



## ANSI PRODUCT CERTIFICATION ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

### Implementation of the Transition from ISO/IEC Guide 65 to ISO/IEC 17065

#### 1.0 Objective

This notice describes the ANSI policy on the implementation of the transition period of ISO/IEC Guide 65, *General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems*, to ISO/IEC 17065, *Conformity Assessment – Requirements for bodies certifying product, process and services*.

#### 1.1 Scope

This policy shall apply to all accredited and applicant certification bodies seeking accreditation by ANSI for the provisions of product certification programs.

#### 2.0 References

PRO-PL-102 - *Manual of operations for accreditation of product certification bodies*; ISO/IEC Guide 65, *General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems*; ISO/IEC 17065, *Conformity Assessment – Requirements for bodies certifying product, process and services*

#### 3.0 Conditions

3.1 ISO/IEC Guide 65 was revised and published by ISO as the new ISO/IEC 17065 on September 15, 2012. This Interactional Standard contains requirements for the competence, consistent operation and impartiality of product, process and service certification bodies.

#### 4.0 Policy

4.1 From 1996 on, the ANSI Accreditation Committee adopted ISO/IEC Guide 65 as the requirement of choice for accreditation criteria as applied to product certification programs. ANSI is required to evaluate the operations and planning of accredited certification bodies to ensure that full implementation of the ISO/IEC 17065 standard will be in effect in accordance with this policy.

4.2 The decision on this transition period for the accredited certification bodies and applicants to demonstrate conformance to ISO/IEC 17065:2012 was approved by the ANSI Accreditation Committee for product certification bodies during its November 27, 2012, meeting. ACC adopted the same transition period approved by IAF. As such, all Certification Bodies should be accredited by ANSI no later than September 15, 2015.

#### 5.0 Implementation of the Transition

5.1 January 2013 – June 2013: ANSI prepares internally for implementation of the ISO/IEC 17065.

5.2 ANSI is prepared to conduct assessments in accordance with ISO/IEC 17065 after July 1, 2013.

#### 5.3 Options

Option 1: Applicant CBs and Accredited CBs can be assessed in accordance with ISO/IEC Guide 65 and IAF guidance on the application of ISO/IEC Guide 65 as applicable until July 1, 2014. The CB shall also provide a transition plan that will be reviewed during the ANSI Assessment.

Option 2: Applicant CBs and Accredited CBs can be assessed to ISO/IEC Guide 65 with Gap Analysis for compliance to ISO/IEC 17065 as agreed by the CB beginning July 1, 2013 until July 1, 2014. Any NCRs found relating to ISO/IEC 17065 will be cited as OF is. All CBs shall maintain conformance to ISO/IEC Guide 65 and IAF Requirements.

Option 3: Applicant CBs and Accredited CBs can be assessed in accordance with ISO/IEC 17065 beginning July 1, 2013.

i. If the CB opts to be assessed against ISO/IEC 17065 during its Surveillance cycle, a full assessment will be conducted.

ii. If the CB complies with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17065, then a Certificate of Accreditation will be issued indicating compliance to the new standard.

iii. ANSI will define a process to assess the requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 65 that are not included in ISO/IEC 17065.

5.4 For CBs that chose Option 1 or 2 prior to July 1, 2014, all CBs shall be assessed in accordance with ISO/IEC 17065 not later than May 1, 2015.

5.5 All nonconformities cited against ISO/IEC 17065 due to assessments conducted prior to May 1, 2015 shall have corrective actions submitted and accepted not later than July 1, 2015 by ANSI assessment team. If the Certification Body fails to meet the requirements of ISO/IEC 17065, ANSI will follow the Program Agreement requirements. *(This item applies only to Option 3.)*

5.6 If a scheme owner for which ANSI is recognized as an accreditation body selects a transition period that differs from this policy as outlined by the ACC, the scheme owner's plan will be reviewed by the ACC.

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