



Standards Council of Canada
Conseil canadien des normes

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1.0 PROGRAM STATISTICS

1.1 Current Status FY 2004-2005

<i>Number of clients</i>	<i>QMS</i>	<i>EMS</i>
Total Accredited RB's	22	9
Applications in process	3	1
Voluntary Withdrawals	2	1
Total CMDCAS Qualified	16	N/A
CMDCAS applicants	1	N/A
CMDCAS Sector Withdrawal	0	N/A
Total TE 9000 Qualified	3	N/A
Total QS 9000 Qualified	4	N/A
Total TL 9000 Qualified	3	N/A
Total AS 9000 Qualified	0	N/A
Total SFMP Qualified	N/A	2
SFMP Applicants	N/A	3
EMSHOP Qualified	N/A	0
EMSHOP Applicants	N/A	1

1.2 Acceptance of other AB oversight results under the MLA/MRA's

The following provides the current statistics of acceptance of other AB oversight results under the MLA/MRA's.

Acceptance of other accreditation body oversight results is considered as:

- Acceptance of audit reports in lieu of performing oversight
- Conduct of joint audit activities
- Consideration of other AB oversight results to reduce length of on-site activity

Statistics are based on 2004-2005 oversight activities required to be conducted for those accredited/applicant CRBs who are also accredited by other AB's:

- On-site audit activities: 68%
- ISO 9001:2000 Witness audits: 100%
- QS 9000 Witness audits: 58%
- TE 9000 Witness audits: 50%

Note the majority of acceptance of other AB oversight results under the MLA/MRA's are conducted with ANAB.

2.0 NEW/REVISED PROGRAM CRITERIA/POLICIES

2.1 Transition to ISO 14001:2004

The SCC has adopted the IAF transition plan for accredited EMS CRBs to move certificates from ISO 14001:1996 to ISO 14001:2004. The text of the IAF transition may be found on the IAF website as Guidance Document 4 (www.iaf.nu). The main elements are described below:

When the CRBs agree with their existing and applicant client organizations on whether ISO 14001:1996 or ISO 14001:2004 is to be used as the audit criteria, the standard being used shall be identified in the audit plan for the initial audit, surveillance or reassessment. If ISO 14001:2004 is to be used, the CRBs shall ensure that procedures for assessment and certification to the new EMS standard are first in place.

May 14, 2005 is the six month date following the publication of ISO 14001:2004. This is the date at which time all audit plans prepared for existing and applicant client organizations should include ISO 14001:2004 as the audit criteria. Clients which have been assessed to the 1996 version of the standard prior to the May 14 date do not need to be reassessed to the new standard until they become due for audit oversight under the established cycle. Following the May 14, 2005 date, and until organizations become certified to 14001:2004, non-conformities may be cited against organizations that are certified/registered to ISO 14001:1996, however, these nonconformities will not become mandatory until the end of the transition period.

The EMS standard indicated on any certificate shall be consistent with the standard identified on the audit plan. For existing organizations it is expected that EMS certificates will be renewed

based on the outcome of the periodic visit in applying the new standard. This renewal should not change the previous certification cycle unless a complete reassessment audit takes place. All existing certificates shall be renewed as conforming to the new EMS standard before the end of transition.

Eighteen months (2006-05-14) after publication of the new standard, any existing accredited certificates issued to ISO 14001:1996 will no longer be valid. Outstanding nonconformities to the new standard will become active and will affect certification/registration. IAF GD 4:2004 International Accreditation Forum, Inc. Page 4 of 5 Issue 1 IAF Transition Plan for ISO 14001:2004 Issued 20 December 2004 Application Date 20 December 2004.

SCC visits during this period will cover the CRB plans for effectively managing the transition.

2.2 Multi-lateral Cooperative Accreditation Arrangement (MCAA)

On January 20th, 2005, the SCC signed a multi-lateral cooperative accreditation arrangement (MCAA) with other accreditation bodies. The members of the MCAA are ANAB, Japanese Accreditation Body, and JAS-ANZ (Australia/New Zealand). The MCAA replaces the SCC-ANSI/RAB MRA which expired 2004-12-31.

Under the MCAA signatories commit to specify the conditions for reviewing the assessment reports of the other members; cooperate with the CRB and other parties to agree upon the surveillance and re-accreditation assessment program for each mutually accredited certification body; and work to harmonize the re-accreditation cycle for each mutually accredited certification body. Consistent with the IAF guidance for cross frontier accreditation, MCAA member accreditation bodies will strive to use the local accreditation bodies for any assessment in another country.

MCAA member accreditation bodies also agree to actively work for increased harmonization of accreditation processes, cross training of accreditation auditors and to increase consistency and reduce differences within their accreditation programs. For a CRB to take advantage of the MCAA, it must request cooperative accreditation and agree with specific conditions which are specified in Annex C to the MCAA.

2.3 Cross Frontier Accreditation

In September 2004, the SCC issued a policy on the implementation of the IAF Guidance on Cross Frontier Accreditation (IAF GD 3:2003). At the same time, CRBs were requested to complete a survey to identify Critical locations for the purposes of scheduling oversight activities in accordance with IAF GD 3:2003. Note the definition of critical locations is found under clause 2.2.1 of IAF GD 3. CRB locations should be identified as critical if any of the defined processes are performed at that location.

The SCC policy for the implementation of the IAF Guidance on Cross Frontier is available on the publications section of the SCC website or by contacting ms@scc.ca.

SCC accredited and applicant CRBs are required to update the critical location form and submit the updated form to the SCC within thirty (30) days under the following circumstances:

- When the CRB issues an SCC accredited registration certificate in a country not identified in the current SCC Scope of Accreditation; or
- Whenever it has no remaining SCC accredited certificates in a country previously listed; or,
- Whenever there is a new office or other change affecting a critical location.

SCC auditors will be verifying CRB identification of critical locations during annual oversight activity. The SCC will be contacting each CRB to discuss oversight activities for critical locations.

3.0 ITEMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION/INFORMATION

3.1 CAR Forms

On November 1, 2004 the SCC introduced a new CAR form, definitions of major and minor CARs and a process for submission of responses to corrective action requests (See MS Bulletin no. 6). As a reminder, CRBs are required to provide their responses to findings using the CAR form and submit the completed form and any attachments to ms@scc.ca. SCC auditors will provide their comments on the response and the form will be sent back to CRB should further response be required. For submission of further responses, the CRB should use the CAR form in accordance with the process above. When submitting responses, CRBs should submit responses for all of the cited CAR's in one package. Partial responses will not be accepted.

3.2 Timelines for Resolution of CARs

To harmonize joint audit processes with ANAB, the SCC has instituted new timelines for CRB resolution of CARs as follows:

1. Responses to Major CARs are required to be submitted to the SCC 30 calendar days after the CAR has been issued. Evidence of resolution of the Major CAR is required to be submitted to the SCC 60 calendar days after the CAR has been issued.
2. Responses to Minor CARs are required to be submitted to the SCC 30 calendar days after the CAR has been issued. Evidence of resolution of the Minor CAR is required to be submitted to the SCC 90 calendar days after the CAR has been issued.

If the above timelines are not met, the SCC reserves the right to initiate suspension procedures in accordance with CAN-P-15.

3.3 CRB Competency Requirements

Since the application date of 2004-11-01, the SCC has noted that some CRBs have not adequately addressed the expanded IAF GD 2 Issue 3 guidance on ISO/IEC Guide 62 clause 2.2.1 related to CRB management and technical competence.

CRBs should note the expanded requirements of IAF GD 2 Issue 3 clauses G 2.2.2 to G 2.2.4 which requires the performance of an initial competency analysis for each technical area in which the CRB operates, and the competency to understand business practices and structures of the organizations subject to registration. In addition, CRBs should note and implement IAF GD 2 Issue 3 clauses G 2.2.5 to G 2.2.8.

During on-site audit activities, SCC auditors will be confirming CRB conformance with the IAF GD 2 Issue 3 competency requirements, including processes for identifying and defining specific

competence needed to perform registration activities in technical subject areas. Should you have any questions regarding these requirements, please contact the SCC.

3.4 SCC request for IAF interpretation: CRB review of annual surveillance reports

On January 4th, 2005, SCC sent a memo to its applicants and accredited clients in the MS accreditation programs, regarding an interpretive change that it is being proposed to the following criteria:

- The IAF Guidance on the application of ISO/IEC Guide 66, issue 3, clause 5.6.12; and,
- The IAF Guidance on the application of Guide 62, issue 3, clause 3.6.10.

A number of Certification/Registration Bodies (CRBs) had expressed concern about the practicality of reviewing each and every surveillance audit report as required by these clauses. Given that draft accreditation criteria in ISO/IEC 17021, (the revision to Guide 62 and 66) reduces the need for this level of surveillance, the question has been raised as to whether SCC can move to the 17021 interpretation at this time. The SCC has put this proposal forward to the IAF Technical Committee (IAF TC) for discussion at their February 2005 meeting. Until a decision is issued from the IAF Technical Committee the following shall apply in regards to this matter:

SCC auditors will continue to cite Corrective Action Requests (CAR) to the criteria listed above at audit activities. That is, CRBs will be cited to review all surveillance audit reports on annual basis. However, the CRBs will not be required to address this CAR until SCC has received the official policy decision from the IAF TC. In the meantime CRBs should maintain current practices and the SCC will inform CRBs of the IAF TC decision as soon as it is known.

3.5 On-Site auditor time: Exclusion of Document review

At the October 2004 IAF TC meeting, members confirmed that “document review” is not considered part of the on-site auditor time identified in current guidance. When document review activities are performed on-site, CRBs should ensure that the IAF GD 2 Annex 2 *Audit time chart* is applied and that the auditor time allocation does not include document review.

3.6 Compatibility of Certification to ISO 13485 and ISO 9001

The IAF Technical Committee has confirmed that conformance with ISO 13485 does not indicate conformance with ISO 9001, however, an organization can be certified to both standards.

3.7 CRB Management on Impartiality Committee

The IAF Technical Committee has agreed that it is acceptable for a CRB to have staff serve on the impartiality committee as long as staff does not dominate as a single interest.

3.8 ISO 9001:2000 auditing kit

A practical “how to” approach to ISO 9001:2000 auditing has been developed by the ISO 9001:2000 auditing practices group. The auditing kit consists of guidance modules developed mainly for certification body personnel who carry out audits of quality systems for organizations seeking ISO 9001:2000 registration. The guidance modules are available free of charge on the auditing practices website located at http://isotc176sc2.elysium-ltd.net/APG_index.html.

4.0 MEETINGS

The following provides an overview of meetings of interest to Registration bodies and auditors related to the Management Systems program.

4.1 IAF Meetings

SCC Evaluation for EMS and Product MLA

SCC signed the IAF EMS and Product MLA's on 2004-10-09 along with 27 other national Accreditation Bodies, and 2 regions for the EMS MLA, and 22 Accreditation Bodies, and 2 regions for the Product MLA.

IAF Membership

PNAC (Pakistan National Accreditation Council) was admitted into IAF, bringing membership up to 44 MoU Members. RENAR (Romania) and HKAS (Hong Kong) signed the IAF QMS MLA, bringing QMS MLA membership up to 32 members.

Election of Directors

The SCC Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Trade Ms. E. Nilsen was re-elected as Vice Chair of IAF for an additional three year term ending at the 2007 Annual Meeting.

Customer Satisfaction Survey

Best practices have been identified to address key client concerns. Next steps include sharing "best practices" between Accreditation Bodies and reconvening the Customer Satisfaction Survey Task Group to follow up actions taken

IAF MLA Mark

Applications for registration of the new IAF Logo and MLA Mark are in progress. The Licensing Agreement setting out terms and conditions for MLA Signatories to use the MLA Mark has been circulated. Once licensed to use the MLA Mark, ABs will be able to issue Sub-License Agreements to permit accredited CRBs to use the MLA Mark on registration/certification certificates.

ISO/IEC Guide 17011

IAF endorsed the adoption of ISO/IEC 17011 *Conformity assessment -- General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies*. IAF AB Members shall fulfil the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011 by 2006-01-01. The peer evaluations conducted in 2005 by IAF and regional MLA groups shall be based on ISO/IEC 17011. However, nonconformities shall only be raised against the corresponding requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 61 as guided by IAF Guidance and other findings against ISO/IEC 17011 will be raised as concerns. The MLA signatories, including the SCC, shall be able to demonstrate their compliance with ISO/IEC 17011 by 2006-01-01.

IAF Technical Committee:

Person days for Integrated Audits

The IAF Technical Committee has recognized the need for the development of some guidance in determining audit person days for integrated audits (e.g. ISO 9001/14001 or ISO 9001/13485). In addition, technical committee members recognized the need to revisit existing guidance on the

determination of audit person days considering the process based approach of new management system standards. CRB's will be notified of changes to the allocation of audit person days once the revised guidance has been approved. In the interim, CRBs are reminded of the existing guidance found in IAF GD 2 Annex 2, and that the allocation of audit person days is part of the audit planning process and should be rationalized and documented in file.

Current Projects

The IAF Technical Committee is also working on the following projects:

- Revised guidance on auditing of CRB competence, assessment techniques and scoping;
- IAF Guidance on the application of ISO/IEC 17021 *Conformity assessment -- Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems*;
- IAF Guidance on flexible assessment methodologies;
- IAF Guidance on the grading of non-conformities;
- Revised guidance to allow a CB or AB to refuse to accept a client based on risk;
- Witness audit Guidance;
- IAF Guidance on the application of ISO 19011 for certification and accreditation.

Upcoming Meetings: The next IAF Executive Committee meeting will be held 2005-02-24/25 in Taipei, Taiwan. The 19th IAF General Assembly will be hosted by IANZ in Auckland, New Zealand 2005-09-11 to 21. The next PAC Executive Committee meeting will be held 2005-02-19 to 21 in Beijing. The 12th PAC Plenary will be hosted by NAC in Thailand, 2005-07-4 to 8. EMA (Mexico) has been accepted as the host for the 2006 IAF and ILAC meetings.

4.2 IAAC

IAAC is an association of Accreditation Bodies (ABs) in the Americas and others interested in accreditation in the fields of management systems, products, services, inspections, testing and personnel. Canada's involvement in IAAC contributes to continuing efforts to strengthen global accreditation networks and promote SCC accreditation to domestic organization seeking international linkages and reciprocal recognition. Additional information in IAAC can be found at the IAAC website: <http://iaac-accreditation.org/Index.html>

Election of Officials

SCC Director, Conformity Assessment Mr. P. Paladino was elected as Vice Chair of IAAC for a three year term ending at the 2006 Annual Meeting, as well as Vice Chair of the Inspection Bodies Subcommittee. Additionally, a new Chair of IAAC, Ana Maria Coro from Chile (INN - National Standardization Institute) was elected.

Upcoming Meetings: The next IAAC Executive Committee meeting will be held 2005-02-24/25 in Mexico City. The 10th IAAC General Assembly is proposed to be held jointly with COPANT and hosted by Costa Rican Accreditation Entity (ECA) in Costa Rica 2005-05-14 to 20.

4.3 CASCO

The ISO/CASCO Plenary was held 2004-11-09/10. At that meeting, several document development working groups were disbanded upon completion of their projects. The following provides a list of ISO/CASCO documents which have recently been approved and their publication dates:

- ISO/IEC 17011 Conformity assessment -- General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies. The document has been approved by 88% of the voting ISO member bodies and

83% of the voting IEC National Committees. The final text was published on 1 September 2004.

- ISO/IEC 17000 Conformity assessment -- Vocabulary and general principles. The document has been approved by 89% of the voting ISO member bodies and 100% of the voting IEC National Committees. The final text was published on 1 October 2004, in English, French and Russian.
- ISO/IEC 17050 Conformity assessment – Supplier's declaration of conformity -- Part 2: Supporting documentation. The document has been approved by more than 90% of the voting ISO member bodies and by 95% of the voting IEC National Committees. The final text was published on 1 October 2004.
- ISO/IEC Guide 28 Conformity assessment -- Guidance on a third-party certification system for products. The document has been approved by 93% of both the voting ISO member bodies and the voting IEC National Committees. The final text was published on 1 October 2004.
- ISO/IEC Guide 60 Conformity assessment -- Code of good practice. The document has been approved by 93% of both the voting ISO member bodies and the voting IEC National Committees. The final text was published on 1 October 2004.

The February 2005 issue of ISO Focus will deal with conformity assessment. The document will be available on the ISO website at <http://www.iso.ch/iso/en/ISOOnline.frontpage>.

4.4 CASCO WG 21

SCC continued to represent Canada and its clients at the 8th meeting of CASCO Working Group 21, which is developing the international standard ISO/IEC 17021: *General requirements for bodies operating assessment and certification/registration of management systems*. This standard will replace the existing ISO/IEC Guides 62 and 66. The meeting took place in Geneva, Switzerland on the 27th and 28th of January 2005. ISO members voted to approve the document, while IEC members voted against approval of the document, albeit by only 1 per cent. The WG discussed and addressed the 869 comments (including the IEC member comments) received during the 5 months that the document had been out for review and ballot. Due to the negative IEC member vote and number of comments, CASCO WG 21 members made a decision to prepare a DIS 2, which will be re-submitted to ISO/IEC members for another 5 month voting period. The timelines for the upcoming consultation are forthcoming.

4.5 SCC-ANAB MRA/MLA Harmonization Committee

The SCC-ANAB Harmonization Committee last met in Ottawa, Canada 2005-01-17/18. At that meeting, the committee began work on new harmonization projects including a joint audit procedure, witness audit guidance, and procedure for review of other AB audit findings. Members also discussed the relationship between office audits and witness audits and the new IAF GD 2 requirements related to competency.

To further harmonization efforts, the SCC and ANAB representatives will be attending each others auditor training sessions and plan a joint SCC-ANAB auditor training session to be held in Niagara Falls, Canada in May 2005.

It is anticipated that the SCC-ANAB MRA/MLA Harmonization Committee will be expanded to include other MCAA signatories. The next Harmonization Committee meeting will be held in conjunction with the May 2005 auditor training sessions.

5.0 SECTOR UPDATES

5.1 **QS9000 AND TE Supplement**

The QS 9000 and TE 9000 programs continue to wind down, and registrations to QS 9000 are decreasing in anticipation of the 2006 cessation of the program.

Interpretations :

The AIAG have issued a letter dated 2003-12-11, clarifying the information required to be reported to Ford, DaimlerChrysler and General Motors when a QS 9000 registered supplier is put on probation. TG auditors should ensure Registration bodies have processes in place to provide the following information to the AIAG by e-mail:

- Name of site and physical site address (not mailing address)
- QS 9000 Certificate Number
- Supplier code for Ford, DaimlerChrysler, and/or General Motors (Manufacturing DUNS number)
- Reason for suspension (Major Nonconformance or Special Status Notification)
- Date suspension was initiated
- A copy of the letter sent to the supplier.

Note: Probation notifications must be sent to all three (Ford, DaimlerChrysler and General Motors) every time a probation is issued regardless of whether the supplier provides products or services to all three.

5.2 **CMDCAS**

HC CMDCAS RB Forum

The 5th CMDCAS HC RB Forum was held by teleconference 2004-12-09. The Agenda and minutes for the 4th and 5th HC CMDCAS RB Forum can be received by contacting Ms. Sophia Khan at Health Canada (Sophia_Khan@hc-sc.gc.ca).

CRBs should note that participation in the HC CMDCAS RB Forum is mandatory and supports CRB maintenance of competency to operate in the CMDCAS program.

ISO 13485:2003 Transition Status

The following provides an update on the status of the ISO 13485:2003 transition to date

Item	
Total Applicant and Qualified CMDCAS RB's	17
Number of Transition Plans Received for Review To-Date	17
Registration Bodies document review in process	2
Number of Registration Bodies approved for ISO 13485:2003	15
Number of Registration Bodies who have completed ISO 13485:2003 witness audit	6
Number of ISO 13485:2003 witness audits to complete by 2005-07-15	11

The SCC has updated the CMDCAS area of the website to include information related to the ISO 13485:2003 transition which includes a list of bodies that are approved to issue ISO 13485:2003 registration certificates. This information can be found at the following URL: http://www.scc.ca/en/programs/iso_reg/iso_13485-2003.shtml.

Impact of the IAF Cross Frontier Policy/MRAs/MLAs on CMDCAS

CMDCAS is a program linked to Canadian Regulations; therefore, the IAF Cross Frontier Policy and MRAs/MLAs are applicable to those Registration Bodies qualified under the CMDCAS program in a limited capacity. As such, an SCC auditor and Health Canada representative are required to participate in oversight activities conducted under MRAs/MLAs and at RB critical locations.

The following provides an overview of decisions taken by Health Canada with regards to audit activities conducted under the IAF Cross Frontier Policy and MRAs/MLAs:

- Joint audit activities can be performed to support the Cross Frontier Policy and MRAs/MLAs;
- SCC must lead audit activities when CMDCAS is included in the scope of the audit activity;
- Assessors from other AB's can complement audit team.

Canada-Australia MOU

On 2004-11-17, Health Canada announced that they have begun negotiations with the Therapeutic Goods Administration of Australia for an MOU and MRA on quality systems certification for medical devices.

The MOU will establish a confidence building phase between the two agencies prior to the signing of an MRA. The MRA will legally recognize the equivalency of the Canadian and Australian systems and certificates relating to quality management systems on manufacturers of medical devices.

Under the MOU, a confidence building phase and interim operational phase will see the exchange of audit reports and certificates in lieu of performing on-site quality system audits in each other's countries. Under the MRA, certificates will be exchanges as evidence of compliance with regulatory requirements.

For further information on the MRA, please contact Ms. Anne-Marie Coutu by e-mail Anne-Marie.Coutu@hc-sc.gc.ca or phone (613-954-0385).

CMDCAS Program Status

At this time, the CMDCAS program has stabilized and the SCC and Health Canada are working together to improve the program processes and effectiveness of CMDCAS procedures. CRBs participating in the CMDCAS program are encouraged to provide their feedback to the SCC and HC on program procedures, criteria and any issues for resolution.

5.3 Aerospace

The Americas Aerospace Quality Group (AAQG) Registrar Management Committee (RMC) met 2005-01-25 to 27 in Washington D.C. At that meeting, several items of note were discussed as follows:

AS 9104

AS 9104, the international requirements for AQMS sector qualification, has been published and is available by contacting SAE. The document will coexist with existing requirements for AQMS sector qualification (AIR 5359/5493) for the transition period which is expected to end 2005-05-01.

OASIS Database

The OASIS database continues to be populated and has been updated to add several new functions. CRBs qualified to conduct AQMS registration activities received automatic notification from the database administrators of their ability to upload certificates for registered suppliers. In addition, the database will be updated shortly to allow those accessing information to view what has been removed or changed within the last thirty (30) days.

On 2004-11-29, the SAE issued a letter announcing the implementation of the OASIS feature to enable suppliers to control access to their assessment details effective 2004-12-02. Suppliers will be given an application that will allow them to provide and control access to their Assessment Result Summary and Scoring Data.

Every supplier listed in OASIS will be contacted by email or letter explaining how to initiate access to this new application. Because of data security issues SAE will require every supplier to fill out a form with contact and email address information for the person within their organization that they select to manage the access to their data, (Supplier Site Data Administrator). Once established that person will be able to add additional associates.

If CRBs are contacted by a supplier regarding this new functionality, please instruct them to visit <http://www.iaqg.org/iaqgdb/supplier-admin.htm>.

In addition to this new feature, CRBs will be alerted by e-mail if the supplier has not yet designated a Supplier Site Data Administrator. The Oasis database administrators are requesting that when CRBs receive this email, it is forwarded to the quality manager for that supplier.

Finally, the OASIS administrators have noted that the database contains several duplicate entries and incorrect entries for multi-site registrations. Note CRBs will be billed \$500.00 for each database entry. Therefore, CRBs should review OASIS entries to remove duplicate entries, and update accordingly.

The next meeting of the AAQG and RMC will be held 2005-03-22 to 24 in Fort Worth, Texas.

5.4 TL 9000

The TL 9000 Measurements Handbook was revised and published in March 2003 as version 3.5. Copies of the revised Handbook can be purchased by contacting the QuEST Forum (<http://www.questforum.org>) or ASQ at 1-800-248-1946.

In April 2004, QuEST Forum announced a mandatory electronic training class and examination for RB and AB TL 9000 auditors.

English speaking auditors were required to take the class and pass the examination by 2004-07-31. Classes were offered in other languages in June 2004, with a requirement for successful completion by 2004-10-31. The examination passing grade was 75%.

For those bodies qualified by the SCC under the TL 9000 program, TG auditors will be verifying that TL 9000 auditors have taken and passed the course

Additional information on QuEST Forum can be found at their website at <http://www.questform.org>.

5.5 Sustainable Forest Management Program

Current forestry statistics regarding the Canadian SFM market can be found on the Certification Canada website (<http://www.CertificationCanada.org>) by clicking on the icon entitled “Certification Status and Intentions” or by going directly to <http://www.CertificationCanada.org/status.htm>.

SFMP Transition

SCC’s qualified registration bodies have had their document reviews and required witness audits completed. As well, the three applicant bodies are being assessed to the new CAN/CSA Z809 requirements. It is expected that SCC will have five qualified registration bodies (QMI, KPMG PRI, PWC, ITS, and BNQ) to the SFMP during the spring/early summer of 2005).

OMNR

Currently, SCC has a MOU with OMNR and is working on a joint program regarding SCC’s EMS SFMP and OMNR’s independent forestry audit program for license holder on Ontario Crown Land. SCC, OMNR, CSA, QMI, KPMG PRI and PWC have been developing a guidance document to be applied by the government, Ontario Forest Company license holders, registration bodies, and SCC. This document was sent out for a 60 days consultation by OMNR, CSA, and SCC on the 2004-11-26. During this consultation period, an auditing guidance document is to be finalized to assist registration bodies in delivering combined audits with OMNR’s independent audit program.

PEFC

The Canadian PEFC Council submitted its application to the PEFC for recognition in the Mutual Recognition Agreement for Sustainable Forest Management. In November 2004, PEFC conducted an assessment of the Canadian National Standard Systems’ Sustainable Forest Management Program and national PEFC program. They met with the Canadian Standards Association, Forest Product Association of Canada, Sierra Club, CANFOR, National Aboriginal Forestry Association, Standards Council of Canada, Natural Resource Canada, Canadian Forestry Services, Abitibi Consolidated, CSA’s SFM Technical Committee, and QMI. SCC presented its SFMP and the National Standards System. PEFC provided a positive recommendation to accept the Canadian PEFC program as a signatory to their Mutual Recognition Arrangement during the 4th week of January 2005. The report will be sent out for a 60 day public ballot in support of the PEFC board decision. Note: this system relates to both management systems and product certification (chain-of-custody).

Further information about the Mutual Recognition Arrangement and the SFM certification scheme at large can be found at <http://www.pefc.org/internet/html/>.

5.6 Environmental Management Systems Hog Program

In October, 2004 the Standards Council of Canada launched its new Environmental Management Systems Hog Operator Program (EMSHOP) that will help improve the environmental performance of hog operations.

The Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Hog Operator Program uses the existing SCC EMS Accreditation Program as its foundation. Under the initiative, the SCC will qualify accredited EMS Registration Bodies (RBs) to register hog operators' EMS to the newly published Canadian Standard - CAN/CSA Z771 Environmental management systems for hog operations requirements. CAN/CSA Z771 was published by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), and developed through consensus by a committee of affected stakeholders, including representatives from the pork industry, federal and provincial governments, environmental groups and consumers. The standard, which provides a voluntary national framework for responsible environmental management of hog operations, was approved by the SCC as a National Standard of Canada in March 2004.

SCC has communicated this program to all SCC accredited registration bodies, the Canadian Pork Council, and the Governmental Bodies (Federal and Provincial). Currently, SCC has been contacted by several registration bodies interested in delivering the program. The Canadian potential certification market is some 15,000 producers and it is recognized that the standard can be applied in other countries. SCC will keep you posted on the development of this new program.

5.7 Climate Change

SCC continues to monitor the ISO TC 207 Working Group 5 and ISO TC 207 and CASCO regarding international standards:

- ISO/DIS 14064-1: *Specifications with guidance at the organization level for qualification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals;*
- ISO/DIS 14064-2: *Specifications with guidance at the project level for qualification, monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emission reductions or removal enhancement; and,*
- ISO/DIS 14064-3: *Specifications with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions.*

Currently, the above standards are out for a 5 month DIS vote among ISO members – from 2005-01-27 closing 2005-06-27.

Given that the Kyoto protocol has been accepted by the UNFCCC members', the Canadian Government is preparing for its implementation. SCC is currently meeting with different stakeholders to seek opportunities to provide support to the Canadian Government initiative. Currently, it is expected that the government will use the national standards systems framework to support its mandate. The Canadian Government will announce its climate change policy and implementation framework on the 16th of February 2005 and the related budget will be released on the 23rd of February 2005.

5.1 ISO 22000

The international standard - ISO/DIS 22000 *Food safety management systems – Requirements for organizations throughout the food chain* may be of interest to registration bodies delivering or planning to deliver certification programs in the food sector (HACCP/Codex based). This management system standard is presently out for vote. The ISO/DIS 22000 was approved as a

Final Draft Initial Standard. It is expected that this international standard will be published in September 2005. Please contact Ginette Grant at: ggrant@scc.ca or tel. (613) 238-3222 ext. 492 for any further information pertaining to the standard.

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

6.1 Staffing in Conformity Assessment

In August 2004, the Management Systems Program welcomed Mr. Alfred Au as a Senior Program Officer. Mr. Au brings several years of conformity assessment experience to the management systems division, and will provide additional resources at the senior level to better serve our clients. Mr. Au can be reached at the following coordinates: aaau@scc.ca or 613-238-3222 (x. 424).

6.2 ms@scc.ca

Since September 2004, the management systems division has been utilizing a centralized e-mail address (ms@scc.ca) to receive and distribute program documentation and audit related correspondence. ms@scc.ca is used by the MSAP program staff to:

- Send audit notification letters;
- Send audit reports and CAR forms;
- Send requests for further responses to audit activities;
- Send activity closing letters;
- Distribute the MS Bulletin;
- Distribute interpretations/notices to CRB's.

CRB's should use ms@scc.ca to submit to the SCC:

- All correspondence related to an audit activity;
- Documents to support audit activities (eg. Quality Manuals/Procedures, CAN-P Matrices, Corporate Profiles etc.)
- Responses to audit activities using the CAR forms
- Notification of organizational changes
- Requests for change in contact information.

Please do not copy SCC staff when sending items to ms@scc.ca or send in duplicate paper copies of submissions.

6.3 MS Bulletins on the Web

The SCC is pleased to announce that the MS Bulletin can now be accessed via the SCC website. A full library of English and French MS Bulletins has been uploaded at the following location: http://www.scc.ca/en/programs/iso_reg/publications.shtml.

6.3 Standards Webstore

The Standards Council of Canada and IHS Inc. have launched a standards webstore at www.standardsstore.ca. Created to address the growing demand for online access to standards, the Web store provides users with a single point of purchase for industry standards and related publications.

We appreciate all suggestions, feedback and questions. Kindly forward any comments, questions and/or suggestions to:

Sylvia Bienvenu

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