



Heads Up

Issue: 129

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To: ANAB-Accredited and Applicant CBs and Accreditation Assessors

From: Randy Dougherty, Vice President, ANAB

Re: ISO-IAF Schedule for Migration to ISO 9001:2008

The suspense is over. The decision has been made.

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) have agreed on an implementation plan to ensure a smooth transition of accredited certification to ISO 9001:2008. Details of the plan are in a joint communiqué, the text of which appears below in italics. **This is communiqué is available on the ISO Web site.**

Like all of ISO's more than 17,000 standards, ISO 9001 is periodically reviewed to ensure that it is maintained at the state of the art. ISO 9001:2008, which is due to be published before the end of the year, will replace the year 2000 version of the standard.

ISO technical committee ISO/TC 176, Quality management and quality assurance, which is responsible for the ISO 9000 family of standards, is preparing a number of support documents explaining the differences between ISO 9001:2008 and ISO 9001:2000 and why and what they mean for users. Once approved, these documents will be posted on the ISO Web site, probably in October 2008.

Joint IAF-ISO Communiqué Implementation of accredited certification to ISO 9001:2008

ISO (International Organization for Standardization) and the IAF (International Accreditation Forum) have agreed an implementation plan to ensure a smooth migration of accredited certification to ISO 9001:2008, after consultation with international groupings representing quality system or auditor certification bodies, and industry users of ISO 9001 certification services.

ISO 9001:2008 does not contain any new requirements

They have recognized that ISO 9001:2008 introduces no new requirements. ISO 9001:2008 only introduces clarifications to the existing requirements of ISO 9001:2000 based on eight years of experience of implementing the standard world wide with about one million certificates issued in 170 countries to date. It also introduces changes intended to improve consistency with ISO14001:2004

The agreed implementation plan in relation to accredited certification is therefore the following:

Accredited certification to the ISO 9001:2008 shall not be granted until the publication of ISO 9001:2008 as an International Standard.

Certification of conformity to ISO 9001:2008 and/or national equivalents shall only be issued after official publication of ISO 9001:2008 (which should take place before the end of 2008) and after a routine surveillance or recertification audit against ISO 9001:2008.

Validity of certifications to ISO 9001:2000

One year after publication of ISO 9001:2008 all accredited certifications issued (new certifications or recertifications) shall be to ISO 9001:2008.

Twenty four months after publication by ISO of ISO 9001:2008, any existing certification issued to ISO 9001:2000 shall not be valid.

ANAB note for emphasis: Certification to ISO 9001:2008 cannot be issued until after a surveillance or recertification audit based on ISO 9001:2008, and the decision to issue a certification is made following a CB's normal practice including independent review (ISO/IEC 17021:2006, 9.1.14 and 9.1.15).