

Prot. DC2020OC191

Milan, 20/07/2020

To all accredited conformity assessment bodies

To all associations of accredited conformity assessment bodies

To ACCREDIA assessors and experts operating for the Department of Certification and Inspection

To Technical Officers of the Department of Certification and Inspection

Object: ACCREDIA – Informative Circular DC n. 15/2020
Informative Circular regarding the updating of standards for the
accreditation of validation and verification bodies (ISO/IEC 17029:2019)

On 30.10.2019 the standard ISO/IEC 17029 was published (implemented in Italy by UNI on 23.01.2020). It is an important standard which contains the principles and general requirements with regard to the competence, functioning and impartiality of bodies performing verification and validation as conformity assessment activities. ACCREDIA was an active member of the ISO working group which developed the standard and ACCREDIA personnel have already taken part in training activities organized by EA on this topic.

The standard is applicable to validation/verification bodies in any sector and can be used in conjunction with sector specific programs and schemes containing requirements for the processes and procedures of validation and verification.

Examples of validations/verifications accredited to the standard ISO 14065 are greenhouse gas emissions (GHG inventories, the EU ETS scheme, the MRV Maritime scheme, product carbon footprint...).

Potential new applications in accordance with the standard ISO/IEC 17029 could include, for example, declarations relating to construction technology, financial management, industrial automation systems, software engineering, artificial intelligence and information technology.

At the IAF and EA level the process has begun for the extension of the agreements of mutual recognition to ISO/IEC 17029 which will be recognized as a level 3 standard as defined in the documents EA 1/06 and IAF PR4:2015. This will provide to the new standard an equivalent recognition to the existing conformity assessment standards such as ISO/IEC 17021-1 and ISO/IEC 17065.

At the end of the transition period (as yet not formally defined) the accreditations currently issued against ISO 14065 will be converted to ISO/IEC 17029.

The standard ISO 14065 will be applied, together with ISO/IEC 17029, only by bodies which intend to verify/validate information of an environmental nature. In other cases, reference only to ISO/IEC 17029 will be sufficient.

ACCREDIA has recently started accreditation activities against ISO/IEC 17029 with the publication of the new circular for the verification/validation of ethical claims in accordance with ISO/TS 17033 (see the Technical Circular n. 12/2020 dated 25.05.2020).

At the present time, therefore, it is not yet possible to request migration from ISO 14065 to ISO 17029.

It is possible to present with immediate effect an application for accreditation against ISO 17029, connected or not connected with ISO 17033. The specific module is available in ACCREDIA's website, in English and Italian, for the application for accreditation against ISO/IEC 17029 (DA-11 rev. 00), which must be sent, in accordance with normal practice, together with the module DA-00 and the documentation required by the module.

We also inform you that, in the coming months, an Accreditation Regulation (RG-01-xx) will be published integrating the elements already contained in the Regulation for Accreditation RG-01 – General requirements.

A body which already possesses ISO/IEC 17029 accreditation will, in addition, be facilitated in terms of numbers of days, regarding the subsequent migration from the standard ISO 14065 to the standard ISO 17029.

Please contact us for any clarifications.

With kind regards,

Emanuele Riva
Director of the Department of
Certification and Inspection