

Accredia: Emanuele Riva - new President of IAF, the world association of accreditation bodies.

First time for Italy.

Riva: "A great opportunity for our country, which will be the protagonist of global strategies for sustainability and the movement of people and goods."

Italy – European leader and global second for management system certifications, and European first for the certification of persons.

Rome, November 4th, 2021 – Emanuele Riva is the new President of IAF, the International Accreditation Forum and world association of accreditation bodies. This is the first time an Italian has received this appointment.

IAF is responsible for harmonizing the worldwide rules of accreditation, so that the certificates issued by accredited certification bodies are recognized all over the world and guarantee the quality, suitability for use and safety of products, services and professionals on the market.

Founded in 1993, under the auspices of the WTO, with the aim of improving and regulating non-commercial barriers between member countries of the World Trade Organization, today IAF has 87 accreditation bodies, representing 104 states. Italy is represented by Accredia, the national accreditation body, designated by the Italian government to accredit certification, inspection and verification bodies, testing laboratories and calibration laboratories.

Emanuele Riva, who will be president of IAF for the next three years, is currently Vice General Director and Director of Accredia's Certification and Inspection Department. He is also a member of the EA Board of Directors, and was IAF Vice President from 2015 to the current date.

He has been with Accredia since 2003, and Department Director since 2013. During these years Riva has represented Accredia and Italy by collaborating with many international accreditation and technical standardization bodies, such as IAF, EA (European Accreditation), ISO (International Organization for Standardization) and INAB (The Irish National Accreditation Board).

According to the recent ISO Survey 2021, the most authoritative source on the global diffusion of management system certifications (quality, environment, safety, etc.), Italy, with over 90,000 ISO 9001 quality certifications, ranks first among European countries and second in the world.

"I am very honored to represent my country in an important world organization such as IAF and for this I thank Accredia and all the countries that have supported Italy. This appointment is a reason for satisfaction for the work carried out so far and increases the prestige and reputation of our country among world organizations", commented Riva.

"The challenges on the horizon are many: from post-pandemic management to the definition of shared and uniform rules at an international level on fundamental issues for the life of citizens, businesses and the government administrative authorities, such as sustainability, health, safety and digitization. Also important is the project of the world database of certifications for management systems, and the merger project between IAF and ILAC, the two world accreditation players. But the work to ensure harmonized and uniform certifications and verification procedures common to all countries will also be crucial, so as to simplify the life of companies, as well as collaboration with institutions and stakeholders of the global infrastructure for quality", Riva continued.

"For Italy this is a great opportunity, since our country will be the protagonist in the discussions where strategies are decided on the issues at the center of the world agenda", he concluded.

Accredia is the sole national accreditation body appointed by the Italian government in compliance with the application of the European Regulation 765/2008, attesting the competence, independence and impartiality of certification, inspection and verification bodies, as well as testing and calibration laboratories. Accredia is a recognized association which operates on a non-profit basis, under the vigilance of the Ministry of Economic Development.

Accredia has 68 members who represent all parties involved in accreditation and conformity assessment activities undertaken by bodies and laboratories, among them: Ministries (Economic Development, Environment, Defense, Infrastructures and Transport, Internal Affairs, Education, Labour, Agriculture and Health), Major national public entities, Standardization bodies (UNI and CEI), Business and trade organizations, Associations of accredited certification and inspection bodies and testing and calibration laboratories, Associations of consultants and consumers, Suppliers of public utilities such as the state railways and ENEL, the national energy utility.

Accredia is a member of the EU and international accreditation networks and is a signatory of the related Mutual Recognition Agreements, under which the laboratory tests and certifications of CABs accredited by Accredia are recognized and accepted in Europe and worldwide.

Contact: Accredia
Francesca Nizzero
f.nizzero@accredia.it
Tel. 06 84409923

Barabino&Partners
Domenico Lofano
d.lofano@barabino.it
Tel. 06 6792929
Cell. 334 1412995