

Prot. DC2019SSV289

Milan, 27/09/2019

*To all accredited and applicant Certification Bodies for the PRD scheme  
Att.: Scheme managers*

*To Associations of conformity assessment bodies*

**Subject: ACCREDIA Department of Certification and Inspection - Circular N° 16/2019  
Dispositions regarding the transition of the accreditations of Certification Bodies (CBs) providing certification according to the certification scheme IFS Broker**

Dear Sirs,

we remind you that on 18th June 2019, revision 3 of the standard IFS Broker was published, which replaced the previous version 2.

In accordance with the provisions of the scheme, starting from 2 January 2020, the activities must be carried out only with reference to the new version of the standard.

After 1 July 2020, the accredited certifications issued against the previous version 2 will no longer be valid.

#### **New applications for accreditation**

From January 2, 2020 ACCREDIA will not accept new applications for accreditation against the version 2 of the scheme in question.

#### **New applications for the extension of accreditations already granted**

From January 2, 2020 ACCREDIA will accept new applications for accreditation only against the version 3 of the scheme in question.

#### **CBs already holding accreditation – management of the transition**

All CBs already accredited against version 2 of the scheme in question shall evaluate the modifications contained in the new version 3 and implement them as part of their internal management.

When the above activities have been completed, CBs shall formalize to ACCREDIA the request for transition to the new version of the scheme, sending at least the following evidences:

- Gap analysis regarding implementation of the new version of the scheme in the CB's management system;
- Indication of the documental updates carried out and the modules resulting from the modifications;
- Evidence of training of all personnel involved in the certification process and evidence of re-qualification of the auditors against the new version 3 of the scheme IFS Broker;
- Communication to the certified companies regarding the new aspects in the new version of the standard and of the policy defined for management of the transition.

ACCREDIA shall perform a document review lasting 0.5 man-days of the evidences sent, the cost of which is met by the CB. This assessment may be conducted either on-site or off-site.

The outcome of the document review is communicated to the CB for the implementation of any necessary integrations/modifications/corrections to the evidences sent.

ACCREDIA reserves the right to undertake any subsequent on-site verifications, further to the document review, if this is considered necessary.

The CB is authorized to issue certificates against the version 3 of the standard with reference to accreditation only after a positive decision of the competent Sector Accreditation Committee.

The evaluation of the modifications introduced and the correct implementation shall be evaluated during the ordinary surveillance activities conducted by ACCREDIA.

From July 1, 2020 all accreditations issued against version 2, in the absence of evidence of implementation, shall be withdrawn.

We are available for any clarifications.

Kind regards,

**Mariagrazia Lanzaova**  
**Vice Director Department**  
**Certification and Inspection**

