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Transition to [ISO \(International Organization for Standardization\)/IEC \(International Electrotechnical Commission\) 17065:2012](#) Conformity Assessment - Requirements for Bodies Certifying Products, Processes and Services

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Date: January 18, 2013

To: Conformity Verification Bodies designated by the [Canadian Food Inspection Agency \(CFIA\)](#) and the Certification Bodies accredited by the [CFIA \(Canadian Food Inspection Agency\)](#)

Subject: Transition to [ISO \(International Organization for Standardization\)/IEC \(International Electrotechnical Commission\) 17065:2012](#) Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services

As of September 15, 2012, [ISO \(International Organization for Standardization\)/IEC \(International Electrotechnical Commission\) 17065:2012](#) became publicly available and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) has implemented a three-year transition period from the date of publication.

The [CFIA \(Canadian Food Inspection Agency\)](#) will adopt the same transition period. As such, all Certification Bodies accredited by the [CFIA \(Canadian Food Inspection Agency\)](#) must be fully compliant with [ISO \(International Organization for Standardization\)/IEC \(International Electrotechnical Commission\) 17065:2012](#) no later than September 15, 2015.

Conformity Verification Bodies designated by the [CFIA \(Canadian Food Inspection Agency\)](#) are to assess the compliance of [CFIA \(Canadian Food Inspection Agency\)](#)-accredited Certification Bodies with [ISO \(International Organization for Standardization\)/IEC \(International Electrotechnical Commission\) 17065:2012](#).

- Both standards can be used during the transition from [ISO \(International Organization for Standardization\) Guide 65](#) to [ISO \(International Organization for Standardization\)/IEC \(International Electrotechnical Commission\) 17065:2012](#).
- Starting in April 1, 2013, Conformity Verification Bodies must assess compliance with [ISO \(International Organization for Standardization\)/IEC \(International Electrotechnical Commission\)](#)

17065: 2012 requirements during their on-site audits of the Certification Bodies.


- Conformity Verification Bodies must modify their procedures and tools to reflect ISO (International Organization for Standardization)/IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) 17065:2012 requirements.
- Between January 1, 2013, and September 15, 2015, if Conformity Verification Bodies find a non-conformity to a clause in ISO (International Organization for Standardization)/IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) 17065:2012, they should issue only "observations" or "opportunities for improvement."
- Between January 1, 2013, and September 15, 2015, if Conformity Verification Bodies find a non-conformity to a clause in ISO (International Organization for Standardization) Guide 65 that is not in ISO (International Organization for Standardization)/IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) 17065:2012, they should not issue a "non-conformity."

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