



**International  
Standard**

**ISO/IEC 17007**

**Conformity assessment — Guidance  
for drafting normative documents  
suitable for use for conformity  
assessment**

*Évaluation de la conformité — Recommandations pour la  
rédaction de documents normatifs applicables à l'évaluation de  
la conformité*

**Second edition  
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# Contents

	Page
<b>Foreword</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>v</b>
<b>1 Scope</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>4 Principles</b> .....	<b>4</b>
4.1 General.....	4
4.2 Principle 1: separation of types of provisions.....	4
4.3 Principle 2: neutrality towards parties performing conformity assessment activities.....	5
4.4 Principle 3: functional approach to conformity assessment.....	6
4.5 Principle 4: comparability of conformity assessment results.....	6
4.6 Principle 5: good practice in conformity assessment.....	7
<b>5 Guidance for the development of normative documents stating specified requirements for objects of conformity assessment</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>6 Guidance for the development of normative documents stating specific methods and procedures for an individual conformity assessment activity</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>7 Guidance for the development of normative documents stating rules and methodology for conformity assessment</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Annex A (informative) The CASCO toolbox</b> .....	<b>12</b>
<b>Annex B (informative) Approach to identify specified requirements, methods and procedures, rules and methodology for conformity assessment</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>Bibliography</b> .....	<b>17</b>

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives) or [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs)).

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Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO-specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html). In the IEC, see [www.iec.ch/understanding-standards](http://www.iec.ch/understanding-standards).

This document was prepared by the ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO), in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/CLC/JTC 1, *Criteria for conformity assessment bodies*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 17007:2009), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- definitions have been aligned with ISO/IEC 17000:2020 with new definitions added;
- 3 categories of provisions in normative documents have been introduced in the Scope and [Clause 4](#);
- references to ISO/IEC 17067 have been added for content regarding schemes;
- the 5 principles described in [Clause 4](#) have been updated;
- guidance for the development of standards for the three categories of provisions has been updated or added in [Clauses 5, 6 and 7](#);
- in [Annex A](#), an introductory part has been added before the [Table A.1](#) to describe the conformity assessment and accreditation bodies specified by the CASCO toolbox; [Table A.1](#) has been updated to contain all toolbox deliverables;
- [Annex B](#) has been replaced by a new one describing the approach to identify specified requirements, methods and procedures, rules and methodology for conformity assessment.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html) and [www.iec.ch/national-committees](http://www.iec.ch/national-committees).

## Introduction

This document provides principles and guidance on how to develop normative documents, such as standards, technical specifications, codes of practice and regulations, so that they are concise and clear, especially in the context of any subsequent conformity assessment activity.

Conformity assessment is a demonstration that specified requirements are fulfilled and includes activities such as assessment, auditing, design review, evaluation, examination, inspection, testing, surveillance, validation, verification and certification. The methods and procedures for performing such individual conformity assessment activities can be stated in normative documents. Likewise, normative documents can state rules and methodology through which approvals, certificates, consents, licenses, labels, markings, marks of conformity, permissions, reports and other types of statements of conformity are issued.

Normative documents, developed following the principles and guidance in this document, can be suitable for use in conformity assessment at national, regional or international levels, both in regulated or non-regulated applications.

Users of this document can also find useful information in the ISO/IEC Directives, ISO/IEC 17060, ISO/IEC 17067 and the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade,<sup>[38]</sup> Annex 3.

ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 covers aspects for conformity assessment, mandatory for standards developers in ISO, IEC and ISO/IEC committees.

This document also includes reference to documents in the domain of conformity assessment, known as the CASCO toolbox. These are principally the work of CASCO in cooperation with IEC. Reference to these standards and guides is included to emphasise that they contain internationally agreed, globally applied provisions covering conformity assessment. Reliance on these standards and guides as requirements for conformity assessment bodies and accreditation bodies facilitates acceptance of results around the world.

To make this document as usable as possible, technical terminology has been avoided as much as possible. However, in some cases, the use of some technical terminology is necessary. For example, the requirements in normative documents can relate to a particular material, product, service, installation, data, information, process, system, person or body. In the conformity assessment context, these are all examples of an “object of conformity assessment”.

In the same context, an “object of conformity assessment” or “object” is a generic term used to represent anything that can fulfil specified requirements. In a normative document suitable for use in conformity assessment, the term “object of conformity assessment” or “object” would not be used. A normative document should include a scope which either explicitly or implicitly specifies the related object of conformity assessment, for example, a type of product, process, service, installation, project, data, design, material, claim, person, body, organization, management system, conformity assessment body. In this document, the term “object of conformity assessment” or “object” is used so that this document can be applied regardless of the specific scope of any normative document.

# Conformity assessment — Guidance for drafting normative documents suitable for use for conformity assessment

## 1 Scope

This document specifies principles and gives guidance for developing normative documents that contain:

- specified requirements for the object of conformity assessment;
- specific methods and procedures for an individual conformity assessment activity (e.g. test methods);
- rules and methodology for conformity assessment (as part of conformity assessment schemes, including provisions for organizations that perform conformity assessment activities).

This document is intended for the following users:

- standards developers;
- regulatory authorities;
- conformity assessment scheme owners;
- industry associations and consortia;
- conformity assessment bodies;
- accreditation bodies;
- purchasers;
- consumers and non-governmental groups;
- other interested parties, e.g. insurance organizations.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 17000:2020, *Conformity assessment — Vocabulary and general principles*

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## ISO/IEC 17007:2026(en)

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