

**TECHNICAL CIRCULAR****Ref. DC2025MGR097****Milan, 28-11-2025**

To all Certification Bodies accredited/seeking accreditation for the MS scheme

To the associations of Conformity Assessment Bodies

To the Assessors/Experts of DC Department

**SUBJECT:    Technical Circular DC No. 48/2025 – Errata Corrige to Technical Circular DC No. 31/2025 – Provisions regarding the ISO/IEC 17021-1 accreditation of Certification Bodies pursuant to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1012 of 7 April 2022, supplementing Regulation (EC) No. 561/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council.**

**Introduction**

In order to improve the protection and quality of life of road transport workers, the [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2022/1012](#) has supplemented Regulation (EC) No 561/2006 with rules specifying the level of service and security of safe and secure parking areas, as well as the procedures for their certification.

Article 1 of [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2022/1012](#) sets out that that, in order to be certified, a safe and secure parking area within the meaning of Article 8b(1) of Regulation (EC) No 561/2006 must comply with the following rules:

- all rules regarding the minimum level of service, as set out in Annex I, Section A, of the Regulation;
- all rules regarding one of the security levels, as set out in Annex I, Section B, of the Regulation.

The technical requirements of the certification scheme are based on the provisions of Annex I to [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2022/1012](#) of 7 April 2022, which therefore establish the minimum levels of security and service, as well as the minimum characteristics for each achievable level: Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum.

Security is assessed through the security elements and measures present on the perimeter, within the parking area, at the entrance/exit, and in the general management and personnel procedures.

Services are based on driver comfort elements, including attention to the needs of female drivers, and are divided into mandatory and optional services.

## Certification Rules

Annex II of [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2022/1012](#), at § A.2, provides that Certification Bodies certifying safe and secure parking areas in accordance with Annex I must be [accredited in compliance with the ISO/IEC 17021-1 standard](#).

At the same time, Articles 1 and 2 of [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2022/1012](#) provide that such Certification Bodies shall issue a certification for the parking area, confirming that it meets the requirements set out in Annex I of the Regulation.

Considering that this type of certification is not in line with the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17021-1 standard, which requires Certification Bodies to issue certification on a management system compliant with a specific management system standard, it has become necessary to define a pragmatic and harmonized approach for both Accreditation Bodies and Certification Bodies operating in this field.

The EA **TMB 2024 (18) 01** Resolution, approved by the Technical Management Board (TMB) in June 2024, aims to address this inconsistency; in particular, it has defined the following:

- The Certification Body shall include in its evaluation activities an inspection of the parking area and an audit to ensure that the parking area complies with the specific requirements of Annex I to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1012.
- The inspection shall meet the applicable requirements of ISO/IEC 17020, while the audit, in order to test the implementation of procedures, shall meet the requirements of ISO/IEC 17021-1.
- The Certification Body, and any part of the same legal entity or entities under its organizational control, shall not:
  - be the designer, implementer, provider, or maintainer of the certified service;
  - provide or offer consultancy to its clients;
  - provide or offer consultancy on the management system or internal audits to its clients where the certification scheme requires evaluating the client's management system (which does not preclude the exchange of information between the Certification Body and its clients).
- The certificate shall include the statement confirming that the management system ensures that the parking area fulfils all of the standards on the minimum level of service set out in Section A of Annex I of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1012, as well as all of the standards of one of the security levels set out in Section B of Annex I of the same Delegated Regulation.

With reference to the requirements set out in Annex II, point B.6 ("suggests measures to remedy them"), of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1012, Certification Bodies shall handle findings of non-conformity in line with the requirements of clause 9.4.5.4 of ISO/IEC 17021-1 and clauses 7.4.6, 7.4.7 and 7.4.8 of ISO/IEC 17065. Any non-conformity relating to the physical requirements of parking areas shall be handled as major non-conformities. Any such requirements must be fulfilled (for example, the implementation of the correction and corrective action must be reviewed, accepted and verified) before certification can be granted.

<b>Accreditation standard</b>	ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015
<b>Certification standards</b>	Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1012 Regulation (EC) No 561/2006
<b>Competence criteria of the Assessment Team</b>	<p>For the general competence criteria, reference is made to ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015, Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems.</p> <p>For the specific competence criteria, reference is made to point A of Annex II of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1012.</p> <p>The Certification Body may establish additional specific competence criteria depending on the type and complexity of the organisations and parking areas it intends to certify.</p>
<b>Types of entities that may apply for certification</b>	<p>The organisation requesting certification of the management system must be specifically established as a legal entity, contractually identifiable in the certificate.</p> <p>This organisation must be responsible for establishing, implementing, maintaining, and continually improving the management system of the parking area.</p> <p>This entity may be the operator of the parking area.</p>
<b>Scope of the certified management system</b>	As stated in the above-mentioned EA Resolution, the subject of the certification refers exclusively to the management system of the operator of a specific parking area.
<b>Information on the certificate</b>	<p>It is not possible to include only the identification of the parking area within the scope of the certificate, as the standard applies to the management system of the operator, which ensures that the parking area complies with all the requirements on the minimum service level set out in Section A of Annex I of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1012, as well as all the requirements of one of the security levels laid down in Section B of Annex I of the same Delegated Regulation.</p> <p>The certificate must indicate the security level obtained, as referred to in Annex I, Section B, of the Regulation.</p>
<b>Audit time calculation</b>	<p>For the calculation of the minimum audit duration, reference is made to Annex A of IAF MD 5:2023, taking into account, for the calculation of the actual number of personnel, only the staff of the organisation involved in the management system of the parking areas.</p> <p>For the increase and reduction factors, those applicable to QMS, as described in §8 of IAF MD 5:2023, must be considered.</p>

<b>Validity of the certificate and three-year certification programme</b>	<p>The certificate will be valid for three years, as provided in point C of Annex II of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1012.</p> <p>As specified in point B.4 of Annex II of the Delegated Regulation, the Certification Body must perform a certification audit, at least one unannounced audit, and a renewal audit within the three-year certification period, including an inspection of the parking area to ensure compliance with the specific requirements of Annex I of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1012, in accordance with the provisions of the EA Resolution.</p> <p>In addition to the above, the Certification Body must apply all the provisions set out in points B and C of Annex II of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1012.</p>
<b>IAF Documents</b>	<p>All IAF documents apply, in addition to those already mentioned in the previous paragraphs, relating to management systems, with the exception of IAF MD 1, since the certification refers to the management system of the operator of a specific parking area.</p>

### ACCREDIA database of issued certifications and notifications to the Commission

As is well known, Certification Bodies are required to submit to ACCREDIA-DC the data concerning entities holding certifications issued by them, in accordance with the procedures defined by ACCREDIA-DC and the relevant Regulations (RG-01 §1.10.7).

Certifications must be recorded in the Database with explicit reference to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1012 and Regulation (EC) No 561/2006.

As provided in point C.1 of Annex II of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1012, the Certification Body must send a copy of the issued certificates to the Commission, so that the list of safe and secure parking areas on the official website can be kept constantly updated.

The Certification Body must also inform the Commission of any revocations or changes to the security levels of the issued certificates.

### Accreditation rules

As prescribed by EA Resolution TMB 2024 (18) 01, the Accreditation Body must ensure that the scope of accreditation of Certification Bodies includes reference to the requirements of ISO/IEC 17021-1, Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1012, and Regulation (EC) No 561/2006.

Different scenarios may arise depending on the ACCREDIA accreditations already held by the Certification Body submitting the application for accreditation or extension.

The prerequisites established by Regulations RG-01 and RG-01-01 for granting accreditation and extensions remain unchanged; regarding the reissuance of any certificates previously issued within one year from the granting of the extension/accreditation, a review of the ongoing files is required, which will be subject to evaluation by the ACCREDIA GVI (Assessment team) during the document review for the extension/accreditation.

If the Certification Body already holds accreditations issued by other bodies, a case-by-case assessment must be carried out based on the applicable EA/IAF MLA agreements.

<b>A</b>	Certification Body already accredited for the ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document review: 1 man/day;</li> <li>• 1 (one) witness assessment with a duration of 1 man/day. For each witness assessment, 1 man/day is applied for reporting</li> </ul>
<b>B</b>	Certification Body not yet accredited for ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 but accredited for other schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document review: 1 man/day;</li> <li>• Assessment at the Certification Body's offices with a duration of 3 man/days;</li> <li>• 1 (one) witness assessment with a duration of 1 man/day. For each witness assessment, 1 man/day is applied for reporting.</li> </ul>
<b>D</b>	Non-accredited Certification Body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document review: 1 man/day;</li> <li>• Assessment at the Certification Body's offices with a duration of 4 man/days;</li> <li>• 1 (one) witness assessment with a duration of 1 man/day. For each witness assessment, 1 man/day is applied for reporting.</li> </ul>

For the documentation to be submitted to ACCREDIA for the document review, reference is made to the requirements of the accreditation/extension applications:

- DA-00 – Application for Accreditation;
- DA-01 – Application for Accreditation for Certification Bodies.

In the versions in force at the time of submission of the applications.

### **Maintenance of accreditation**

For the maintenance of accreditation, throughout the entire accreditation cycle, except in particular situations (e.g., handling of complaints and reports, changes to the certification scheme, changes in the structure of the organization), the following assessments will be carried out:

- if the CAB has issued fewer than 50 certificates under the certification scheme, one witness assessment and one office assessment must be conducted; however, in the case of a very low number of certificates (<10), it is acceptable to conduct only one assessment during the cycle (either office or witness);
- if the CAB has issued between 51 and 200 certificates under the certification scheme, 2 witness assessments and 1 office assessment must be conducted;
- if the CAB has issued more than 201 certificates under the scheme, 2 witness assessments and 2 office assessments must be conducted.

It is confirmed that, in any case, ACCREDIA must carry out an annual assessment at the offices of the Certification Bodies to evaluate the conformity of their management systems with the ISO/IEC 17021-1 standard.

The ACCREDIA Technical Office remains available for any further clarification.

We take this opportunity to extend our kind regards.

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Certification and Inspection