

Greetings from the Chairman:

Dear **IPC InTouch** readers,

In this issue, I would like to inform you about a very important development. As you know IPC is the scheme owner of the world-wide operated "IPC Management System Auditors certification scheme". At the beginning of 2015 IPC had applied to IAF to evaluate IPC's auditor certification scheme. Since then our scheme has been evaluated in depth by IAS experts/committees. Now I am glad to announce that IPC has received the IAF endorsement as a sub-scope of the IAF MLA, during the 31st IAF General Assembly that took place on 28 and 30 October 2017 at Vancouver, Canada. The IPC Management Systems Auditor Certification Scheme is also the first personnel certification program to be endorsed by IAF. Up to now, tens of thousands of MS auditor certificates have been issued by members of the IPC MLA. From now on IPC scheme will be globally established as the common competency based personnel certification scheme for Management System Auditors.



Osman Vural
Chairman

IPC sets, since the 90's, voluntary standards for the certification of Management Systems (MS) auditors and provides the standard and the framework for independent, recognized 3rd party certification of Management System Auditors based on ISO/IEC 17024. The two certification grades that IPC recognizes are IPC MS Auditor, and IPC MS Lead Auditor. Until the day of IAF endorsement IPC schemes were used solely by the IPC MLA signatories. The "IPC Management System Auditors" may be used now by all PCBs that are accredited by IAF MLA signatories and are becoming IPC members. I believe that this is a major development that it will widen IPC and IAF members' family with PCB's aiming to contribute to the goal of continuous improvement.

It is also important to remind that IPC's executive member EOQ is operating similar schemes regionally in Europe. EOQ's schemes are also approved by IPC and are endorsed by EA (European Accreditation). PCB's seeking accreditation to Management System Auditors Schemes in Europe, are encouraged to comply to EOQ programs which fully comply to IPC criteria.

More news I would like to share with you is that the 21st IPC AGM and BoD meeting was successfully held in Montreal, Canada on Oct 26-27, 2017. During this year's AGM we have reviewed and approved our strategic plan, a new constitution of IPC and new IPC certification schemes. Also, I am happy to announce that 3 new experts have joined IPC's BoD. We welcome Ms. Niu Dongbo from CCAA, Mr. Faton Aliu from PECB and Mr. Gilbert Gong from GPC. Their valuable contribution is expected to create a big impact to IPC.

Finally, I would kindly ask you to forward this newsletter to your colleagues and business associates that might be interested. If they are interested to join our mailing list, and for any additional questions please don't hesitate contact us at secretary@ipcaweb.org

Greetings from the Chairman

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secretary@ipcaweb.org

IAF Endorses "IPC Management Systems Auditors Certification"

**By Dr. George Anastasopoulos
IPC-Secretary General**

International Personnel Certification Association's "IPC Management System Auditors certification scheme" received endorsement as a sub-scope of the IAF MLA, during the thirty-first IAF General Assembly that took place on 28 and 30 October 2017 at Vancouver, Canada.

The IPC Management System Auditors certification scheme is the first personnel certification scheme ever to have achieved official endorsement by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF). This means more consistency and integrity for Management System Auditors certificates issued around the world.

IPC is only working with those Accreditation Bodies that are participating in the IAF MLA for personnel certification. The IAF MLA delivers the confidence needed for market acceptance of conformity assessment outcomes. Certification of persons issued, within the scope of the IAF MLA, by a Personnel Certification Body (PCB) that is accredited by an IAF MLA signatory, ensures worldwide recognition, thereby facilitating international trade.

From now on, the IAF peer evaluation process will take into account not only generic personnel certification requirements, but also the specific IPC scheme normative documents that are now endorsed by the IAF. This creates an additional layer of assurance that ISO/IEC 17024 accredited PCB's - including in their scope the IPC Management System Auditors certification scheme - are certifying competent and knowledgeable management system auditors.

Both IAF and IPC have decided to develop and maintain a close cooperation between the two organizations to ensure harmonization in the accreditation practices performed by IAF members in the "IPC Management System Auditors" certification scheme and to cooperate in the continuous improvement of the certification scheme with the final goal of assuring the highest level of competence in the "IPC Management System Auditors" certification scheme's accredited CBs.



Dr. George Anastasopoulos, IPC General Secretary and Mr. Xiao Jianhua, IAF Chair



From the left; Mr. Norman Brunner, IAF MLA Chair, Dr. George Anastasopoulos, Mr. Xiao Jianhua, IAF Chair, Mrs. Elva Nilsen, IAF Secretary

Important information for Certification Bodies regarding transition to ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015

As the three-year transition for ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 moves into its final year, IAF (the global association for developing the principles and practices for the conduct of conformity assessment) has passed a resolution that as of 15 March 2018, conformity assessment bodies must conduct all ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 initial, surveillance and recertification audits to the new versions - ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015.

This resolution continues the efforts of IAF, its accreditation body members, stakeholder members of IAF and accredited conformity assessment bodies, to encourage those who need to upgrade to the new versions of the world's leading management system standards.

Any organizations that need to move to the new version of ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 should contact their conformity assessment body as soon as possible to make arrangements for their audit. Further information on transition can be found on ISO 9001 [here](#) and ISO 14001 [here](#).

As noted in the joint ISO/IAF Communiqué on 15 September 2017 to mark one year to the transition deadline, the new versions of ISO 9001 and 14001 make very logical progressions from previous versions, delivering standards which address the key issues for both today and the future. The new ISO 9001 promotes enhanced leadership involvement in the management system, introduces risk-based thinking and aligns the quality management system policy and objectives with the strategy of the organisation. The changes in ISO 14001 focus on key issues such as protecting the environment improving environmental performance, lifecycle thinking and organisations' environmental leadership.

Note that failure to achieve certification to the 2015 standard by the deadline means that your certification is no longer valid and this may affect your ability to supply to all markets.

IPC participating in ISO TC34/SC 17 for development of Food Safety Standards

IPC is actively participating in ISO TC34/SC 17 for the development of Food Safety Standards as a



Liaison Category A member. Last meeting was held in Amsterdam on October 30th, 2017. Developments in the preparation of a number of technical food related standards was discussed (e.g. bees, natural ingredients etc.) as well as the ISO expectations for the revised ISO 22000 standard.

IPC representative Mr. Dimitrios Katsieris gave a presentation to around 70 participants from all over the world regarding IPC history, services, mission and vision.

ISO 19011 revision is ongoing

To able to work with continual improvement in management systems, we need to perform audits to ensure that requirements are met and that further development happens. The ongoing revision of ISO 19011:2011 is important for all organization that value quality. The next release is planned to be finished April 1018. So far we have a DIS version to be commented on. Next meeting in the Project Committee 302 will take place in Mexico City, November 6th to 11th.

According the Design Specification for the revision, the following is the purpose for the new release;

To develop guidance for organizations managing an audit program an auditing one or more management systems. The standard should provide guidance to accomplish the following:

Conducting audits that provide information which assist the organization in:

- Meeting the intended outcome(s)
- Conformance to requirements
- Implementing and maintaining a management system
- Compliance as appropriate
- Performance and effectiveness
- Identifying risks and opportunities
- Continual improvement

Set guidelines that are recognized internationally for the performance of internal and external audits within audit programs.

Define an audit program, the outcome of which is consistent, reliable, efficient, effective and adds value.

Provide guidelines for evaluating and assessing the competence of those involved in the audit process, including audit program management, auditors and audit teams.

Additional considerations

Other factors that may be appropriate and relevant might include consideration of:

- Impact on auditing of increased integration of multiple management system standards
- The role of evolving information technology on auditing practices, such as virtual, remote and e-auditing
- Addressing complex business structures
- Risks related to the audit program

Dear Members and Interested Parties,

Please forward this newsletter to you colleagues and business associates that might be interested. If they want to be on our mailing list, please contact secretary@ipcaweb.org . If you have any information that would be suitable for IPC in touch, please forward it to marit.paus@finsnes.com.

Best regards,
Marit Paus Finsnes,
Editor, IPC in touch