



Heads Up

Issue: 08

Date: 2003/02/05

To: ANSI-RAB NAP Accredited Registrars and Accreditation Auditors

From: Randy Dougherty, Director of Registrar Accreditation

Re: The Effective Date of Certification/Registration on a Certificate

A question has arisen about what is the “effective date of certification/registration” that must appear on a certificate (ISO/IEC Guide 62:1996, Clause 3.5.3.c and ISO/IEC Guide 66:1999, Clause 5.5.3.c.)

The ANSI-RAB NAP’s position is that this date must be on or after the date of the certification/registration decision (ISO/IEC Guide 62:1996, Clause 3.5.1 and ISO/IEC Guide 66:1999, Clause 5.5.1.)

The reasoning behind this position is that the certification/registration process is not complete until this decision is made, therefore the effective date of certification registration must be on or after this date.

We do not accept the reasoning that the effective date may be the date of completion of an audit in which the audit team recommends certification/registration or the date of submission of what is ultimately considered acceptable correction and corrective action **because** none of these decisions is official until after the certification decision is made by a body or individual that did not participate on the audit.

ANSI-RAB NAP accreditation auditors will write a nonconformance if the effective date on a certificate pre-dates the actual date of the certification/registration decision. It will be written as a nonconformance with the requirement ISO/IEC Guide 62:1996, Clause 3.5.1 or ISO/IEC Guide 66:1999, Clause 5.5.1.