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Conditions for the Use of MAURITAS accreditation logo

1. Introduction

MAURITAS is the national body that is responsible for providing accreditation services to conformity assessment bodies, e.g laboratories, certification bodies and inspection bodies. MAURITAS is a department within the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and International Trade and operates under the Mauritius Accreditation Service Act 1998.

2. Objective

The objective of this publication is to set out the conditions to control the use of the accreditation logo of MAURITAS. Organisations accredited by MAURITAS may use the MAURITAS accreditation logo to demonstrate to a third party, the recognition of their competence and compliance to the requirements of the appropriate international standards:

- ISO/IEC 17025 for laboratories (hereinafter referred to as MAURITAS accredited laboratories)
- ISO/IEC Guides 62, 65 and 66 for Certification bodies (hereinafter referred to as MAURITAS accredited certification bodies). The Certification body accreditation logo may also be used by organisations subject to accredited certification by a MAURITAS accredited certification body.
- ISO/IEC 17020 for inspection bodies.

Where applicable, these conditions shall be met by all MAURITAS accredited organisations, including those outside Mauritius. Certification bodies shall take all steps to ensure compliance with these conditions by their client of accredited certification. MAURITAS accredited laboratories shall not authorise the use of the logos by their clients, subcontractors or any other third party.

In this document ‘logo’ means one of the MAURITAS accreditation logos as described in subclause 3.1 below.

3. General Rules

3.1 *MAURITAS accreditation logos*

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

3.2 *Use of the accreditation logos*

The organisations accredited by MAURITAS may use the relevant accreditation logo on documents directly related to an accredited service, subject to the conditions set out in this publication. MAURITAS is at all times authorised to have the use of the accreditation logos checked.

The organisations accredited by MAURITAS shall not use the MAURITAS accredited logos in any way which might mislead their client/public as to the extent and limitations of their MAURITAS accreditation.

3.3 *Reproduction and display of logos*

The logos shall be in the form specified in Annex A and shall be displayed in the appropriate form, size and colour as specified in the master versions.

The organisation's accreditation number(s) shall be printed centrally under the accreditation logo in three digits. Any enlargements or reductions shall retain the same proportions as those of the master versions printed in Annex A.

The MAURITAS accreditation logo shall be reproduced in its original colour by accredited organisations on master versions in the layout and typography which is printed and issued in this publication.

The MAURITAS accreditation logo shall only be displayed on stationery if the logo or title of the accredited organisations is also used. The accreditation logo shall not be more prominence than the logo or title of the accredited body. Other use of the accreditation logo is not permitted unless written consent is given by the Director of MAURITAS.

Embossed, relief or die-stamped versions may be used.

Electronic reproduction of the logos is permitted by MAURITAS accredited conformity assessment bodies which have the relevant user names and passwords from MAURITAS provided that the requirements of these regulations are met. The organisation's accreditation number (s) shall be printed centrally under the logo.

4. Rules for use by accredited bodies

4.1 *Rights to use*

Only organisations accredited by MAURITAS are entitled to display the MAURITAS accreditation logos 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 organisation's accredited activity, subject to the rules set out in this publication. The MAURITAS accreditation logo shall be displayed no more than once on each letterhead.

When an accredited organisations wishes to make reference to its MAURITAS accreditation instead of using the logo, it shall without variation use the phrase "a MAURITAS – accredited (calibration laboratory), (testing laboratory), (certification body), (inspection body)" followed by the organisation'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.

4.1.1 Suspension of accreditation

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 logo or full-text reference to accreditation.

4.1.2 Termination of accreditation

Upon termination of MAURITAS accreditation, the accredited organisation shall immediately cease the use of accreditation and stop distribution of all documents bearing the MAURITAS logo or full text reference to accreditation. Upon termination of relevant MAURITAS accreditation, the accredited body in respect of a scheme whereby the body owns and licences its own mark the latter 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 logo.

4.1.3 Non-accredited activities

Accredited organisations shall not claim or associated 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 logo is issues, a disclaimer printed close to the logo 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 logo is to be issued, the list of MAURITAS accredited subsidiaries shall be included in the common document. Otherwise, the use of the logo shall be restricted to the MAURITAS accredited subsidiaries only.

4.2 *Documents and promotional media*

4.2.1 Publicity material

Accredited bodies by MAURITAS may incorporate the MAURITAS accreditation logo in publicity material that refers to accredited services, provided that the conditions contained in these regulations are met.

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.

Approval for the use of the MAURITAS accreditation logo 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 logo except in publicity material containing an accreditation logo as part of a larger advertisement, provided the logo is used in the publicity of materials in accordance with conditions detailed in this publication. The accreditation logo shall not be displayed on buildings and flags.

The accreditation logo may be displayed on internal walls and doors and on exhibition stands.

4.2.2 Use of disclaimers for non-accredited activity

The logo or reference to the MAURITAS accreditation may also be used on test/inspection reports that contain results from both accredited and non-accredited tests/inspections, provided that :

- (a) Wherever non-accredited tests/inspections appear, they shall be marked “Not MAURITAS - accredited”;
- (b) The tests/inspections report contains the following disclaimer as appropriate :
“Tests/inspections marked – “Not MAURITAS-accredited” in this report are not included in the MAURITAS Accreditation Schedule for our laboratory/inspection body”;
- (c) the number of results from accredited tests/inspections in each report is not less than 80%.

Letters printed on letterhead bearing the MAURITAS accreditation logo shall only be issued when the conditions of the above paragraph are fulfilled.

When an accredited body issues a tests/inspection report incorporating a MAURITAS accreditation logo 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 or wherever the logo or reference to accreditation occurs.

All quotations for work that contain an accreditation logo shall clearly indicate those activities that are not MAURITAS-accredited.

Accredited bodies shall not be allowed to use the MAURITAS accreditation logo or make full-text reference to accreditation on business cards held by the accredited body's staff.

4.3 *Reports and certificates*

4.3.1 **General**

The MAURITAS accreditation logos shall not be used in such a way as to state, imply or suggest that MAURITAS accepts the responsibility for the accuracy of test, inspection, calibration results or certification decisions covered by accreditation

The accreditation logos shall not be used in such a way to give impression that the Ministry responsible for Industry or MAURITAS has certified or approved any product or any service supplied by a holder of an accreditation certificate or in any other misleading manner.

4.3.2 **Calibration and testing laboratories**

Accreditation logos other than for Testing and Calibration may not be used on test and calibration reports and certificates, respectively.

The Calibration or Testing accreditation logos 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.

A laboratory is likely to issue reports incorporating the logos 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 logo 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”.

4.3.3 **Certification and Inspection Bodies**

Accredited certification bodies shall ensure that they audit the use of the MAURITAS accreditation logo by their certificate holders. Holder of certificates issued by MAURITAS accredited certification bodies may use the appropriate accreditation logo in the manner prescribed in Annex B, on stationery and publicity material or other items relevant to their certificate. The accreditation logo shall always be used in conjunction with the mark of the certification body or certification scheme.

In those cases where a certification body has been accredited by more than one accreditation body, the certificate may bear one accreditation logo or more, as appropriate to suit market needs.

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

The Inspection logo 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.

5. **Users of accredited services**

5.1 *Users of accredited quality system certification*

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

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

5.2 *Users of accredited product certification*

The MAURITAS accreditation logo may be used by holders of accredited certificates on product with the consent of the Director of MAURITAS.

The logo shall be affixed on the product itself or on its related packaging and must be in combination with the certification body's logo.

5.3 *Users an accredited laboratory's services*

Accredited laboratories shall ensure that users of an accredited laboratory's services do not reproduce the laboratory accreditation logos on their letterheads, faxes and promotional materials.

6. Misuse

Any conformity assessment body or person using the MAURITAS accreditation logos 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.

Any conformity assessment body 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

