



# Heads Up

Issue: 106

Date: 2007/06/28

To: ANAB-Accredited and Applicant CBs and Accreditation Assessors

From: Lori Scheid-Gillespie, Accreditation Manager

Re: Initial Assessment of All Foreign Critical Locations – **Update**

As follow up to Heads Up 91 issued in January 2007, ANAB is continuing its process to complete initial assessment of all foreign critical locations of QMS and EMS CBs by 2007/12/31. You may recall this was the bottom line of IAF Resolution 2006-14 agreed upon by IAF at its meeting in November 2006.

ANAB thanks all CBs that have cooperated with ANAB to confirm CFA assessments, whether by ANAB or another AB. We greatly appreciate all of your hard work and assistance.

However, we are not finished. This Heads Up is to communicate the continued actions ANAB will take to conform to the IAF resolution and meet the deadline.

For any CFA assessment that was to be **completed by ANAB**, the CB must cooperate with ANAB in the scheduling process if the assessment has not been confirmed or has not been completed.

For any CFA assessment that was to be **completed by another AB**, the CB must (if it hasn't done so already):

1. Provide the specific dates of the other AB's assessment to your ANAB coordinator by 2007/07/15 or ANAB will schedule the assessment and will expect full cooperation from you.
  - a. When the confirmed dates are provided to ANAB, EQM will be updated and an assessment confirmation letter will be sent.
2. Provide a copy of the other AB's assessment report to your ANAB coordinator by 2007/08/30 or within 30 days of the assessment, whichever is later.
  - a. The report may be provided in the original language and if that is not English, you must confirm to ANAB the number of NCRs issued, date of the assessment, and scope (for example, ISO 9001 witnessed audit).

1. If there were NCRs issued, ANAB will follow up with each CB as to the NCR specifics.
  - b. The report should be provided via e-mail.
  - c. If the report is not received by ANAB within the required timeframe, ANAB will schedule the assessment unilaterally and will expect full cooperation from the CB.

For any assessment that has not been completed by 2007/12/31, ANAB will suspend accreditation. The CFA assessments are treated the same as any annual required assessment. Completion includes receipt of the assessment report (for assessments completed by other ABs).

The only exception is if the assessment is scheduled for December 2007; ANAB will need evidence that the assessment was completed by 2007/12/31 and then will allow the CB the 30 days to collect the assessment report from the other AB.

As of 2007/06/27, the CFA assessment data were as follows:

202 critical locations  
501 critical assessments required (office assessments and witnessed audits)

150 critical assessments to be completed by ANAB  
101 already completed  
26 scheduled for completion  
18 tentatively scheduled  
5 not scheduled

351 critical assessments to be completed by another AB  
298 already completed  
27 scheduled for completion  
10 tentatively scheduled  
16 not scheduled (or ANAB has not received dates from the CB)

As the numbers show, ANAB is working closely with CBs and ABs to accept other ABs' work in lieu of conducting the CFA assessments itself.

In the coming days, you will receive e-mail from your ANAB coordinator outlining all of your CFA assessments. Thank you in advance for your continued cooperation.

**ANAB's goal is to work together with the CB and other ABs in order to meet the IAF resolution and to not have to suspend accreditation at the end of the year.**