



International Organization for Standardization



International Accreditation Forum

Date: 21 April 2011

Introduction to the Accreditation Auditing Practices Group

The *Accreditation Auditing Practices Group* is constituted as an informal group of accreditation experts, auditors and practitioners, drawn from the ISO Policy Committee for *Conformity Assessment* (ISO/CASCO), the ISO Technical Committee 176 *Quality Management and Quality Assurance* (ISO/TC 176) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF). It was established following the success of the [ISO 9001 Auditing Practices Group](#), and following a request from the IAF's Technical Committee.

A website has been established by the *Accreditation Auditing Practices Group* as an on-line source of papers and presentations on accreditation auditing practices, against the International Standards and Guides produced by ISO/CASCO. The ideas, examples and explanations given reflect the process-based approach that is essential for the accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) that are themselves applying such an approach in the certification of organizations to ISO 9001 *Quality management systems - Requirements*.

The guidance is primarily aimed at accreditation bodies and their auditors, as well as certification/registration bodies and their auditors.

The papers and presentations are not definitive; they reflect a number of different views in accreditation auditing. As such, their content may not always be consistent. It is not intended that they will be used as specified requirements, an industry benchmark, or as criteria that all accreditation bodies, accreditation auditors, or practitioners have to follow.

Feedback from users will be used by the *Accreditation Auditing Practices Group* to determine whether additional guidance documents should be developed, or if these current ones should be revised.

Comments on the papers or presentations can be sent to the following email address: charles.corrie@bsigroup.com.

The papers and presentations may be downloaded from the web site:

www.iso.org/tc176/AccreditationAuditingPracticesGroup

Disclaimer

The papers have not been subject to an endorsement process by the International

© ISO & IAF 2011 – All rights reserved

www.iaf.nu; www.iso.org/tc176/AccreditationAuditingPracticesGroup

Organization for Standardization (ISO), the ISO Policy Committee for Conformity Assessment (ISO/CASCO), ISO Technical Committee 176, or the International Accreditation Forum (IAF).

The information contained within them is available for educational and communication purposes. The *Accreditation Auditing Practices Group* does not take responsibility for any errors, omissions or other liabilities that may arise from the provision or subsequent use of such information.