MAURITIAN STANDARD

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PREVIEW

Conformity assessment – Fundamentals of product certification and guidelines for product certification schemes

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Mauritius Standards Bureau
Moka

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National foreword

This Mauritian Standard is identical with the International Standard **ISO/IEC 17067:2013**, *Conformity assessment – Fundamentals of product certification and guidelines for product certification schemes*. It was adopted by the Mauritius Standards Bureau in 2013 on the recommendation of **Conformity Assessment Standards Committee** and approved by the **Standards Council** on 30 October 2013. It was notified in the Government Gazette on **21 December 2013***.

For the purposes of this standard the following change should be made:

the words 'International Standard' should be replaced by 'Mauritian Standard'

The following Mauritian Standards are identical to the International Standards, which are referenced in the adopted standard:

International Standard	**Corresponding Mauritian Standard**
ISO/IEC 17000	**MS ISO/IEC 17000**, *Conformity assessment – Vocabulary and general principles*
ISO/IEC 17065	**MS ISO/IEC 17065,** *Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services*.

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work. In the field of conformity assessment, the ISO Committee on conformity assessment (CASCO) is responsible for the development of International Standards and Guides.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

Draft International Standards are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO/IEC 17067 was prepared by the *ISO Committee on conformity assessment* (CASCO).

It was circulated for voting to the national bodies of both ISO and IEC, and was approved by both organizations.

This first edition of ISO/IEC 17067 cancels and replaces ISO/IEC Guide 67:2004, which has been technically revised.

The following major changes have been made compared with ISO/IEC Guide 67:2004:

— a new Clause 6 has been added, providing guidelines on setting up and operating a product certification scheme;

— some of the text originally in the main body of ISO/IEC Guide 67 has been moved to the Introduction;

— the functional approach to conformity assessment has been emphasised;

— Table 1 has been extended to reflect the functional approach;

— explicit provision has been made for type and batch certification schemes;

— references to ISO/IEC 17065:2012 have replaced references to ISO/IEC Guide 65:1996;

— the text has been made more concise in places.

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Introduction

This International Standard describes the fundamentals of product certification and provides guidelines for product certification schemes. In this International Standard references to the term "product" can also be read to mean "services" or "processes".

As products are designed, produced, distributed, used and ultimately disposed of, they can give rise to concerns with purchasers, users and society in general. Such concerns could relate to safety, health or environmental impacts, durability, compatibility, suitability for intended purposes or for stated conditions.

Generally, these concerns are addressed by specifying the required product attributes in a normative document such as a standard.

The supplier of the product then has the task of demonstrating that the product conforms to the requirements of the normative document.

It might be sufficient for the supplier to assess and declare its product's conformity, but in other cases the user or a regulatory authority might require that conformity be assessed by a competent and impartial third party.

Assessment and impartial third party attestation that fulfilment of specified requirements has been demonstrated for the product is referred to as product certification.

This International Standard outlines how schemes for product certification can be structured and managed. It identifies common assessment techniques that are used as a basis for product certification, such as product testing, inspection and auditing.

This International Standard is intended for use by those involved with product certification, particularly those who are, or who are considering becoming, product certification scheme owners. Product certification scheme owners can include:

a) product certification bodies;

b) government and regulators;

c) purchasing agencies;

d) non-government organizations;

e) industry and retail associations; and

f) consumer organizations.

This International Standard provides only guidance and does not contain requirements. It is compatible with ISO/IEC 17065, which specifies requirements for product certification bodies.

In this International Standard, the following verbal forms are used:

— "should" indicates a recommendation;

— "may" indicates a permission;

— "can" indicates a possibility or a capability.

The modal verb "shall", which indicates a requirement, is not used because this International Standard only provides guidelines.

Further details can be found in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

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Conformity assessment — Fundamentals of product certification and guidelines for product certification schemes

1 Scope

This International Standard describes the fundamentals of product certification and provides guidelines for understanding, developing, operating or maintaining certification schemes for products, processes and services.

It is intended for use by all with an interest in product certification, and especially by certification scheme owners.

NOTE 1 In this International Standard the term "product" can also be read as "process" or "service", except in those instances where separate provisions are stated for "processes" or "services". Definitions of product, process and service are given in ISO/IEC 17065.

NOTE 2 The certification of products, processes and services is a third-party conformity assessment activity (see ISO/IEC 17000) carried out by product certification bodies. The requirements for product certification bodies are specified in ISO/IEC 17065.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 17000:2004, *Conformity assessment — Vocabulary and general principles*

ISO/IEC 17065:2012, *Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO/IEC 17000, ISO/IEC 17065 and the following apply.

3.1
certification system
rules, procedures and management for carrying out certification

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17000:2004, 2.7, modified]

3.2
certification scheme
certification system (3.1) related to specified products, to which the same specified requirements, specific rules and procedures apply

Note 1 to entry: The rules, procedures and management for implementing product, process and service certification are stipulated by the certification scheme.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 17065:2012, 3.9, modified]

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