

Session 8 – Conformity assessment schemes



Contents

- Definition
- Why have a scheme
- Scheme owner
- Use of IS in schemes
- Example of a scheme
- Resources

Definition



Scheme definition

Set of rules and procedures that describes the objects of conformity assessment, identifies the specified requirements and provides the methodology for performing conformity assessment.

ISO/IEC 17000



Why have a scheme?



Why have schemes?

To address the market needs and market drivers

- To differentiate products and services.
- To ensure consistency and enhance confidence in the conformity assessment results.
- To facilitate cross border recognition of conformity assessment results.
- To facilitate market entry.
- To improve market perception for a group of suppliers.
- To reduce costs in business to business transaction.
- To protect the public.



Scheme Owner

Scheme owner

Every scheme has a scheme owner.

A scheme owner can be a conformity assessment body itself, a governmental authority, an NGO, an industry association or another body.

Examples of scheme owners

A manufacturing organization/association could set up a conformity assessment scheme for its products. The motor industry has done this for all suppliers to the motor industry for the manufacture of motor cars. The manufacturing association is the scheme owner.

A certification body itself can set up a scheme for the sole use of its clients, an example of this could be a certification body that offers a scheme for “sustainable rural development” or a scheme for “brake service” workshops. The certification body is the scheme owner.



Examples of scheme owners

A regulatory body may develop a scheme and invite one or more certification bodies to operate it. For example plumbing service or electrical service schemes. In that case, depending on the scheme the certification body or the regulator will be the scheme owner.

A trade association may set up a scheme and invite certification bodies to operate it in accordance with their rules. Here, the trade association would be the scheme owner.

An international organization, such as a non-profit, international standards development organization or an NGO, may develop a global CA System(s) or scheme(s) when consistent CA results from participating CABs anywhere in the world create market value. In this case the International Organization would be the scheme owner.



Use of international standards in schemes

11



Use of international standards in schemes

- The more international standards are used in schemes, the more likely the schemes will be globally accepted.
- It is recommended that international standards are used wherever possible for designing and operating schemes (voluntary and regulatory)



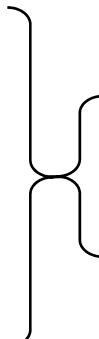
Example of a scheme

13



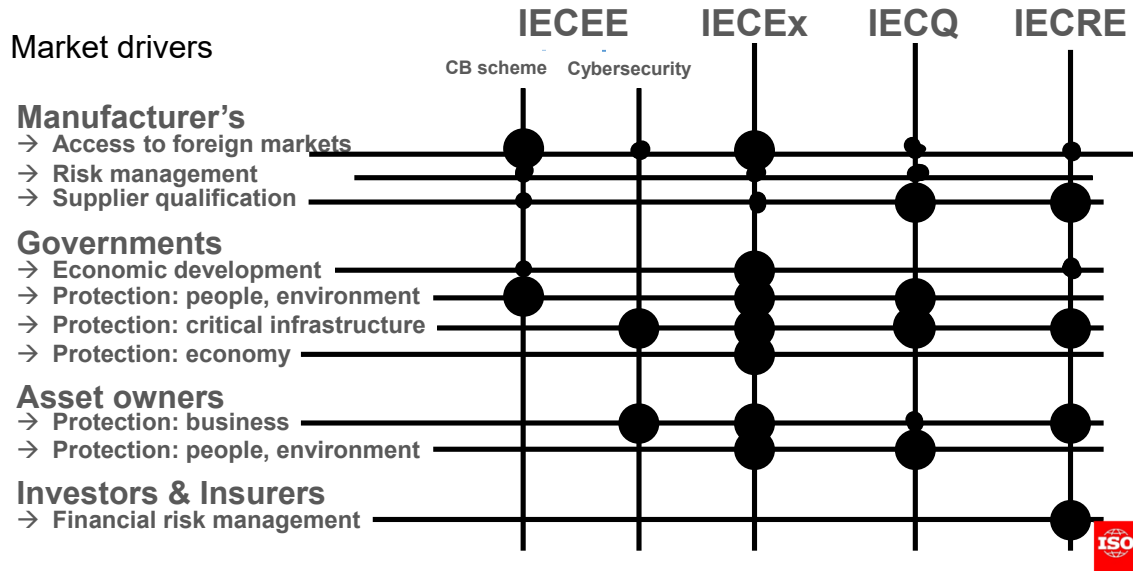
IEC CA Systems

Global conformity assessment Systems

- IECEE
 - IECEx
 - IECQ
 - IECRE
- 
- Requested by the market
 - Paid for by the market
 - Creating value for the market



IEC CA systems



How IEC CA systems work

Global CA framework

- Membership organization
- Professional CA bodies (CABs)
- CABs anywhere in the world
- CABs must qualified to participate
- CABs help write the rules
- CABs must follow the rules
- CABs do regular peer assessed
 - to check that rules are followed

Global CA operation

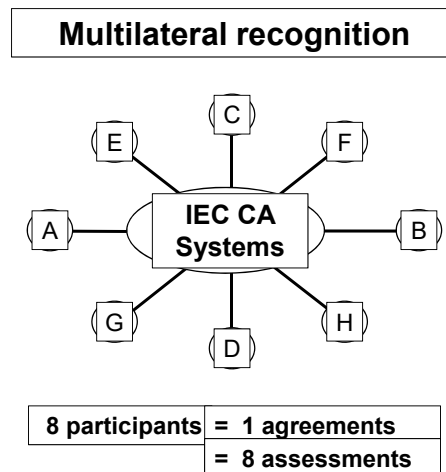
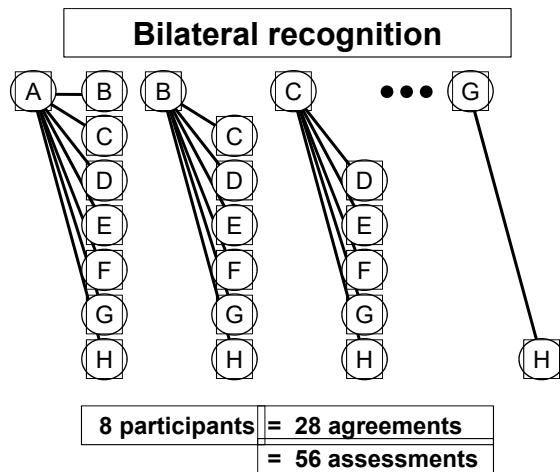
- Fundamental Value Creation
- Single scheme owner
- Common interpretation of standards
- Common rules & methodologies
- Documented
- Peer assessment
 - → checking consistent application

→ Consistent comparable CA results → worldwide



How IEC CA systems work

efficiency of IEC MLA multilateral agreement



Resources

Video

What is the Quality infrastructure: An African SME perspective
from PTB (Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt)

<https://youtu.be/Qo-OI6pUosI>



Resources

Brochure “how to develop scheme documents? Guidance for ISO Technical Committees” currently in development, available from second part of 2019 on

[iso.org](https://www.iso.org)



Group Activity #4



Group Activity #4

Discuss in Groups (30 minutes)

Using the slides from the previous section describe the different components which would make up one of the following:

- Car hire
- Washing machine
- Energy efficiency scheme for an office building
- Production of sustainable tuna
- Star rating system for hotels



Thank you

