

PD CEN/CLC ISO/IEC TS 17021-2:2016



BSI Standards Publication

# **Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems**

Part 2: Competence requirements for  
auditing and certification of environmental  
management systems (ISO/IEC/TS 17021-2:2012)

**National foreword**

This Published Document is the UK implementation of CEN/CLC ISO/IEC TS 17021-2:2016. It is identical to ISO/IEC TS 17021-2:2012. It supersedes PD ISO/IEC TS 17021-2:2012, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee CAS/1, Conformity assessment.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

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**Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.**

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English version

**Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies  
providing audit and certification of management systems -  
Part 2: Competence requirements for auditing and  
certification of environmental management systems  
(ISO/IEC/TS 17021-2:2012)**

Évaluation de la conformité - Exigences pour les  
organismes procédant à l'audit et à la certification des  
systèmes de management - Partie 2: Exigences de  
compétence pour l'audit et la certification des  
systèmes de management environnemental  
(ISO/IEC/TS 17021-2:2012)

Konformitätsbewertung - Anforderungen an Stellen,  
die Managementsysteme auditieren und zertifizieren -  
Teil 2: Anforderungen an die Kompetenz für die  
Auditierung und Zertifizierung von  
Umweltmanagementsystemen (ISO/IEC/TS 17021-  
2:2012)

This Technical Specification (TS) was approved by CEN on 24 July 2016 for provisional application.

The period of validity of this TS is limited initially to three years. After two years the members of CEN and CENELEC will be requested to submit their comments, particularly on the question whether the CEN/TS can be converted into a European Standard.

CEN and CENELEC members are required to announce the existence of this TS in the same way as for an EN and to make the CEN/TS available promptly at national level in an appropriate form. It is permissible to keep conflicting national standards in force (in parallel to the TS) until the final decision about the possible conversion of the TS into an EN is reached.

CEN and CENELEC members are the national standards bodies and national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom.



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## **European foreword**

The text of ISO/IEC/TS 17021-2:2012 has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/CASCO "Committee on conformity assessment" of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and has been taken over as CEN/CLC ISO/IEC/TS 17021-2:2016 by Technical Committee CEN-CENELEC/TC 1 "Criteria for conformity assessment bodies" the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to announce this Technical Specification: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

### **Endorsement notice**

The text of ISO/IEC/TS 17021-2:2012 has been approved by CEN as CEN/CLC ISO/IEC/TS 17021-2:2016 without any modification.

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

In other circumstances, particularly when there is an urgent market requirement for such documents, a technical committee may decide to publish other types of document:

- an ISO/IEC Publicly Available Specification (ISO/IEC PAS) represents an agreement between technical experts in an ISO working group and is accepted for publication if it is approved by more than 50 % of the members of the parent committee casting a vote;
- an ISO/IEC Technical Specification (ISO/IEC TS) represents an agreement between the members of a technical committee and is accepted for publication if it is approved by 2/3 of the members of the committee casting a vote.

An ISO/PAS or ISO/TS is reviewed after three years in order to decide whether it will be confirmed for a further three years, revised to become an International Standard, or withdrawn. If the ISO/PAS or ISO/TS is confirmed, it is reviewed again after a further three years, at which time it must either be transformed into an International Standard or be withdrawn.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO/IEC TS 17021-2 was prepared by ISO Technical Committee ISO/TC 207, *Environmental management*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Environmental auditing and related environmental investigations*, and the *ISO Committee on conformity assessment* (CASCO).

It was circulated for voting to the national bodies of both ISO and IEC, and was approved by both organizations.

ISO/IEC 17021 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems*:

- *Part 2: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of environmental management systems* [Technical Specification]

The following parts are under preparation:

- *Part 3: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of quality management systems* [Technical Specification]

The next revision of ISO/IEC 17021:2011 will reflect the different parts and will become ISO/IEC 17021-1.

## **Introduction**

This Technical Specification complements ISO/IEC 17021. In particular, it clarifies the requirements for the competence of personnel involved in the certification process set out in ISO/IEC 17021:2011, Annex A.

The guiding principles in ISO/IEC 17021:2011, Clause 4, are the basis for the requirements in this Technical Specification.

Certification bodies have a responsibility to interested parties, including their clients and the customers of the organizations whose management systems are certified, to ensure that only those auditors who demonstrate the relevant competence are allowed to conduct Environmental Management System (EMS) audits.

All EMS auditors should possess the generic competencies described in ISO/IEC 17021 as well as the specific EMS knowledge described in this Technical Specification.

Certification bodies will need to identify the specific audit team competence needed for the scope of each EMS audit. The selection of an EMS audit team will depend upon various factors including the EMS technical area, the client organization, its environmental aspects and the site where these aspects occur.

The competence requirements for other personnel involved in certification activities are also described.





# Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems

## Part 2:

## Competence requirements for auditing and certification of environmental management systems

### 1 Scope

This Technical Specification specifies additional competence requirements for personnel involved in the audit and certification process for Environmental Management Systems (EMS) and complements the existing requirements of ISO/IEC 17021.

### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 14050, *Environmental management — Vocabulary*

ISO/IEC 17021, *Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 14050 and ISO/IEC 17021 and the following apply.

#### 3.1

##### **EMS technical area**

area characterized by similar activities, products or services and the related environmental aspects

### 4 Generic competence requirements

The certification body shall define the competence requirements for each relevant EMS technical area and for each function in the certification activity. The certification body shall take into account all the requirements specified in Clauses 5, 6 and 7 of this Technical Specification that are relevant for the EMS technical areas as defined by the certification body. See Tables A.1 and A.2 for a summary of the competence requirements for personnel involved in specific certification functions.