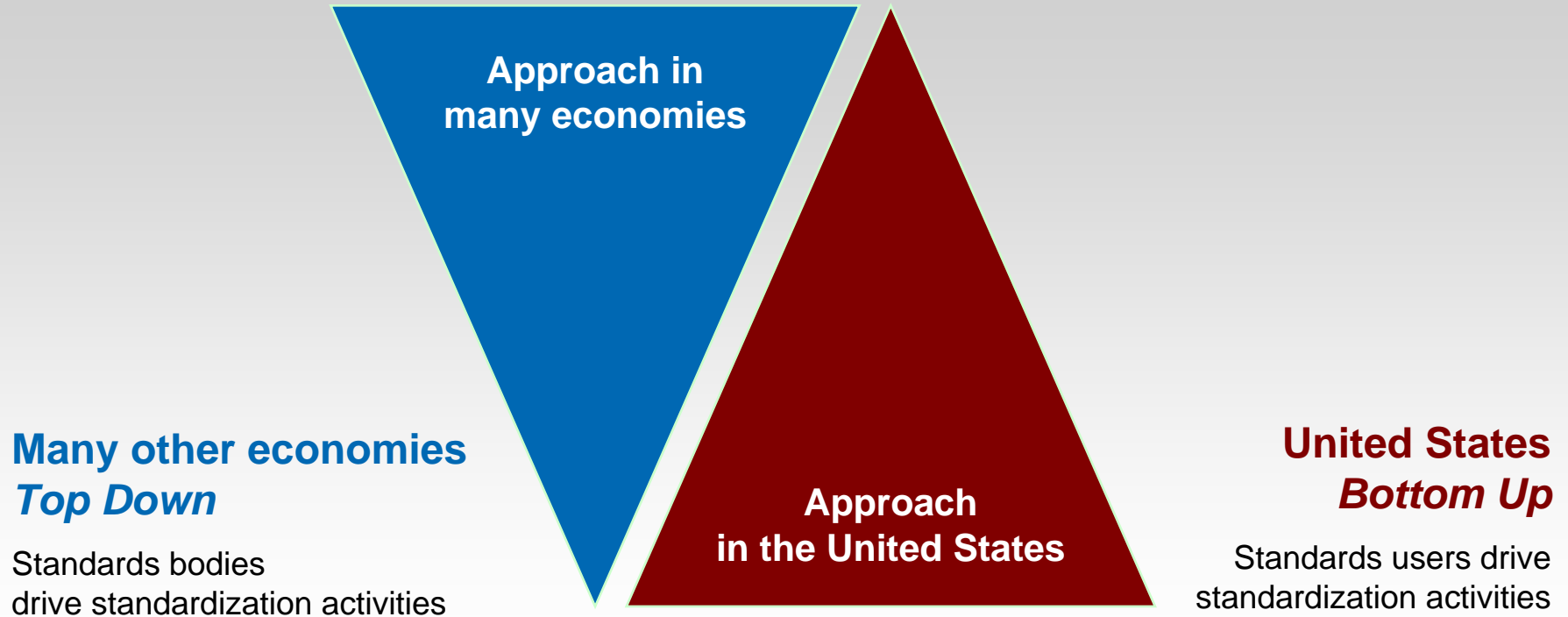




Standards and Conformity Assessment

Key Concepts

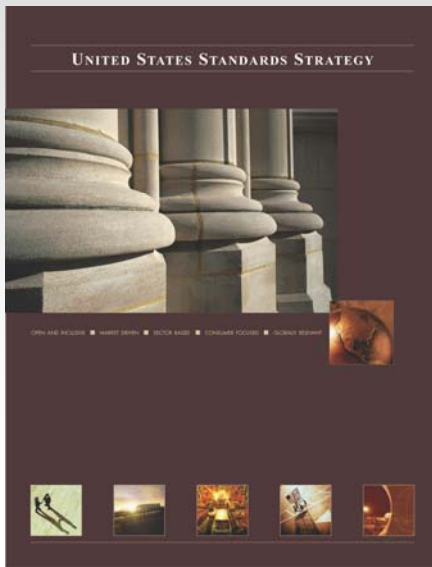
U.S. Standards & Conformity Assessment System comparison with many other economies



U.S. Standards & Conformity Assessment System

Reliable - Flexible - Responsive

- Market driven
- Flexible and sector-based
- Industry-led and government-supported



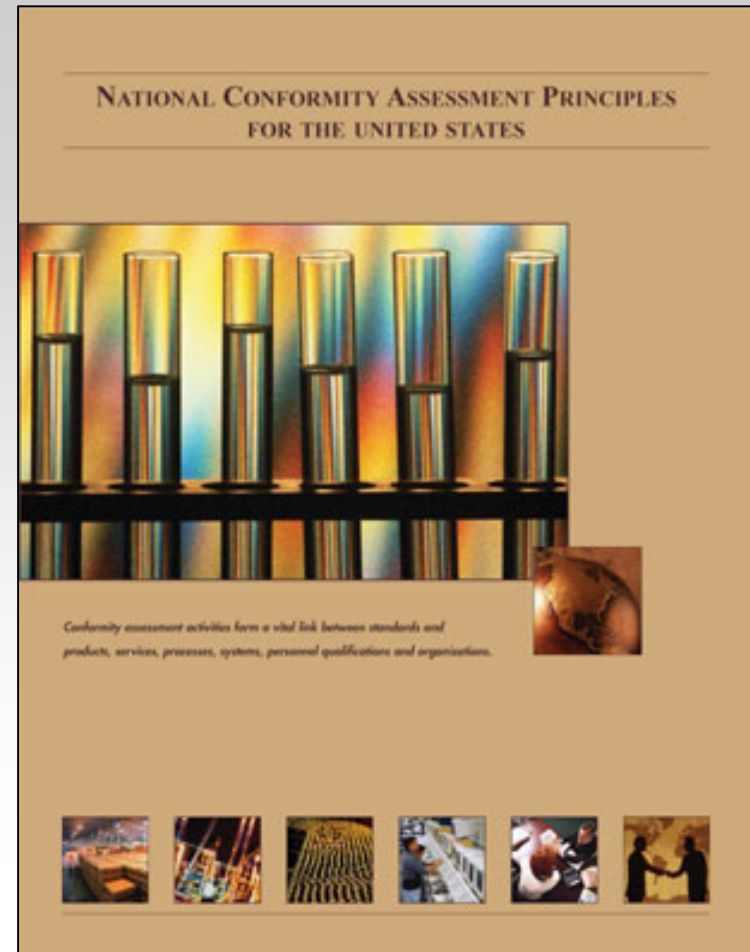
This system is designed to . . .

- **Support** a broad range of stakeholder engagement
- **Address** emerging priorities and new technologies
- **Allow** stakeholders to find the solutions that best fit their respective needs

As defined in the *United States Standards Strategy*
www.us-standards-strategy.org

National Conformity Assessment Principles (NCAP)

- **Articulates principles for conformity assessment activities in the U.S.**
 - Guidance document to be considered along with the *U.S. Standards Strategy*
 - Improves the ability of the marketplace to understand and have confidence in conformity assessment processes



Key Terms *(per the NCAP)*

■ Conformity Assessment

Demonstration that specified requirements relating to a product, process, system person or body are fulfilled.

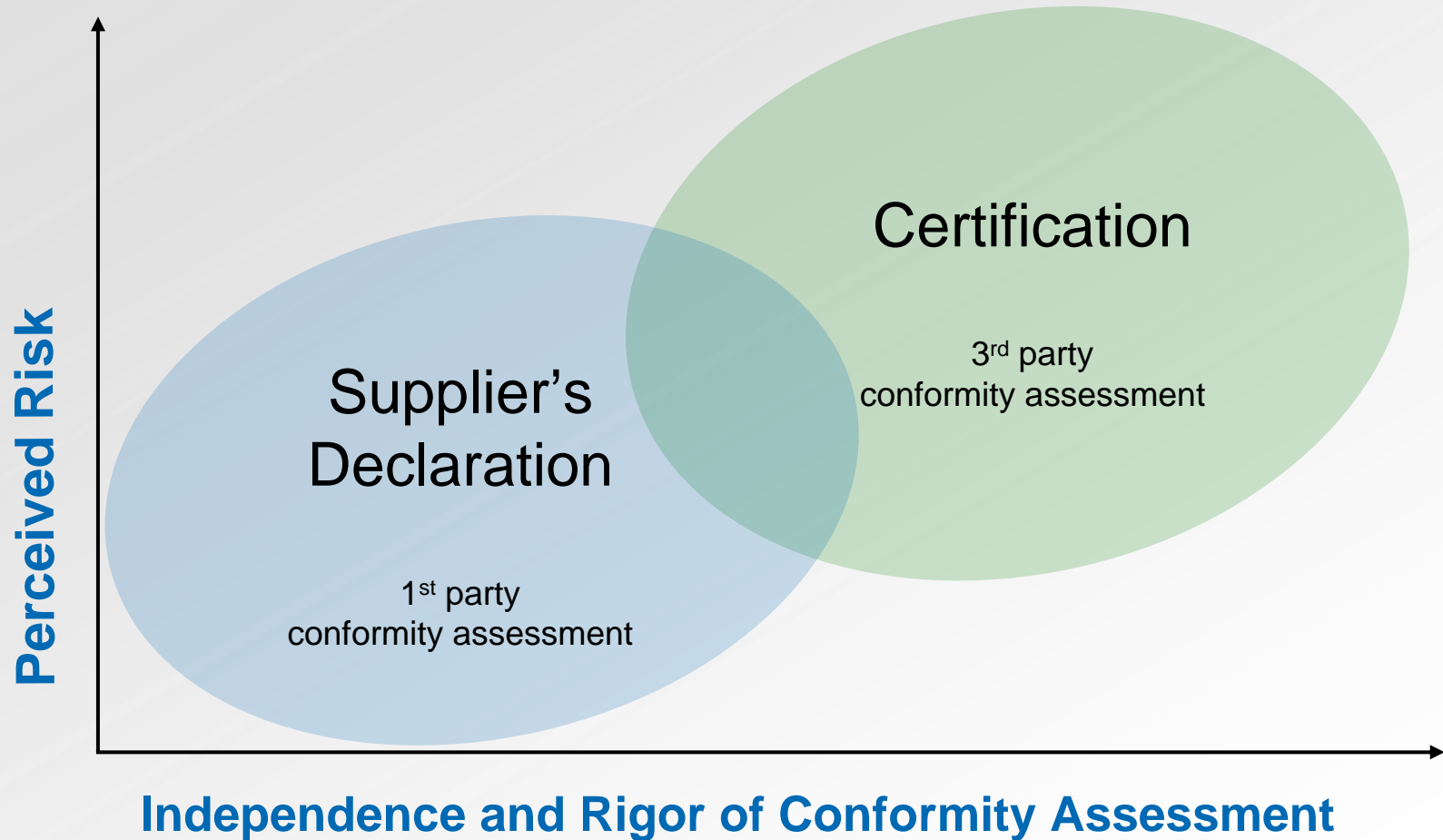
■ Accreditation

Third party attestation related to a conformity assessment body conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks. (These tasks include sampling and testing, inspection, certification and registration.)

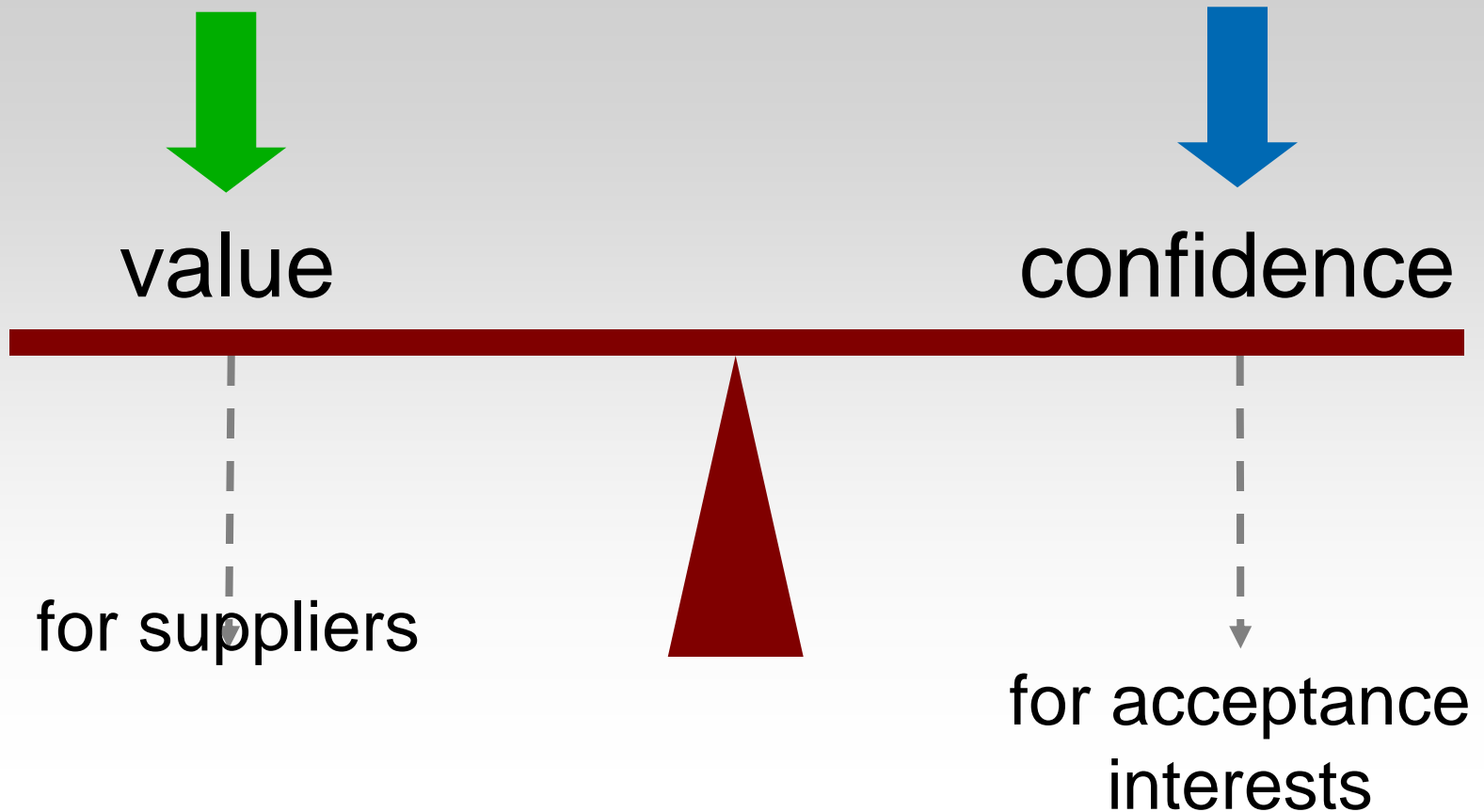
■ Certification

Third party attestation related to products, processes, or persons that conveys assurance that specified requirements have been demonstrated.

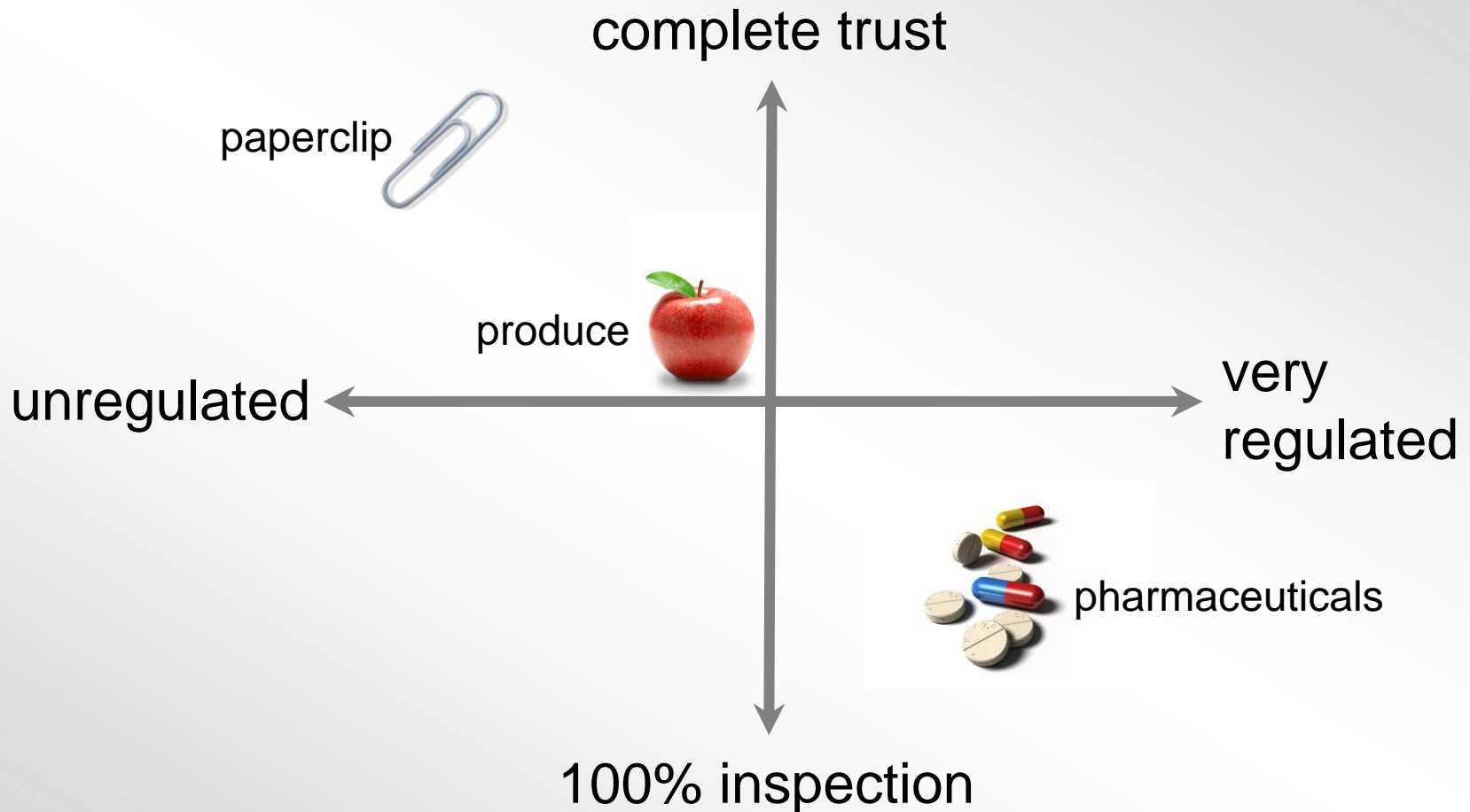
Conformity Assessment and Risk



The Conformity Assessment Balance

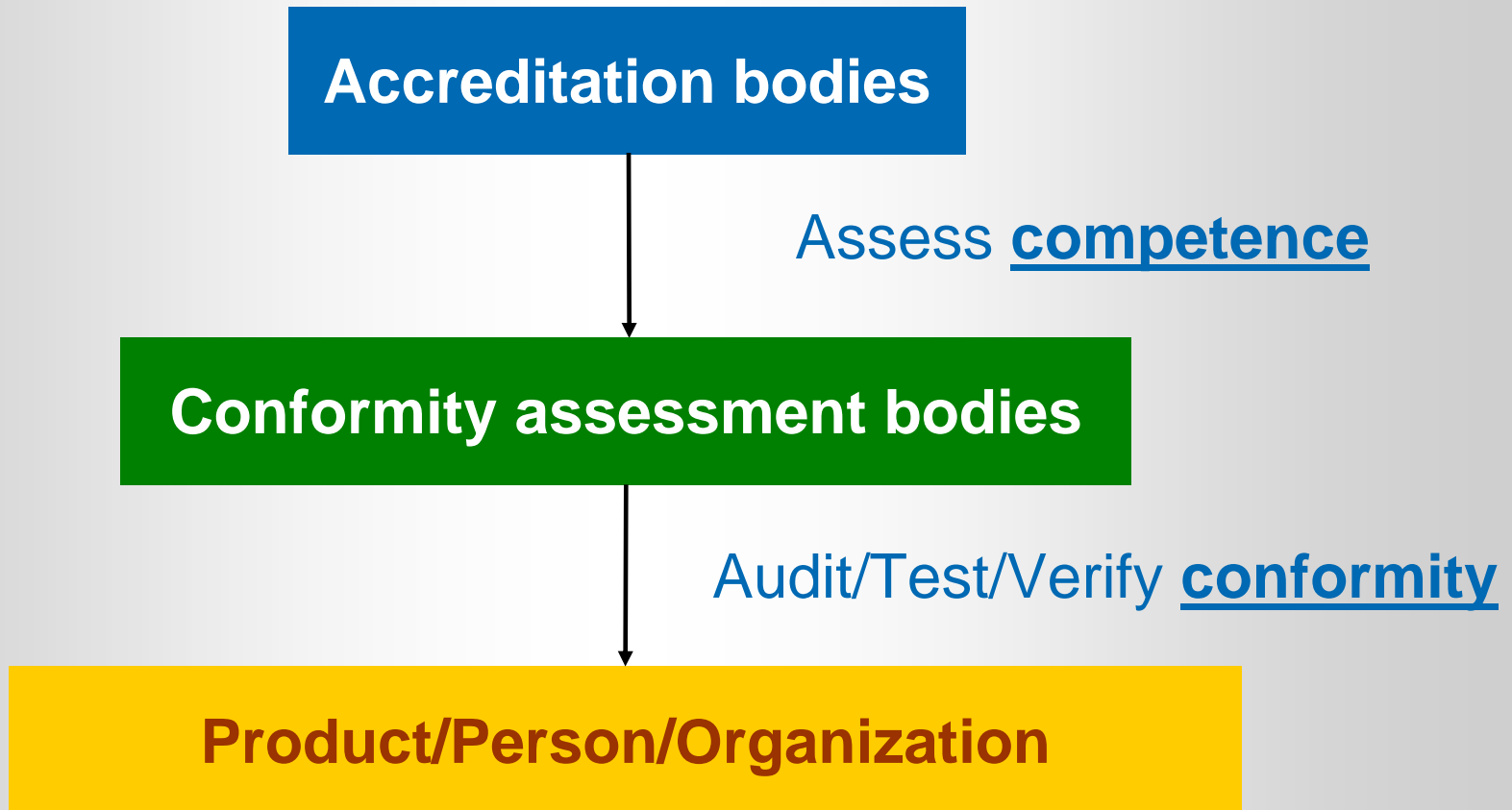


Confidence/Regulation Spectrum



Accredited 3rd-Party Hierarchy

(ISO/IEC 17011 standard for accreditation bodies)



International Recognition Bodies



IAF

INTERNATIONAL
ACCREDITATION
FORUM

ILAC

INTERNATIONAL
LABORATORY
ACCREDITATION
COOPERATION

PAC

PACIFIC
ACCREDITATION
COOPERATION

EA

EUROPEAN
ACCREDITATION
COOPERATION

APLAC

ASIA-PACIFIC
LABORATORY
ACCREDITATION
COOPERATION

IAAC

INTERAMERICAN
ACCREDITATION
COOPERATION