

**INFORMATIVE CIRCULAR** Ref. DC2021OC095

**DATE** Milan, 05-11-2021

To all accredited and applicant Certification Bodies for the PRD scheme

To Associations of conformity assessment bodies

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**SUBJECT**                    **Certification and Inspection Department**  
**Informative Circular N° 45/2019 - Dispositions regarding the transition of the accreditations of Certification Bodies (CBs) providing certification according to the certification scheme IFS PACsecure.**

Dear Sirs,

we remind you that during the month of July 2021 revision 2 of the standard IFS PACsecure was published, which replaced the previous version 1.1.

In accordance with the provisions of the scheme, starting from January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, it will be possible offer certification services for the new version 2 of the Standard IFS PACsecure that will become mandatory starting to May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.

Since this last date, the certification activities must be carried out only with reference to the new version of the Standard.

At the same time of the publication of the new version, we remind you that IFS has also published the new IFS Doctrine applicable to version 2 of the Standard. As a normative document, the IFS Doctrine is an integral part of the relevant standard version and comes in force according to the same timing defined for the Standard.

**New applications for accreditation and new applications for the extension of accreditations already granted**

Starting from the date of publication of this circular, ACCREDIA will accept new applications for accreditation and new applications for extension of accreditation already granted only against the version 2 of the standard IFS PACsecure.

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

All CBs already accredited against the previous version of the IFS PACsecure standard shall evaluate the modifications contained in the new version 2 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 their management system;
- List of documents and forms updated following the changes identified;
- Training program for auditors and all personnel involved in the certification process, including the evidence on training of all personnel involved in the certification process and evidence of re-qualification of the auditors against the new version;
- Communication to the certified companies regarding the new aspects 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 2 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 May 3, 2022 all accreditations issued against version 1.1, in the absence of evidence of implementation, shall be withdrawn.

We are available for any clarifications.

Kind regards,

**Dott.ssa Mariagrazia Lanza**

Vice Director Department  
Certification and Inspection