



# Heads Up

Issue: 279

Date: 2014/01/07

To: ANAB-Accredited and Applicant CBs and Accreditation Assessors

From: Lori Gillespie, Director of Accreditation

Re: Revised ANAB Management Systems Accreditation Manual

This is a reminder that ANAB has revised the Management Systems Accreditation Manual. You will recall the document was out for public comment earlier in 2013 for 2014/01/01 implementation. A link to the current version, MA 6000.04 [note: subsequently became MA 5000], can be found at <http://www.anab.org/documents/requirements.aspx> [note: obsolete, now found at <http://anab.org/documents/isoiec-17021-docs/>].

Many changes have no impact on requirements and are intended to add clarity and consistency or replace passive with active language. The Foreword is updated. Some definitions are fine-tuned. Following is a summary of significant content changes:

- Public notice will no longer be made via *ANSI Standards Action*.
- The requirement that ANAB witness a CB audit team of more than one auditor during the initial Stage 2 and once in the accreditation cycle is eliminated.
- ANAB will match the number of auditors on the CB's audit team for all witnessed audits.
- The IAF MLA is referred to instead of the MCAA with regard to cooperation with other ABs.
- For certificates issued prior to accreditation, a transition plan approved by ANAB prior to implementation is now required.
- Scope extension witnessed audits are allowed to be used for annual witnessed audits.
- There is more flexibility in ANAB's selection of witnessed audits for the accreditation cycle based on the CB's certification activity.
- Clarification is provided as to how ANAB handles stage 1 and 2 witnessed audits during the accreditation cycle if the CB has not performed any initial certification audits.
- Reference to ANAB's trending of nonconformities is included.
- The section on Suspension or Withdrawal of Accreditation has added detail on CB activity while suspended, a reference to IAF MD 7, and the required notice regarding legal representation during hearings and payment thereof.
- The appeal processing fee previously outlined in ANAB's Fee Schedule is referred to.