization*, for the identification of multi-site locations identified on certification documentation shall be recognised in the context that 'central functions' relate to the development and implementation of the management system and the development and maintenance of CRMP (corporate relationship management plan) and JRMP (joint relationship management plan).

3.4 Planning - Audit programmes and sampling

Whilst management system audits do not involve full and in-depth technical investigation into all client operations, the certification body should consider the effectiveness of its sampling and man day allocation to ensure consistent and reliable evidence collection and informed judgements related to:

- Effectiveness of CRMP and JRMP to define, structure and implement a relationship that addresses stakeholder requirements, identifies and manages risk and provides leadership and governance over a relationship lifecycle.
- Effectiveness of the management system in cases where clients are unable to demonstrate implementation of all 8 stages of a relationship cycle, for example a long-term relationship that will not implement exit in the certification cycle, or a case where all relationships have been exited but the clients continue to seek new relationships. The certification body shall specify its policy and rules related to suspension or withdrawal of certification where certified organisations are unable to demonstrate active relationships.

3.5 Planning - Audit time

The process for the calculation of ISO 44001:2017 audit time shall meet the requirements of ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 clause 9.1.4. The certification body shall demonstrate that the allocated audit time is sufficient for a complete and effective audit to be undertaken.



3.6 Migration of BS 11000-1:2010 clients to ISO 44001:2017

Certification bodies wishing to migrate existing clients from BS 11001-1:2010 to ISO 44001:2017 will need to demonstrate effective transition arrangements that demonstrate equivalence with an accredited initial certification of ISO 44001:2017. Reference to previous BS 11001-2010 certification shall not be published on ISO 44001:2017 certification documents.

4. Certification body competence

Competence process and outputs will be assessed against the requirements of ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 with reference to ISO/IEC TS 17021-12:2020.

5. References

- 1 ISO 44001:2017 *Collaborative business relationship management systems - Requirements and framework*
- 2 ISO/TR 44000:2019 *Principles for successful collaborative business relationship management*
- 3 ISO 44002:2019 *Collaborative business relationship management systems – guidelines on the implementation of ISO 44001*
- 4 ISO/IEC TS 17021-12:2020 *Conformity assessment — requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems — Part 12: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of collaborative business relationship management systems*
- 5 ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 *Conformity assessment – requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems*
- 6 ISO 31000:2018 *Risk management – guidelines*
- 7 IAF MD 1 *Audit and certification of a management system operated by a multi-site organisation*
- 8 IAF MD 11 *For the application of ISO/IEC 17021 for audits of integrated management systems*
- 9 IAF MD 17 *Witnessing activities for the accreditation of management system certification bodies*