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Conformity assessment — General requirements for third-party marks of conformity

Évaluation de la conformité — Exigences générales pour les marques de conformité par tierce partie

Reference number
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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 national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national 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 17030 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.

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Introduction

Marks of conformity take many forms and different uses. They can convey useful information about a product, or indicate particular characteristics of a product such as its safety, quality, performance, reliability or impact on the environment. They are found on products, certificates and publications denoting the conformity to specified requirements of a product, management system, service, process, person or an organization. Most important for all marks of conformity is to gain the confidence of the market, including consumers, in products and other objects of conformity assessment to which these marks have been applied.

The prime purpose of this International Standard is to enable a uniform approach to the use of third-party marks of conformity, to fill relevant gaps in existing ISO, IEC, ISO/IEC Standards and Guides, to address potential problems arising from different uses of third-party marks of conformity, to provide a clear and rational basis for their use, and to set out general requirements. This International Standard concentrates on third-party marks of conformity but may also be used as guidance for other applications of marks of conformity.

This International Standard is based on market feedback and demands from various users and issuers of marks of conformity assessment. It takes account of the ISO report on *Marks of conformity assessment*, published in May 1999. The use of this International Standard should lead to improved market confidence, international recognition and consumer acceptance of third-party marks of conformity.