MAURITAS
R4

Rules for the use of MAURITAS accreditation symbol and Combined Mark.
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Foreword

The MAURITIUS ACCREDITATION SERVICE (MAURITAS) is a governmental body established in 1998 to provide a national, unified service for the accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) such as calibration/testing laboratories, certification bodies and inspection bodies. Organizations that comply with the MAURITAS requirements are granted accreditation by MAURITAS.

About MAURITAS publications

MAURITAS publications are categorized as follows:

- **R series** Publications containing general policy and requirements related to MAURITAS accreditation.
- **G series** Publications providing guidance on MAURITAS requirements.
- **A series** Publications related to assessment procedures.
- **P series** MAURITAS quality system procedures
- **F series** MAURITAS Forms
- **Directories** Classified listing of accredited organizations.
Rules for the use of MAURITAS accreditation symbol and Combined Mark

1. Purpose
1.1 The purpose of this document is to set out the requirements for the use of the:
   - accreditation symbol of MAURITAS and
   - MAURITAS accreditation symbol along with the ILAC MRA Mark or IAF MLA Mark.

2. Scope and Responsibilities
2.1 It is the responsibility of accredited testing and calibration laboratories, inspection bodies and certification bodies to implement the requirements of this document. MAURITAS assessors shall make use of this document for assessing testing and calibration laboratories, inspection bodies and certification bodies and for monitoring the use of the MAURITAS accreditation symbol alone or together with the ILAC MRA or IAF MLA Marks.

The scope this document is to set out the rules for the use of:
- MAURITAS accreditation symbol for accredited entities
- Combined mark for schemes for which MAURITAS is signatory to ILAC and IAF.

In this document ‘symbol’ means one of the MAURITAS accreditation symbols as described in sub-clause 5.1 below. Examples of how to use the MAURITAS accreditation symbol alone or the Combined Marks are as illustrated in the Annexes of this document.

3. References

The following documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of the MAURITAS accreditation system. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. For undated MAURITAS references, the latest edition of the document referred to, applies. MAURITAS maintains a register of the current valid MAURITAS accreditation documents.

3.1 ISO/IEC 17011, Conformity Assessment-General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies

3.2 ILAC-P8, ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (Arrangement): Supplementary Requirements and Guidelines for the Use of Accreditation Symbols and for Claims of Accreditation Status by Accredited Laboratories and Inspection Bodies

3.3 ILAC-R7, Rules for the Use of the ILAC MRA Mark

3.4 IAF ML2, General Principles on the use of the IAF MLA Mark
4. Definitions

4.1 ILAC
ILAC, International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation, is the international organisation for accreditation bodies operating in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011 and involved in the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies including calibration laboratories (using ISO/IEC 17025), testing laboratories (using ISO/IEC 17025), medical testing laboratories (using ISO 15189) and inspection bodies (using ISO/IEC 17020).

4.2 IAF
IAF, International Accreditation Forum, is the world association of Conformity Assessment Accreditation Bodies and other bodies interested in conformity assessment in the fields of management systems, products, services, personnel and other similar schemes of conformity assessment. Its primary function is to develop a single worldwide program of conformity assessment which reduces risk for business and its customers by assuring them that accredited certificates may be relied upon. Accreditation assures users of the competence and impartiality of the body accredited.

4.3 ILAC MRA
Accreditation bodies around the world, which have been evaluated by peers as competent, have signed an arrangement that enhances the acceptance of products and services across national borders. The purpose of this arrangement, the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA), (often referred to as the ILAC Arrangement) is to create an international framework to support international trade through the removal of technical barriers.

4.4 IAF MLA
Accreditation bodies around the world, which have been evaluated by peers as competent, have signed an arrangement, the IAF Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA), that enhances the acceptance of goods and services across national borders.

4.5 ILAC MRA Mark
ILAC MRA Mark is registered as a word/device mark and is owned by ILAC.

4.6 IAF MLA Mark
IAF MLA Mark is registered as a word/device mark and is owned by IAF.

4.7 Accredited CAB Combined Mark
The accredited CAB Combined Mark, thereafter referred to as Combined Mark in this document, is the ILAC MRA Mark or IAF MLA Mark used in combination with MAURITAS accreditation symbol that the accredited CAB is entitled to use.

4.8 Technical Signatory
A Technical Signatory (not applicable to Medical Testing Laboratories and Certification Bodies) is a technically competent person approved by MAURITAS, whose signature confers validity on the CAB’s certificates, reports and/or results issued under MAURITAS accreditation. The Technical Signatory accepts responsibility for the contents (results and/or measurements) of the certificate/report which he/she is signing or authorising.
5. General Rules

5.1 MAURITAS accreditation symbols

5.1.1 MAURITAS has more than one symbol for each of its accreditation schemes, and it uses these to communicate to stakeholders which service has been accredited (e.g. “Testing”, “Calibration”, etc.). The accreditation symbols of MAURITAS are shown in Annex A.

5.2 MAURITAS accreditation symbol combined with ILAC MRA Mark or IAF MLA Mark

5.2.1 Accredited Laboratories/Certification Bodies wishing to make use of the Combined Mark shall seek prior written permission with MAURITAS further which, a relevant Contract Agreement clearly stating the conditions for use of the Combined Mark shall be signed by both parties. The Combined Marks are shown in Annex C.

5.3 Use of the accreditation symbols/Combined Marks

5.3.1 The organisations accredited by MAURITAS shall only use the Combined Mark for the restricted main scope of the ILAC MRA and IAF MLA for which MAURITAS is signatory:

- Testing – ISO/IEC 17025
- Calibration - ISO/IEC 17025
- Management System Certification - ISO/IEC 17021-1 and ISO/IEC 17021-3 with sub-scopes QMS ISO 9001
- Management System Certification - ISO/IEC 17021-1 and ISO/TS 22003 with sub-scopes FSMS ISO 22000

CABs accredited by MAURITAS shall use the accreditation symbol/Combined Mark only for the parameters/scopes for which the CAB holds valid accreditation.

5.3.2 The CABs accredited by MAURITAS may use the relevant accreditation symbol/Combined Mark on documents directly related to an accredited service, subject to the rules set out in this document. MAURITAS is at all times authorised to monitor the use of the accreditation symbol/Combined Marks.

5.3.3 The CABs accredited by MAURITAS shall not use the MAURITAS accredited symbols/Combined Marks in any way which might mislead their client/public as to the extent and limitations of their MAURITAS accreditation.

5.3.4 The CABs accredited by MAURITAS shall not use the ILAC MRA Mark or IAF MLA Mark in isolation from the MAURITAS accreditation symbol.

5.3.5 Neither the CABs accredited by MAURITAS nor their clients shall use the ILAC or IAF Corporate Logo.

5.3.6 MAURITAS is at all times guided by ILAC R7 and IAF ML2 in the use of the Combined Marks. MAURITAS reserves the right to terminate the use of the Combined Mark by the CAB with immediate effect in the following situations, but not limited to:
- accreditation of the CAB is suspended or withdrawn
- misuse of ILAC MRA Mark or IAF MLA Mark against the Contract Agreement.

5.3.7 MAURITAS reserves the right to monitor and take suitable actions to control the use of the Combined Mark including withdrawal of authorisation to use the Combined Mark.
5.4 Reproduction and display of accreditation symbols/Combined Marks

5.4.1 The symbols shall be in the form specified in either Annex A or Annex C and shall be displayed in the appropriate form, size and colour as specified in the master versions.

5.4.2 The font used by MAURITAS Staff for writing the accreditation scheme and the accreditation number(s) under the accreditation symbol shall be ‘Arial of size 36’ and of character ‘bold’.

5.4.3 The CAB’s accreditation number(s) shall be printed under the accreditation symbol in three digits. Any enlargements or reductions shall retain the same proportions as those of the master versions printed in Annex A or Annex C.

5.4.4 The MAURITAS accreditation symbol shall be reproduced in its original colour (pantone 299) by accredited CABs on master versions in the layout and typography which is printed and issued in this publication.

5.4.5 The ILAC MRA Mark shall be reproduced in its original colour Pantone 293C (blue) by accredited CABs on master versions in the layout and typography which is printed and issued in this publication.

5.4.6 The IAF MLA Mark shall be reproduced in its original colour Pantone 2747 (dark blue) and Pantone 299 (light blue) by accredited CABs on master versions in the layout and typography which is printed and issued in this publication.

5.4.7 Embossed, relief or die-stamped versions of MAURITAS accreditation symbol or Combined Marks may be used.

5.4.8 Electronic reproduction of the accreditation symbols or the Combined Marks is permitted by MAURITAS provided that these regulations are met. The CAB’s accreditation number(s) shall be printed under the MAURITAS accreditation symbol as indicated in Annexes A or C.

6. Rules for use of MAURITAS Accreditation Symbol by accredited CABs

6.1 Rights to use the MAURITAS accreditation symbol

6.1.1 Only CABs accredited by MAURITAS are entitled to display the MAURITAS accreditation symbols or make reference to their MAURITAS accreditation on stationeries including letterheads, quotations for calibrations or testing, reports, certificates and brochures and other items relevant to the CAB’s accredited activity (e.g. email signature), if the symbol or title of the accredited CABs is also used. The MAURITAS accreditation symbol shall be displayed no more than once on each letterhead.

6.1.2 The accreditation symbol shall not be more prominent than the symbol or title of the accredited body. Other use of the accreditation symbol is not permitted unless written consent is given by the Director of MAURITAS.

6.1.3 When an accredited CAB wishes to make reference to its MAURITAS accreditation instead of using the symbol, it shall without variation use the phrase “a MAURITAS – accredited (calibration laboratory), (testing laboratory), (certification body), (inspection body)” followed by the CAB’s accreditation number. The accredited body shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that this wording is used by any client when referring to the use of an accredited body.
6.1.4 Prior to using the accreditation symbol on any of its materials, the accredited CABs shall submit to MAURITAS a proof of print of the material for approval.

6.2 Rights to use the Combined Mark

6.2.1 Only accredited CABs that have sought prior written permission and have entered into a Contract Agreement with MAURITAS shall be authorised to use the Combined Mark in letterheads, quotations for work, advertisements and websites where the CAB is accredited within the main scope of the ILAC MRA and main scope/sub scope of IAF MLA for which MAURITAS is signatory. Only such accredited CABs shall be authorised to use the Combined Mark in email signatures.

6.2.2 The Combined Marks may be used by CABs on accredited certificates/reports within the scopes for which MAURITAS is signatory to the ILAC MRA and IAF MLA.

6.2.3 Prior to using the Combined Mark on any of its materials listed in 6.2.1, the accredited CABs shall submit to MAURITAS a proof of print of the material for approval.

6.2.4 Accredited CABs shall not allow its customers to make use of the Combined Mark.

6.3 Suspension of accreditation

6.3.1 Upon suspension of relevant MAURITAS accreditation, accredited organisations shall immediately cease the use of accreditation and stop the issue of certificates, reports or quotations for work displaying the MAURITAS symbol or full text reference to accreditation. For Combined Marks, section 5.3.6 applies.

6.4 Withdrawal of accreditation

6.4.1 Upon withdrawal of MAURITAS accreditation, the accredited CAB shall immediately cease the use of accreditation and stop distribution of all documents bearing the MAURITAS symbol or full text reference to accreditation. For Combined Marks, section 5.3.6 applies.

6.4.2 In case a relevant MAURITAS accreditation is withdrawn, the accredited Certification Body, in respect of a scheme whereby the body owns and licences its own mark, shall take all steps to ensure that its customers immediately cease use of stationery, literature advertisements of goods, labels and packages bearing the MAURITAS accreditation symbol.

6.5 Non-accredited activities

6.5.1 Accredited CABs shall not claim or associate accreditation for non-accredited activities in particular:

- when a body has a network of sites among which at least one has not been granted accreditation. When a common document with the symbol is issued, a disclaimer printed close to the MAURITAS accreditation symbol shall state for instance: “List of accredited sites and scopes is available on request”.
- when a subsidiary or more belonging to a group have been accredited there shall not be any confusion as to which part of the group holds accreditation. When a common document with the MAURITAS accreditation symbol is to be issued, the list of MAURITAS accredited subsidiaries shall be included in the common document. Otherwise, the use of the symbol shall be restricted to the MAURITAS accredited subsidiaries only.
- when all parameters/inspections included in the test reports/certificates are not accredited.

In none of the above situations, the use of Combined Marks is allowed.
6.6 **Technical Signatories**

6.6.1 The MAURITAS Laboratory Accreditation Scheme for non-medical testing laboratories and Inspection Body Accreditation Scheme provide for the assessment of Technical personnel to act as Technical Signatories and hence be approved to sign reports/certificates bearing the MAURITAS accreditation symbol/the Combined Mark.

6.6.2 The accredited laboratory/inspection body shall use the Technical Signatories for signing reports/certificates for parameters/inspections for which they have been approved as detailed in the schedule of the scope of accreditation of the laboratory/inspection body.

6.6.3 The accredited laboratory/inspection body shall not make use of the MAURITAS accreditation symbol/the Combined Mark or refer to accreditation status when the report/certificate is not signed by the relevant Technical Signatory.

6.7 **Subcontracted tests/calibrations or inspections**

6.7.1 Accredited laboratories/inspection bodies who subcontract their tests/calibrations/inspections may include the results of same in reports/certificates bearing MAURITAS symbol/Combined Marks subject to the following conditions:

- the accredited laboratory or inspection body takes full responsibility for the subcontracted tests, calibrations or inspections and, has informed the customer of the proposed subcontracting and, where appropriate, has obtained his/her prior approval
- the subcontractor is itself accredited for the specific tests, calibrations or inspections concerned and the results have been included in the subcontractor laboratory’s or inspection body’s endorsed report or certificate.

6.7.2 In the event that the subcontractor is not accredited by MAURITAS, the conditions referred in the previous paragraph will apply if the subcontractor is accredited by a signatory to the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation Mutual Recognition Arrangement (ILAC MRA signatory). The accreditation symbol of the accreditation body accrediting the subcontractor shall not be used by the subcontracting laboratory or inspection body on the endorsed reports or certificates.

6.7.3 MAURITAS accredited laboratories/inspection bodies may include results from non-accredited subcontractors as long as they abide to the requirements set out at section 6.9.2.

6.7.4 MAURITAS accredited laboratories/inspection bodies shall not make use of accreditation symbol/Combined Mark in test reports/certificates in the case where all subcontracted parameters/inspections in the test reports/certificates were done by non-accredited laboratory/inspection body.

6.8 **Opinions and Interpretations**

6.8.1 MAURITAS allows its accredited laboratories to include a statement of interpretation of results only in the case of parameters in the scope of accreditation. For ISO/IEC 17025 accredited laboratories and ISO/IEC 17020 accredited inspection bodies, this statement shall be made by the relevant Technical Signatory.

6.9 **Documents and promotional media**

6.9.1 Publicity material
6.9.1.1 CABs accredited by MAURITAS may incorporate the MAURITAS accreditation symbol/Combined Marks in publicity material that refers to accredited services, provided that the conditions contained in these regulations are met.

6.9.1.2 The terms 'publicity material' shall not include notices, labels, documents or written announcements affixed to or otherwise appearing on goods or products unless the goods or products have been manufactured under an accredited product conformity scheme.

6.9.1.3 Approval for the use of the MAURITAS accreditation symbol/Combined Marks or any reference to MAURITAS accreditation in publicity material relating to a product must be obtained from the Director of MAURITAS. In this context, accredited organisations shall be permitted to display the MAURITAS accreditation symbol/Combined Marks except in publicity material containing an accreditation symbol/Combined Marks as part of a larger advertisement, provided the accreditation symbol/Combined Marks is used in the publicity of materials in accordance with conditions detailed in this publication. The accreditation symbol/Combined Marks may be displayed on exhibition stands and flags. The accreditation symbol/Combined Marks shall not be displayed on vehicles, buildings, internal walls and doors.

6.9.2 Demarcation between accredited and non-accredited activities

6.9.2.1 Accredited CABs shall demarcate between accredited and non-accredited activities in test reports/certificates irrespective of whether they are making/not making use of MAURITAS accreditation symbol/Combined Marks or making/not making reference to MAURITAS accreditation.

6.9.2.2 Accredited CABs shall clearly indicate their policy on demarcation of accredited/non-accredited parameters in their quality documentation.

6.9.2.3 Accredited CABs issuing reports/certificates shall indicate which tests/calibrations/inspections/scope sectors are accredited and those that are not accredited by either Option A or Option B as elaborated below:

Option A:

(a) Wherever non-accredited tests/calibrations/inspections appear, they shall either be marked “Not MAURITAS accredited” or clearly and unambiguously marked by an asterix (*) and
(b) The tests/calibrations/inspections report/certificate contains the following disclaimer as appropriate:

“Tests/inspections/Scope sectors marked “Not MAURITAS accredited” or “*” in this report/certificate are not included in the MAURITAS Accreditation Schedule for our laboratory/inspection body/certification body”

Option B:

(a) Wherever accredited tests/calibrations/inspections/scope sectors appear, they shall either be marked “MAURITAS accredited” or clearly and unambiguously marked by a hash (#) and
(b) The tests/calibrations/inspections report/certificate contains the following disclaimer as appropriate:

“Tests/inspections/scope sectors marked “MAURITAS accredited” or “#” in this report/certificate are included in the MAURITAS Accreditation Schedule for our laboratory/inspection body/certification body”

6.9.2.4 Letters printed on letterhead bearing the MAURITAS accreditation symbol/Combined Marks shall only be issued when the conditions of the above paragraph are fulfilled.

6.9.2.5 When an accredited CAB issues a tests/inspection report/certificate incorporating a MAURITAS accreditation symbol/Combined Marks or reference to the MAURITAS accreditation and any of the above
disclaimers, the disclaimers shall be included on the front cover or first page of each tests/inspection report/certificate or wherever the symbol/Combined Mark or reference to accreditation occurs.

6.9.2.6 All quotations for conformity assessment services that contain an accreditation symbol/Combined Mark shall clearly indicate those activities that are not MAURITAS-accredited.

6.9.2.7 Accredited CABs shall not be allowed to use the MAURITAS accreditation symbol/Combined Mark or make full-text reference to accreditation on business cards held by the accredited CAB’s staff.

6.9.3 Non-accredited test or calibration reports/inspection reports/certificates

Accredited CABs shall not be allowed to make use of MAURITAS accreditation symbols/Combined Marks and any associated publicity materials if the test or calibration reports/inspection reports/certificates do not contain any MAURITAS accredited tests/calibrations/inspections/scope sectors.

6.10 Reports and certificates

6.10.1 General

6.10.1.1 The MAURITAS accreditation symbols/Combined Marks shall not be used in such a way as to state, imply or suggest that MAURITAS accepts the responsibility and liability for the accuracy of test, inspection, calibration results or certification decisions covered by accreditation.

6.10.1.2 The accreditation symbols/Combined Marks shall not be used in such a way to give impression that the Ministry responsible for Industrial Development or MAURITAS has certified or approved any product, process, system, person or any service supplied by a holder of an accreditation certificate or in any other misleading manner.

6.10.2 Calibration and testing laboratories

6.10.2.1 Accreditation symbols/Combined Marks other than for Testing and Calibration may not be used on test reports and calibration certificates, respectively.

6.10.2.2 The Calibration or Testing accreditation symbols/Combined Marks shall not be displayed on an item that has been tested, or on a product (or attachment thereto) or used to imply product certification or approval.

6.10.2.3 A laboratory is likely to issue reports incorporating the symbols/Combined Marks and containing opinions, interpretations or other material related to investigational activities. When such statements are outside the scope of accreditation, the report or certificate issued by the accredited laboratory shall include a disclaimer close to the symbol or to the expression of opinion such as “The opinions/interpretations expressed in this report or certificate are outside the scope of this accredited laboratory”.

6.10.2.4 A calibration laboratory normally issues calibration labels which are affixed to equipment that have been calibrated. MAURITAS allows the use of calibration labels containing its accreditation symbol/Combined Mark in such a way that it does not give the impression that MAURITAS/ILAC has calibrated the equipment. Calibration labels containing the MAURITAS accreditation symbol/Combined Mark shall only be affixed to equipment that have been calibrated using calibration methods covered by the scope of accreditation.

6.10.3 Certification and Inspection Bodies

6.10.3.1 Accredited certification bodies shall ensure that they audit the use of the MAURITAS accreditation symbol/Combined Mark by their certificate holders. Accredited certification bodies shall ensure that its certificate holders do not make use of the Combined Mark.
6.10.3.2 Holder of certificates issued by MAURITAS accredited certification bodies may use the appropriate accreditation symbol in the manner prescribed in Annex B, on stationery and publicity material or other items relevant to their certificate. The accreditation symbol shall always be used in conjunction with the mark of the certification body or certification scheme.

6.10.3.3 In those cases where a certification body has been accredited by more than one accreditation body, the certificate may bear one accreditation symbol or more, as appropriate to suit market needs. An accredited certificate shall not be issued if, in order to avoid having its audit witnessed, the organisation transfers the certificate to another certification body or if the certification body intends to reissue the same certificate under the coverage of MAURITAS.

6.10.3.4 The Product Certification symbol may only be used in connection with a product manufactured under product conformity scheme.

6.10.3.5 The Inspection symbol shall not be displayed on an item that has been inspected, or on a product (or attachment thereto) or used to imply product certification or approval.

7. Users of accredited services

7.1 Users of accredited management system certification

7.1.1 Use of the MAURITAS accreditation symbol shall be strictly limited to the activity certified by the certification body under its accreditation. The symbol shall be displayed only in combination with the certification body’s mark/logo.

7.1.2 When a certification body accredited by MAURITAS certifies a laboratory’s management system, the certification body shall not enable the laboratory to use its mark/logo on testing/inspection reports or calibration certificates as such reports/certificates are considered as products in this context.

7.2 Users of accredited product certification

7.2.1 The MAURITAS accreditation symbol may be used by holders of accredited certificates on product with the consent of the Director of MAURITAS. The symbol shall be affixed on the product itself or on its related packaging and must be in combination with the certification body’s mark/logo.

7.3 Users of an accredited laboratory’s services

7.3.1 Accredited laboratories shall ensure that users of an accredited laboratory’s services do not reproduce the laboratory accreditation symbols/Combined Mark on their letterheads, faxes and promotional materials.

8. Misuse

8.1 Any CAB or person using the MAURITAS accreditation symbols/Combined Marks or making reference to MAURITAS accreditation in other ways than that mentioned in the conditions of this publication shall be considered as misuse and MAURITAS reserves the right to take appropriate legal actions as it may be advised.

8.2 Any CAB or person making any statement or representation, whether in writing or not, with reference to any conformity assessment activity which conveys or is likely to convey the impression that the conformity assessment activity is covered by the accreditation certificate whereas it is not so covered shall be liable to legal action.
ANNEX A
ANNEX B

CERTIFICATION BODY MARK

ENRONOMAL MANAGEMENT 000

CERTIFICATION BODY MARK

FOOD SAFETY MANAGEMENT 000

CERTIFICATION BODY MARK

INFORMATION SECURITY MANAGEMENT 000

CERTIFICATION BODY MARK

HACCP 000
## Appendix A: Amendment Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SN</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6.6.2 and 6.6.4</td>
<td>1. New section has been added</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.6.5</td>
<td>1. ‘assess and’ has been added to the paragraph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>6.6.6</td>
<td>1. The sentence has been rephrased ‘The laboratory/inspection body shall re-apply for them to be assessed again by MAURITAS before they are being allowed to sign reports/certificates bearing the MAURITAS accreditation symbol/the Combined Mark.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.6.7</td>
<td>1. ‘One person cannot act as Technical Signatory for more than one organization.’ has been added as a new sentence in the paragraph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6.7.1</td>
<td>1. Second bullet has been deleted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>6.6.2, 6.6.4-6.6.7</td>
<td>1. Have been moved to section 13 of MAURITAS R2</td>
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