

INFORMATIVE CIRCULAR Ref. DC2021OC081

DATE Milan, 27-08-2021

To all accredited and applicant certification bodies – PRD scheme

To the associations of conformity assessment bodies

To all ACCREDIA DC department assessors and experts

SUBJECT **Certification and Inspection Department**
Information Circular DC N°34/2021 – Dispositions regarding the transition of accreditation of certification bodies with certification to the scheme GlobalGAP Chain of Custody v.6

Introduction

The standard GlobalGAP Chain of Custody v.6 has received a positive evaluation by the German accreditation body DAkkS, which is the home AB, with respect to the following parts which have been included in the list of certification schemes evaluated according to the procedure EA 1/22 in order to obtain accreditation by all ABs signatory to the EA MLA agreements:

- General rules of the Chain of Custody “option 1 – single sites” and “option 1 – multiple sites”;
- Control points and fulfilment criteria “Part 1 – Chain of Custody standard for the supply chain from the producer or group of producers to the retailer and/or restaurant chain operator.”

The parts below are still undergoing evaluation and, at present, cannot obtain accredited certification:

- General rules of the Chain of Custody “option 1 – multiple site for retailers and restaurant chains in franchising;”
- Control points and fulfilment criteria “part 2 – Chain of Custody standard for retailers and restaurant chain operators.”

With this information circular we inform you that it is possible to apply to ACCREDIA for accreditation/extension only for the applicable parts of the GlobalGAP Chain of Custody v.6 standard, as a product certification scheme in accordance with the accreditation standard UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17065:2012.

The new version is applicable from the publication of the present circular.

New applications for accreditation

From the date of publication of the present circular ACCREDIA shall accept applications for accreditation only in accordance with version 6 for the applicable parts.

New applications for the extension of already issued accreditations

From the date of publication of the present circular ACCREDIA shall accept applications for extension only in accordance with version 6 for the applicable parts.

Accredited CBs – management of the transition

All CBs already accredited against version 5 will have to evaluate the modifications introduced in the new version 6 and implement them within their own organization.

At the end of the activities described above, the CBs must send to ACCREDIA, by 30 September 2021, the transition plan to the new version of the standard accompanied by the following evidence:

- analysis of the modifications introduced in the new version and their implementation in their management system;
- list of updated documents, including the modules, after the introduction of modifications;
- evidence of training of all personnel involved in the management of the certification process and evidence of re-qualification of the auditors regarding the new version;
- communication to certified organizations regarding the modifications introduced by the new version of the standard and the policy defined for the management of the transition.

For the evaluation of the evidence received and attached to the transition plan, ACCREDIA will conduct a document review lasting 0.5 days, with payment by the CB, reserving the right to carry out any further assessments, where necessary.

The CB shall be authorized to issue certificates against version 6 for the applicable parts of the standard with reference to accreditation only following a positive decision of the transition by the relevant Sector Accreditation Committee.

Given that the new revision is immediately applicable, the positive resolution of the transition automatically entails the withdrawal of the accreditation for the previous version of the standard.

The correct implementation of the modifications introduced will be assessed during the normal surveillance activities performed by ACCREDIA.

From 30 September 2021, all accreditations issued against the previous version, in the absence of evidence of implementation, shall be withdrawn.

For any clarifications, the technical reference is Marco Zanardi (m.zanardi@accredia.it).

With kind regards,

Dott.ssa Mariagrazia Lanza

Deputy Director Department
Certification and Inspection