

All Existing SLAB-Accredited and Applicant Personnel Certification Bodies

SLAB TRANSITION POLICY TO ISO/IEC 17024:2012 STANDARD

ISO/IEC 17024: 2003 has been updated and SLAB accredited Personnel Certification Bodies are required to comply with the requirements of this policy to maintain accreditation. This policy is based on the following resolution of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF):

IAF Resolution 2012–10 – (Agenda Item 7) Transition Period for ISO/IEC 17024 - The General Assembly resolved that the transition period for ISO/IEC 17024:2012 be three years from the date of publication.

Note: The date of publication was July 1, 2012.

As per the SLAB policy on transition, accreditation granted as per ISO/IEC 17024: 2003 would not be valid after 1st July 2015.

In order to facilitate a smooth transfer to the new standard, SLAB has decided upon the following transition programme:

SLAB will request that accredited Personnel Certification Bodies should submit a transition action plan to SLAB. The plan shall be sent to SLAB before 10th July 2014.

As a minimum, the plan shall include:

1. All specific actions to be taken to implement the changes,
 2. The timeframe for completion of such actions,
 3. The persons responsible for the actions,
 4. Process in place to monitor progress and completion of the actions.
- SLAB is ready to carry out assessments against ISO/IEC 17024:2012 after 1st July 2014.
 - SLAB does not accept applications against ISO/IEC 17024:2003 after 30th June 2014.
 - All assessments (Initial/Surveillance/Re-assessments) of new applicants and SLAB accredited Personnel Certification Bodies will be conducted in accordance with ISO/IEC 17024: 2012 from 1st July 2014 onwards as per their assessment schedules.

- Personnel Certification Bodies whose applications were accepted as per ISO/IEC 17024: 2003 and pending as on 1st July 2014 will be granted accreditation as per 17024: 2003 up to 1st December 2014 and the validity of accreditation will be till 30th June 2015 only.

Any application pending on 1st December 2014 shall have to demonstrate compliance to ISO/IEC 17024:2012 to be accredited after 1st December 2014.

Accreditation will not be granted as per ISO/IEC 17024: 2003 after 1st December 2014.

- Personnel Certification Bodies granted accreditation as per ISO/IEC 17024: 2003 before 1st December 2014 shall undergo surveillance assessment to demonstrate their compliance to ISO/IEC 17024: 2012 as per their normal assessment schedules and complete the process of surveillance assessment on or before 30th June 2015.

SLAB accredited Personnel Certification Bodies shall be fully compliant with the requirements of the standard ISO/IEC 17024: 2012 by 1st July 2015.

- Any exception to the above policy may be granted on a specific request from a Personnel Certification Body. However, in line with IAF's Resolution, such a Personnel Certification Body shall have to demonstrate compliance to ISO/IEC 17024: 2012 by 30th June 2015.

The accreditation of any Personnel Certification Body which fails to demonstrate compliance to ISO/IEC 17024: 2012 by 30th June 2015 shall be placed under temporally suspension for a maximum of 03 months. Failure to comply with ISO/IEC 17024: 2012 by the end of this period would result in withdrawal of accreditation.