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## **Conformity assessment — Example of a certification scheme for tangible products**

*Évaluation de la conformité — Exemple d'un schéma de certification  
pour des produits tangibles*



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Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20  
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11  
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47  
E-mail [copyright@iso.org](mailto:copyright@iso.org)  
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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.

In exceptional circumstances, when a technical committee has collected data of a different kind from that which is normally published as an International Standard ("state of the art", for example), it may decide by a simple majority vote of its participating members to publish a Technical Report. A Technical Report is entirely informative in nature and does not have to be reviewed until the data it provides are considered to be no longer valid or useful.

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 TR 17026 was prepared by the *ISO Committee on conformity assessment (CASCO)*.

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## Introduction

Product certification is used ever more widely to provide confidence that products, processes and services fulfil specified requirements.

This Technical Report is intended to provide useful information to those involved in product certification on the application of ISO/IEC 17067. It provides an example of a type 5 scheme, as outlined in ISO/IEC 17067, related to the certification of tangible products.

There are many different ways in which product certification is operated in practice. This Technical Report does not prevent scheme owners, in consultation with other stakeholders, from adopting other measures or using them in different combinations to achieve a fit-for-purpose scheme.

In particular, the range of activities used, and the intensity with which they are applied, need to be proportionate to the consequences and likelihood of a product in service failing to fulfil specified requirements. Factors such as the particular characteristics of the marketplace, the product technology and the production methods related to the products also need to be taken into account.

The principal stakeholders, who are most affected by the rules, procedures and management of the scheme, are the following:

- the scheme owner;
- the certification body/bodies;
- the manufacturers of certified products;
- users of the certified product and entities that rely on certification.

NOTE Where a certification body runs its own scheme, the certification body is the scheme owner.

Other stakeholders include, but are not limited to:

- regulatory authorities;
- specifiers, purchasers and users of certified products;
- conformity assessment bodies, such as testing laboratories and inspection bodies, involved in the product certification process;
- accreditation bodies and peer assessment groups;
- international certification schemes that facilitate the recognition of certification status from one scheme owner to another;
- consumers.

This Technical Report contains neither normative requirements (expressed by “shall”) nor recommendations (expressed by “should”). It is intended solely as an example of a type 5 product certification scheme.