



NSAI
Standards

Irish Standard
I.S. EN ISO/IEC 17000:2020

Conformity assessment - Vocabulary and general principles (ISO/IEC 17000:2020)

I.S. EN ISO/IEC 17000:2020

Incorporating amendments/corrigenda/National Annexes issued since publication:

The National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) produces the following categories of formal documents:

I.S. xxx: Irish Standard — national specification based on the consensus of an expert panel and subject to public consultation.

S.R. xxx: Standard Recommendation — recommendation based on the consensus of an expert panel and subject to public consultation.

SWiFT xxx: A rapidly developed recommendatory document based on the consensus of the participants of an NSAI workshop.

This document replaces/revises/consolidates the NSAI adoption of the document(s) indicated on the CEN/CENELEC cover/Foreword and the following National document(s):

NOTE: The date of any NSAI previous adoption may not match the date of its original CEN/CENELEC document.

This document is based on:

EN ISO/IEC 17000:2020

Published:

2020-06-10

This document was published under the authority of the NSAI and comes into effect on:

2020-06-28

ICS number:

01.040.03

03.120.20

NOTE: If blank see CEN/CENELEC cover page

NSAI
1 Swift Square,
Northwood, Santry
Dublin 9

T +353 1 807 3800
F +353 1 807 3838
E standards@nsai.ie
W NSAI.ie

Sales:
T +353 1 857 6730
F +353 1 857 6729
W standards.ie

Údarás um Chaighdeáin Náisiúnta na hÉireann

National Foreword

I.S. EN ISO/IEC 17000:2020 is the adopted Irish version of the European Document EN ISO/IEC 17000:2020, Conformity assessment - Vocabulary and general principles (ISO/IEC 17000:2020)

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

For relationships with other publications refer to the NSAI web store.

Compliance with this document does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

In line with international standards practice the decimal point is shown as a comma (,) throughout this document.

This page is intentionally left blank

EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN ISO/IEC 17000

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

June 2020

ICS 01.040.03; 03.120.20

Supersedes EN ISO/IEC 17000:2004

English version

Conformity assessment - Vocabulary and general principles (ISO/IEC 17000:2020)

Évaluation de la conformité - Vocabulaire et principes généraux (ISO/IEC 17000:2020)

Konformitätsbewertung - Begriffe und allgemeine Grundlagen (ISO/IEC 17000:2020)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 2 May 2020.

CEN and CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN and CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN and CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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



**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre:
Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

Contents	Page
European foreword.....	3

European foreword

This document (EN ISO/IEC 17000:2020) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/CASCO "Committee on conformity assessment" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/CLC/JTC 1 "Criteria for conformity assessment bodies" the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by December 2020, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by December 2020.

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

This document supersedes EN ISO/IEC 17000:2004.

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

Endorsement notice

The text of ISO/IEC 17000:2020 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO/IEC 17000:2020 without any modification.

This page is intentionally left blank

**INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD**

**ISO/IEC
17000**

Second edition
2020-05

**Conformity assessment — Vocabulary
and general principles**

Évaluation de la conformité — Vocabulaire et principes généraux



Reference number
ISO/IEC 17000:2020(E)

© ISO/IEC 2020

ISO/IEC 17000:2020(E)



COPYRIGHT PROTECTED DOCUMENT

© ISO/IEC 2020

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, or required in the context of its implementation, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized otherwise in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, or posting on the internet or an intranet, without prior written permission. Permission can be requested from either ISO at the address below or ISO's member body in the country of the requester.

ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Fax: +41 22 749 09 47
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

Published in Switzerland

Contents

	Page
Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Terms related to conformity assessment in general	1
5 Terms related to basic concepts	4
6 Terms relating to selection and determination	4
7 Terms relating to review, decision and attestation	5
8 Terms relating to surveillance	6
9 Terms relating to trade and regulation	7
Annex A (informative) Principles of conformity assessment	10
Annex B (informative) Related terms defined in other standards	15
Bibliography	22

ISO/IEC 17000:2020(E)

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).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents) or the IEC list of patent declarations received (see <http://patents.iec.ch>).

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.

This document was prepared by the ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 17000:2004), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- addition of new terms: “object of conformity assessment” (see 4.2), “owner” (see 4.13), “impartiality” (see 5.3), “independence” (see 5.4), “validation” (see 6.5), “verification” (see 6.6), “decision” (see 7.2), “expiry” (see 8.4) and “restoration” (see 8.5);
- change of concept of conformity assessment system;
- deletion of the definition of the term “product” from the body of the document and addition to [Annex B](#);
- editorial revision of [Annex A](#) limited to changes in the terms and definitions in [Clauses 4](#) to [9](#);
- extension of [Annex B](#).

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.

Introduction

The ISO Committee on conformity assessment (CASCO) develops International Standards relating to conformity assessment activities such as testing, inspection and various forms of certification. For many years, ISO/IEC Guide 2 included a core vocabulary for conformity assessment, built up from a small number of terms and definitions first compiled to facilitate communication and understanding about product certification based on standards for traditional manufactured goods.

In 2000, CASCO decided to remove conformity assessment terminology from ISO/IEC Guide 2 and provide instead a self-contained vocabulary more readily applicable within the planned international standards on conformity assessment and in the drafting or revision of related documents. The first edition of this document was published in 2004, as a consistent framework within which more specific concepts could be defined appropriately and denoted by the most appropriate terms.

Additional concepts unique to particular activities such as accreditation, certification of persons and use of marks of conformity are not included in this document but are provided in International Standards related to those activities.

Terms and definitions related to trade and regulation are given in [Clause 9](#). These are intended not only to standardize usage within the conformity assessment community, but also to help policy makers concerned with the facilitation of trade within regulatory and international treaty frameworks.

The terms and definitions specified in this document, particularly in [Clauses 6](#) and [7](#), reflect the adoption by CASCO in November 2001 of the functional approach.

To provide a better understanding of the defined concepts, their grouping and their relationships, a description of the functional approach is included in [Annex A](#) for information.

The terms included in this document relate to concepts considered essential to define. General terms used to denote conformity assessment concepts for which common language usage is sufficient are not included in this document. Terms not common across all International Standards for conformity assessment and with definitions specific to a particular application are not included in this document but are included in the specific relevant standard.

Relevant terms defined in other documents are listed in [Annex B](#):

- terms applicable to specific aspects of conformity assessment, as defined in other conformity assessment standards;
- terms generally applicable in conformity assessment contexts for which definitions are published outside conformity assessment standards.

Conformity assessment — Vocabulary and general principles

1 Scope

This document specifies general terms and definitions relating to conformity assessment (including the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies) and to the use of conformity assessment to facilitate trade.

The general principles of conformity assessment and a description of the functional approach to conformity assessment are provided in [Annex A](#).

Conformity assessment interacts with other fields such as management systems, metrology, standardization and statistics. The boundaries of conformity assessment are not defined in this document.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

4 Terms related to conformity assessment in general

4.1

conformity assessment

demonstration that *specified requirements* ([5.1](#)) are fulfilled

Note 1 to entry: The process of conformity assessment as described in the functional approach in [Annex A](#) can have a negative outcome, i.e. demonstrating that the specified requirements are not fulfilled.

Note 2 to entry: Conformity assessment includes activities defined elsewhere in this document, such as but not limited to *testing* ([6.2](#)), *inspection* ([6.3](#)), *validation* ([6.5](#)), *verification* ([6.6](#)), *certification* ([7.6](#)), and *accreditation* ([7.7](#)).

Note 3 to entry: Conformity assessment is explained in [Annex A](#) as a series of functions. Activities contributing to any of these functions can be described as conformity assessment activities.

Note 4 to entry: This document does not include a definition of “conformity”. “Conformity” does not feature in the definition of “conformity assessment”. Nor does this document address the concept of compliance.

4.2

object of conformity assessment

object

entity to which *specified requirements* ([5.1](#)) apply

EXAMPLE Product, process, service, system, installation, project, data, design, material, claim, person, body or organization, or any combination thereof.

This is a free preview. Purchase the entire publication at the link below:

[Product Page](#)

-
- [Looking for additional Standards? Visit Intertek Inform Infostore](#)
 - [Learn about LexConnect, All Jurisdictions, Standards referenced in Australian legislation](#)
-