

NABCB SECURES INTERNATIONAL EQUIVALENCE FOR MEDICAL DEVICES - QUALITY MANGEMENT SYSTEMS (MDQMS)

The **National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB)**, India's national accreditation body, has secured international equivalence for its accreditation programme for Medical Devices - Quality management systems (MDQMS) certification bodies. It signed the **Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA)** of the **International Accreditation Forum (IAF)** for its accreditation programme based on international standards, **ISO 17021-1 and ISO 13485**.

NABCB, a constituent Board of the Quality Council of India, is responsible for **accreditation of Certification, Inspection and Validation and Verification bodies as per applicable international standards** under an international system of equivalence.

International Accreditation Forum (IAF) is the association of Accreditation Bodies and other bodies interested in the field of management systems, product, services, personnel and other similar certification programme worldwide. **This signifies that the accreditation of Medical devices - Quality Management Systems bodies by NABCB is now accepted internationally.**

NABCB has earlier signed the APAC MRA for the Medical Devices - Quality management systems (MDQMS) in May 2020.

NABCB has already secured international equivalence for its accreditation programme 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, FSMS certification bodies as per ISO 22000 & ISMS certification bodies as per ISO 27001 in 2015, ISO 50001 (EnMS) certification bodies in 2018, PrCB as per ISO 17024 in 2019 and ISO 45001 (OHSMS) certification bodies in 2020.

ABs that are signatories to the APAC Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA) 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 11 certification bodies for Medical device - quality management systems and has 9 applicants in process.

Now **any industry carrying ISO 13485 certificate with NABCB logo will be recognized internationally.** The immediate beneficiary of this equivalence is the Indian Industry which is exporting products to various Asia Pacific countries. It can also be used by regulators for establishing confidence in certified units.