

Publicly
Available
Specification

**MS ISO/PAS
17002:2004**

First edition
2016-02-20

**Conformity assessment –
Confidentiality - Principles and
requirements**

ICS 03.120.20



**Mauritius Standards Bureau
Moka**

National foreword

This Publicly Available Specification is identical with **ISO/PAS 17002:2004**, *Conformity assessment – Confidentiality – Principles and requirements*. It was adopted by the Mauritius Standards Bureau on the recommendation of **Conformity Assessment Standards Committee** and approved by the **Standards Council** on 17 December 2016. It was notified in the Government Gazette on **20 February 2016***.

The following Mauritian Standard is identical to the International Standard, which is referenced in the adopted standard:

International Standard	Corresponding Mauritian Standard
ISO/IEC 17000	MS ISO/IEC 17000 , <i>Conformity assessment – Vocabulary and general principles</i>

* **General Notice No. 183 of 2016.**



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees 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.

In other circumstances, particularly when there is an urgent market requirement for such documents, a technical committee may decide to publish other types of normative document:

- an ISO Publicly Available Specification (ISO/PAS) represents an agreement between technical experts in an ISO working group and is accepted for publication if it is approved by more than 50 % of the members of the parent committee casting a vote;
- an ISO Technical Specification (ISO/TS) represents an agreement between the members of a technical committee and is accepted for publication if it is approved by 2/3 of the members of the committee casting a vote.

An ISO/PAS or ISO/TS is reviewed after three years in order to decide whether it will be confirmed for a further three years, revised to become an International Standard, or withdrawn. If the ISO/PAS or ISO/TS is confirmed, it is reviewed again after a further three years, at which time it must either be transformed into an International Standard or be withdrawn.

ISO/PAS 17002 was prepared by the ISO *Committee on conformity assessment* (CASCO).

Introduction

In 2001 the ISO Council asked its policy committee on conformity assessment (ISO/CASCO) to study and prepare a group of common elements for application in future ISO documents on conformity assessment. Subsequent to this request, ISO/CASCO approved the formation of Working Group 23, *Common elements in ISO/IEC Standards for conformity assessment activities*, to undertake this task.

The working group has identified several common elements, including among others

- impartiality,
- confidentiality,
- complaints and appeals,
- management systems.

This Publicly Available Specification (PAS) addresses the “confidentiality” element that occurs in many of the ISO/IEC Guides and International Standards on conformity assessment.

The PAS covers the agreed principles that give substance to the element of confidentiality, and also provides requirements clauses intended to be included in future ISO/IEC International Standards on conformity assessment.

This PAS is intended to apply to the drafting of documents on conformity assessment by ISO/CASCO.

Clause 4 (Principles) contains statements that are intended to orientate ISO/CASCO working groups in their task of creating requirements to address confidentiality in their documents.

The requirements to be inserted into future ISO/CASCO documents that cover the common element of “confidentiality” are detailed in Clause 5. ISO/CASCO has adopted a common structure for the presentation of requirements. Requirements should be grouped under one or more of the following headings:

- a) General requirements;
- b) Structural requirements;
- c) Resource requirements;
- d) Process requirements;
- e) Management system requirements.

As such, each of the common elements will have requirements related to it grouped under one or more of the headings shown above.

This PAS is not intended to become a future International Standard. At the end of three years after the date of publication, it is expected this PAS will be withdrawn and its contents incorporated as appropriate in relevant ISO/CASCO normative and guidance documents.

Conformity assessment — Confidentiality — Principles and requirements

1 Scope

This Publicly Available Specification (PAS) contains principles and requirements for the element of confidentiality as it relates to conformity assessment.

It is an internal tool for use in the ISO standards development process by ISO/CASCO working groups when addressing the element of confidentiality in the preparation of their documents.

This Publicly Available Specification is not a stand-alone normative document to be used directly in conformity assessment activities.

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, *Conformity assessment — Vocabulary and general principles*

3 Terms and definitions

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

NOTE The use of the term “body” in this PAS means either an accreditation body or a conformity assessment body as defined in ISO/IEC 17000.

4 Principles of confidentiality

4.1 To gain access to the information needed to conduct effective conformity assessment activities, the body needs to provide confidence that confidential information will not be disclosed.

4.2 All organizations and individuals have the right to have protected any proprietary information that they provide.

4.3 Managing the balance between confidentiality and public disclosure related requirements affects stakeholders' trust and their perception of value in the conformity assessment activities being performed.

NOTE It is intended that there will be a separate PAS covering the common element of public disclosure.