



NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION BODIES (NABCB)

Quality Council of India (QCI), World Trade Centre, J 200, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi – 110029

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Accreditation Criteria

For

**Business Continuity Management Systems
Certification Bodies**

BCB 170 – Jan 2026



Date Effective – Immediate



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0.0 Foreword:

The Government of India and the Indian Industry came together to establish the accreditation system in response to the need of the industry and the certification bodies of Management Systems (QMS, EMS and other Management Systems) who were largely dependent on the accreditation systems of Europe and US.

A Council with representation from Government, Industry, Certification Bodies, Non-Government Organizations (NGO), etc. was formed and named as the **Quality Council of India (QCI)**. This Council was entrusted with the task of establishing the accreditation system in India. A **National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB)** was established to implement the accreditation of Certification and Inspection Bodies.

NABCB has already published Accreditation Criteria for QMS, EMS, FSMS, OHSMS, ISMS, ITSMS, EnMS, RTSMS, TDRMS and Product Certification Bodies and Inspection Bodies. This document sets out the Accreditation criteria for Certification Bodies providing certification for “Business Continuity management Systems based on **ISO 22301- Societal security — Business continuity management systems — Requirements** standard or any other standard meeting the requirements of the NABCB Policy on recognition of standards under accreditation schemes for certification.

1.0 Scope:

This document specifies the requirements that a third party certification body (CB) operating a BCMS Certification Programme shall meet if it is to be recognized by the Board as competent and reliable in the operation of BCMS Certification.

2.0 Criteria

The Certification Bodies seeking accreditation for **Business Continuity Management Systems** Certification shall comply with the requirements specified in ISO/IEC 17021-1 - “**Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems**” and ISO/IEC TS 17021-6 – “**Competence requirements for auditing and certification of business continuity management systems**”.

3.0 Adoption of IAF/APAC documents

The Board shall adopt any IAF/APAC Mandatory Document on ISO 17021-1 as part of the NABCB criteria, if available or whenever it is brought out. In the meantime, if any further clarifications beyond ISO 17021-6 or ISO/IEC 17021-1 are required, the same will be issued by the Board on a case to case basis.

4.0 Scopes of Accreditation



The Board has decided not to specify any scope sectors for accreditation under this scheme

5.0 Certification Body (CB) Competence

5.1 Accreditation by NABCB signifies that the certification body is competent to offer **BCMS** certification as per ISO 22301.

5.2 The CB shall have a procedure for initial qualification and subsequent monitoring of its auditors and technical experts based on Annex-A of ISO/IEC 17021-1 and ISO/IEC TS 17021-6 standards.

6.0 Time of the Audits undertaken by the Certification Body

The Certification body shall have procedures to determine the audit man days required for certification audit (stage 1 & 2), surveillance and recertification audit. The procedure shall also include the policies for estimation of audit duration for multisite organizations and transfer of certificates, as needed. In determining the audit time, the certification body shall include factors like complexity, risk level, significance of legal (statutory and regulatory) compliance and number of effective personnel as a minimum.

Note: For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies

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Date	Auth. by	Description of Amendment
Oct 2019	CEO	minor updation – PAC replaced with APAC
Jan 2026	CEO	NABCB office address changed