Dutch Accreditation Council (RvA)

Policy rule for the fields of activity of the RvA

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	Version 6, 18-7-2018

RvA policy rules describe the RvA rules and the policy on specific subjects.

A current version of the policy rules can be obtained from the RvA web site (www.rva.nl).

Article 1.

In this policy rule the Dutch Accreditation Council (RvA) has, having regard to Article 8(5) of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008, listed the conformity assessment activities it is able to accredit.

Article 2.

1. Conformity assessment bodies can apply to the RvA for accreditation for conformity assessment activities that can be carried out under the activities and working areas specified in Annex 1 to this policy rule.
2. A conformity assessment scheme in the activities and working areas specified in Annex 1, is published on the RvA's website in the 'list of schemes (BR010-lijst) the RvA can provide accreditation for', in case the relevant version of the scheme:
    1. has been evaluated with a positive outcome conforming to policy rule RvA BR012;
    2. was previously published on the scope of acceptance of a scheme owner according to Regulation RvA-R013, as long as the scheme remains unchanged. Schemes for which no accreditation had been granted on January 1, 2018, were removed from the list;
    3. has been accepted by the EA according to EA1-/22, and for which de RvA has decided it will provide accreditation services;
    4. has been published by the IAF as an "endorsed scheme" in IAF-PR4 and for which the RvA has decided it will provide accreditation services.

    Conformity assessment bodies can apply for accreditation by the RvA for these conformity assessment schemes.
3. National schemes as stated in policy rule RvA-BR012, which have been published in the list as mentioned in the previous section, for which no valid RvA-accreditation has existed for over two years, will be removed from that list.
4. The RvA may decide to provide certain accreditation services only to legal entities established in the Netherlands, because of limitations in availability of resources and competence within RvA. This is indicated in Annex 1.

Article 3.

If accreditation is sought for an activity or working area that is not specified in Annex 1 to this policy rule, the RvA will not immediately be able to accept an application. In this case the RvA will consider developing the accreditation for this activity or working area, to enable it to accept the application at a later date.

Article 4.

In cases where it is not easy to decide whether an activity or working area counts among the activities in Annex 1, the board of the RvA shall decide whether an activity or working area may be regarded as being within the competence of the RvA.

Article 5.

The RvA will decide to amend the Annex with activity or working area if its competence is changed. Such a decision can be taken if:

1. a development process has led to the acquisition of additional competence;
2. there are other reasons for including an activity or working area in the competence of the RvA;
3. during the periodical evaluation of its own competence it is established that the RvA no longer has or wishes to have competence for given activities or working areas.

Article 6.

This document enters into force on the date of publication of the announcement in the Government Gazette.

Article 7.

The following significant changes have been made compared with version 5, dated March 22, 2017 ,:

- New regulations/directives have been added and repealed directives have been removed in Annex 2. The Simple pressure vessels directive (2014/29/EU) has been added.
- Archaeology has been added as working area under EN ISO/IEC 17065.
- EN ISO 17034 has been added to ISO Guide 34.
- In Annex 2, the 'preferred standard', as is laid down in document EA-2/17, has been added. It has been added that the standard for accreditation for the 'accredited in-house bodies' is EN ISO/IEC 17020.
- The Regulation marketing of construction products (CPR) has been moved from the individual standards that are used for accreditation to Annex 2, including the preferred standard per system.
- The Transportable pressure vessel directive had been mentioned in Annex 2 as well as under EN ISO/IEC 17020. Given the fact that for this directive only accreditation according to EN ISO/IEC 17020 is allowed, it has been removed from Annex 2.
- Fields added: asset management systems under EN ISO/IEC 17021-1, validation and verification according to the MRV (2015/757) under the EN ISO/IEC 14065, Forensic crime scene investigation under EN ISO/IEC 17020 and medical reference laboratories under EN ISO/IEC 17025.

Annex 1: Conformity assessment activities for which accreditation can be obtained from the RvA

For activities marked with (NL) only bodies established in the Netherlands can be accredited by the RvA.

1. Performance of greenhouse gas validations and verifications as referred to in EN ISO/IEC 14065

AREAS

Validation and verification schemes based on the ISO 14064 series **(NL)**;
Verification schemes for emission data according to directive 2003/87/EC (EU-ETS, including the requirements of European regulation 600/2012 and 601/2012) **(NL)**.
Validation- and verification schemes for emission data according to regulation (EU) 2015/757 (the monitoring, reporting and verification of carbon dioxide emissions from maritime transport, including the requirements of delegated regulation (EU) 2016/2072.

2. Performance of (medical) tests as referred to in EN ISO 15189

SPECIALITIES

Clinical Chemistry and haematology;
Clinical Embryology;
Thrombo-embolic disease;
Medical Immunology;
Medical Microbiology;
Clinical Pharmacy;
Clinical Genetics;
Clinical Pathology;
Biometric testing.

In these specialities the Dutch Accreditation Council accredits, where relevant, also for:

- Point of Care Testing according to ISO 22870;
- Sampling;
- Research

3. Inspections as referred to in EN ISO/IEC 17020

FIELDS OF ACTIVITY

Agriculture, forestry and floriculture, including transport and including sustainability requirements;
Cattle and cattle breeding, including transport and including animal welfare and sustainability requirements;
Environmental compartments water, soil, air;
Fuels, chemicals, ores and minerals, including transport and storage;
Biofuels, including sustainability requirements;
Cattle feeds, including storage, distribution and transport and including sustainability requirements;
Food, ingredients for the food industry, including transport and storage and including sustainability requirements;
Consumer products;
Metal and metal products;
Building materials and structures;
Vertical and horizontal transport such as lifts, hoisting and lifting equipment, foundation machinery and cranes **(NL)**;
Machinery, instruments, (pressure) equipment, (electrical) appliances, installations and equipment, tools and rail infra machines;
Transport equipment, vehicles, storage and transhipment facilities;

Financial services[(NL)];
Administrative systems[(NL)];
Government inspections[(NL)];
Forensic inspection of materials;
Forensic crime scene investigation.

European Directives and Regulations[(NL)] As stipulated in Annex 2.

European Directives[(NL)]:
Transportable Pressure Equipment: 2010/35/EU

European Regulations[(NL)]:
- Commission implementing regulation on the common safety method for risk evaluation and assessment: 402/2013/EU
- Regulation laying down specific hygiene rules for on the hygiene of foodstuffs of animal origin 853/2004/EC
- Regulation laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety: 178/2002/EC

4. Certification of management systems as referred to in EN ISO/IEC 17021-1

FIELDS OF ACTIVITY

Quality management systems;
Environmental management systems;
Food safety management systems;
Safety and occupational health and safety management systems;
Information security systems;
IT service systems, including systems for electronic signatures;
Energy management systems[(NL)];
Business continuity systems[(NL)];
Asset management systems[(NL)].

European Directives and Regulations[(NL)]: As stipulated in Annex 2.

5. Certification of persons as referred to in EN ISO/IEC 17024[(NL)]

COMPETENCE AREAS

NDT personnel and inspectors;
Quality experts;
Safety experts, health and safety experts, industrial hygiene experts;
Welders, welding inspectors;
Asbestos removal;
Electrical engineers;
Evaluator of competences acquired elsewhere;
Academic counsellors and careers advisers;
Datacentre professional and specialist.

6. Performance of tests as referred to in EN ISO/IEC 17025

MAIN AREA	SUBAREA
Agricultural products, food, food industry, feed;	Microbiology and biology; Chemical testing; Physical testing; Sampling.
Environmental compartments water, soil and air;	Microbiology and biology; Chemical testing; Physical testing; Acoustic testing; Radiation; Sampling.
Forensic;	Toxicology; DNA testing; Chemical (forensic) testing; Physical (forensic) testing; Biological (forensic) testing; Biometry; Pathology.
Human health, animals and animal health;	Veterinary toxicology; Veterinary chemistry; Microbiology; Virology; Biology; Immunology; Histology; Pathology; Fertility; Sampling.
Fuels, ores, minerals, chemicals, metals and precious metals, medicines;	Chemical testing; Physical testing; Toxicology; Sampling.
Materials, raw materials, products for the construction industry, including road construction;	Chemical testing; Physical testing; Functionality tests; Fire resistance; Sampling.
Machinery, instruments, (pressure) equipment, (electrical) appliances, installations and equipment, tools, vehicles and toys;	Destructive testing; Non-destructive testing; Mechanical tests; Functionality tests; Safety; Electrical safety, EMC.
Textiles, leather and leather products;	Chemical testing; Physical testing.
Personal protective equipment;	Physical testing; Functionality; Safety.
Software.	Security; Functionality.
European Directives and Regulations (NL):	As stipulated in Annex 2;

7. Performance of calibrations as referred to in EN ISO/IEC 17025

QUANTITIES
DC/LF quantities;
High frequency quantities;
Magnetic quantities;
Time and frequency;
Dimensional quantities;
Force;
Mass;
Pressure and vacuum;
Torque;
Acoustic quantities;
Acceleration;
Ultrasonic;
Density and viscosity;
Flow of gases and liquids;
Optical quantities;
Ionising radiation and radioactivity;
Temperature;
Humidity;
Chemical analyses and reference materials;
Medical reference laboratories.

8. Performance of interlaboratory comparative testing as referred to in EN ISO/IEC 17043

AREAS
Soil, sediment, sludge, water bottoms;
Vegetable materials, feed, compost and fertiliser;
Food;
Chemicals, paints, coatings, cosmetics, fuels, biomass, oils and fats;
Plastic, textiles, leather;
Toys;
Water, other liquids;
Primary animal products, manure;
Body fluids and excreta;
Measuring instruments, mass standards.

9. Certification of products (including services and processes) as referred to in EN ISO/IEC 17065

FIELDS OF ACTIVITY

Agriculture, forestry, ornamental plant cultivation, cattle breeding and cattle feeds and including sustainability and animal welfare schemes;
Wood, wood processing and wood products and including sustainability requirements;
Food and ingredients for the food industry and including sustainability requirements;
Machinery, instruments, (pressure) equipment, (electrical) appliances, installations and equipment, tools;
Vehicles;
Vertical and horizontal transport such as lifts, hoisting and lifting equipment, foundation machinery and cranes;
Consumer products including services to consumers;
Metal, metal processing and metal products;
Building materials, structures, soil, waste products, archaeology;
Financial services(NL);
Health care services(NL).

European Directives and Regulations(NL): As stipulated in Annex 2.

European Directive (NL): Marine Equipment (Modules B, D, E, F en G) 2014/90/EU;

European Regulations(NL):

- Regulation on organic production and labelling of organic products 834/2007/EC;
- Regulation on organic production and labelling of organic products with regard to organic production, labelling and control 889/2008/EC;
- Regulation on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market 910/2014/EU.

10. The production of reference materials as referred to in ISO Guide 34 / EN ISO 17034 **(NL)**

AREAS

Reference materials with microbiological properties;

Gas mixtures;

Liquids.

11. The performance of environmental verifications as referred to in Regulation (EC) 1221/2009 (EMAS) **(NL)**

AREAS

Environmental verifications in the Netherlands

Annex 2 Accreditation in the context of European Directives and Regulations for the purpose of notification as 'notified body'.

Personal protective equipment	89/686/EEC*; 2016/425/EU;
Medical devices	93/42/EEC;
Efficiency requirements for new hot-water boilers fired with liquid or gaseous fuels	92/42/EEC;
Lifts and safety components for lifts	2014/33/EU;
Pressure equipment	2014/68/EU;
Simple pressure vessels	2014/29/EU;
Noise emission in the environment by equipment for use outdoors	2000/14/EC;
Measuring instruments	2014/32/EU;
Machinery	2006/42/EC;
Interoperability of the rail system	2008/57/EC*; 2016/797/EU
Non-automatic weighing instruments	2014/31/EU;
Appliances burning gaseous fuels	2009/142/EC*; 2016/426/EU;
Safety of toys	2009/48/EC;
Recreational craft and personal watercraft	2013/53/EU;
Pyrotechnic articles	2013/29/EU;
Electromagnetic compatibility	2014/30/EU;
Equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres	2014/34/EU;
Radio equipment	2014/53/EU
Marketing of construction products.	305/2011/EU

* Until the end of the transitional date as stipulated in the repealing directive/regulation

For the accreditation of European Directives and Regulations as mentioned above, in which the module structure as stipulated in Decision 768/2008 is used, the RvA uses the following structure regarding the choice of standard that can be used for accreditation per module[1], unless the Regulation/Directive involved and/or national legislation, prescribes differently.

The √ in the grey coloured cells in the table below shows the preferred standard for accreditation, based on EA-2/17[2]. The √ in non-coloured cells shows the other standards that may be used for accreditation according to the Blue Guide[3]. These standards will only be used by RvA in special circumstances, to be decided by the board of RvA.

Module in accordance with Decision 768/2008	**EN ISO/IEC 17020**	**EN ISO/IEC 17021-1**	**EN ISO/IEC 17065**	**EN ISO/IEC 17025***
Module A1, A2	√		√	√
Module B	√		√	
Module C1, C2	√		√	√
Module D, D1		√	√	
Module E, E1		√	√	

[1] The regulation marketing of construction products (CPR, 305/2011/EU) does not use the module structure of decision 768/2008, The CPR uses systems instead of modules..

[2] EA-2/17 M:2016, EA Document on Accreditation for Notification Purposes

[3] The 'Blue Guide' on the implementation of EU product rules - 2016. Published by the European Commission (http://ec.europa.eu/DocsRoom/documents/16210/).

Module in accordance with Decision 768/2008	EN ISO/IEC 17020	EN ISO/IEC 17021-1	EN ISO/IEC 17065	EN ISO/IEC 17025*
Module F, F1	√		√	√
Module G	√		√	
Module H		√		
Module H1	√**		√	
System in accordance with regulation 305/2011/EU				
Systeem 1			√	
Systeem 1+			√	
Systeem 2+		√	√	
Systeem 3				√

* For the EN ISO/IEC 17025 standard accreditation according to these modules is only possible as a testing laboratory, not as a calibration laboratory.

** Combination of standards EN ISO/IEC 17020 and EN ISO/IEC 17021-1, accreditation only possible if module is accredited on both the I-registration as well as the C-registration.

A number of Directives and Regulations offers the option that an accredited in-house body may be used to carry out conformity assessment activities for the undertaking of which it forms a part, For this accreditation EN ISO/IEC 17020, type B is applicable. The Regulation or Directive involved, stipulates for which modules this is possible (module A1, A2, C1 and/or C2).