

NABCB SECURES INTERNATIONAL EQUIVALENCE FOR ENERGY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

The **National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB)**, India's national accreditation body, has secured international equivalence for its accreditation programme for energy management systems certification bodies. It has signed the **Multilateral Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MLA)** of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) for its **accreditation programme based on international standards, ISO/IEC 17021-1 and ISO 50003.**

NABCB, a constituent Board of the Quality Council of India, is responsible for **accreditation of certification/inspection bodies as per applicable international standards** under an international system of equivalence.

This signifies that the accreditation of Energy Management Systems certification bodies by NABCB is now accepted as internationally equivalent.

NABCB has already secured international equivalence for its accreditation programmes for ISO 9001 certification bodies in 2002 and ISO 14001 certification bodies in 2007, Product certification bodies based on ISO 17065 in 2013, Inspection Bodies based on ISO 17020 also in 2013, Global Gap in 2014 and ISO 22000 certification bodies and ISMS certification bodies as per ISO 27001 in 2015.

Accreditation reduces risk for business and its customers by assuring that accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) are competent to carry out the work they undertake within their scope of accreditation. Accreditation Bodies (ABs) that are members of PAC and the CABs they accredit are required to comply with appropriate international standards and the applicable PAC application documents for the consistent application of those standards.

ABs that are signatories to the PAC Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) are evaluated regularly by an appointed team of peers to provide confidence in the operation of their accreditation programs.

Accreditation has become an essential tool for getting acceptance of inspection, testing and certification done in India internationally and it is referenced in many bilateral Free Trade Agreements like the India – Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement in which NABCB accreditation is a requirement for certification of electrical/electronic and telecom products. Thus, accreditation eliminates technical barriers to trade and facilitates export of Indian products in world market.

NABCB has currently accredited 5 certification bodies for Energy management systems.

Now **any industry carrying ISO 50001 certificate with NABCB logo will be recognized internationally.** The immediate beneficiary of this equivalence is the Indian Industry which is exporting products to various countries globally. It can also be used by regulators for establishing confidence in certified units.

With the above, NABCB hopes to facilitate export of Indian goods into the world market by attesting that these are certified as per international standards by the certifying bodies.