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ASIS International

Abstract
This Standard provides requirements and guidance for conducting conformity assessment of the ANSI/ASIS PSC.1-2012, Management System for Quality of Private Security Company Operations – Requirements with Guidance Standard. It provides requirements for bodies providing auditing and third party certification of Private Security Company Operations (PSCs) – private security providers working for any client in conditions where governance and the rule of law have been undermined by conflict or disaster. It provides requirements and guidance on the management of audit programs, conduct of internal or external audits of the management system and private security company operations, as well as on competence and evaluation of auditors.
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ANSI guidelines specify two categories of requirements: mandatory and recommendation. The mandatory requirements are designated by the word *shall* and recommendations by the word *should*. Where both a mandatory requirement and a recommendation are specified for the same criterion, the recommendation represents a goal currently identifiable as having distinct compatibility or performance advantages.

This conformity assessment standard provides generic auditable criteria and informative guidance.

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0 INTRODUCTION

0.1 General

Conformity assessment and certification of the Quality Assurance Management System (QAMS) of an organization is one means of providing assurance that any type of private security service provider has implemented a system for the management of quality of service in line with its policy and consistent with respect for human rights, legal obligations, and good practices, as specified in the ANSI/ASIS PSC.1-2012, Management System for Quality of Private Security Company Operations – Requirements with Guidance.

This Standard is a sector specific standard based on the ISO/IEC 17021:2011 and provides additional requirements for conformity assessment in those areas which are deemed necessary and relate specifically to any type of Private Security Service Providers, including Private Security Companies (collectively “PSCs”), operating in circumstances of weakened governance or where the rule of law has been undermined due to human or naturally caused events. In unstable and dangerous environments where security and military operations are on-going, PSCs are engaged to provide enhanced security services in support of humanitarian, diplomatic, and military efforts, and to protect commercial activities, including rebuilding of infrastructure.

This Standard has been developed to assist in the certification of quality assurance management systems that fulfill the requirements of ANSI/ASIS PSC.1-2012. The contents of this Standard may also be used to support certification of quality assurance management systems that are based on other or additional sets of specified requirements.

This Standard is intended for use by bodies that carry out audit, conformity assessment, and certification of quality assurance management systems. It gives generic requirements for such certification bodies performing audit, conformity assessment, and certification of PSCs’ management systems. Such bodies are referred to as “certification bodies”. This Standard is also usable by anybody involved in the conformity assessment of quality assurance management systems.

Certification activities involve the audit of an organization’s QAMS. The form of attestation of conformity of an organization’s QAMS to the QAMS standard or other specified requirements is normally a certification document or a certificate.

The organization being certified develops its own management systems tailored to its needs and resources and, other than where relevant legal requirements specify to the contrary, it is for the organization to decide how the various components of the management system will be arranged. The degree of integration between various management system components will vary from organization to organization. It is therefore appropriate for certification bodies that operate in accordance with this Standard to take into account the culture and practices of their clients with respect to the integration of their quality assurance management systems within the wider organization.
Conformity Assessment and Auditing Management Systems for Quality of Private Security Company Operations

1 **Scope**

This *Standard*:

a) Is a sector specific standard based on the ISO/IEC 17021:2011;

b) Describes the process that needs to be followed to conduct attestation of fulfillment of the requirements of the standard ANSI/ASIS PSC.1-2012, *Management System for Quality of Private Security Company Operations – Requirements with Guidance*;


d) Provides requirements for bodies providing auditing and third party certification of PSCs working for any client (public, private, non-governmental, or not-for-profit);

e) Provides requirements and guidance on the management of audit programs, conduct of internal or external audits of the management system and PSC operations, as well as on competence and evaluation of auditors; and

f) Provides confidence and information to internal and external stakeholders that the requirements of the ANSI/ASIS PSC.1-2012 are being met.

Conformity assessment is the process used to demonstrate that a product, service, management system, or body meets specified criteria and requirements; in the case of this *Standard*, the criteria and requirements of the ANSI/ASIS PSC.1-2012. There are three types of conformity assessment:

a) **First party** - Carried out by the organization itself or by someone working on behalf of the organization. It is a self-assessment and self-declaration.

b) **Second party** - Performed by a client or customer of the organization.

c) **Third party** - Performed by a body that is independent of the organization that provides the product/services and is not a user of the product/services. An independent certification body certifies that another organization complies with the standard and issues it with a certificate to this effect.

Certification of a quality assurance management system ("certification") is a third-party conformity assessment activity. Bodies performing this activity are therefore third-party conformity assessment bodies ("certification body").