



**SNAS**

**SLOVENSKÁ NÁRODNÁ AKREDITAČNÁ SLUŽBA**  
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**Policy**

**PL-09**

**SNAS POLICY ON ACCREDITATION  
OF INSPECTION BODIES**

Approved by: **Mgr. Martin Senčák**  
**Director**

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**PURPOSE:**

**This document determines SNAS policy on accreditation of inspection bodies.**

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Date of elaboration: **06.02.2018**

Verified by: **Ing. Ol'ga Bradová**

By coming into force of this PL expired the validity of PL-09 from 26.09.2016.

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## **1 SNAS POLICY ON ACCREDITATION OF INSPECTION BODIES**

**1.1** Assessing entities seeking accreditation for performance of inspection activities, SNAS is governed by provisions of actual version of ISO/IEC 17020. Requirements of the Standard ISO/IEC 17020 inspection bodies seeking accreditation should meet in compliance with relevant mandatory EA and ILAC documents, mandatory application documents for ISO / IEC 17020 issued as international standards or generally valid documents of recognized international organizations as well as in politics and methodical guidelines for accreditation issued by SNAS.

**1.2** Applicants for accreditation in the fields of inspection may be:  
a) Individual or legal persons involved in performance of inspection activities,  
b) Individual or legal persons who, among other activities (e.g. certification, testing, etc.), dealing with the inspection.

**1.3** Persons applying for accreditation in the field of inspection and also seeks to notification, respectively authorization, whose condition is obtaining of accreditation, they must meet the requirements notified, respectively authorized persons.

**1.4** Persons who are seeking an authorization or notification, which condition is granting of accreditation must to meet the requirements for notified, respectively authorized persons. Where it is with appropriate authorization/notification authority agreed or it is given by legislative, assessment of the fulfilment of authorization and notification requirements is performed in a common assessment process.

**1.5** The entities applying for the so-called multi-disciplinary accreditation, within which is also inspection, have to addition to the requirements that are specified in the relevant standards and documents (e.g. entities performing certification or testing ) meet the requirements that are specific to standard ISO/ IEC 17020.

**1.6** Organizations performing also other activities than inspection (manufacture, sale, certification, testing, calibration etc.) have to show consistent meeting of conditions of impartiality, objectivity and non-discriminatory approach in compliance with requirements of ISO/IEC 17020, in order to be clear that these other activities do not compromise the independence and inspection results. Policies and procedures the applicant must include all factors that can affect its character, impartiality and integrity (ownership relationships and interests, organizational aspects, decision-making procedures, financial affairs, personnel, etc.).

**1.7** The inspection body must be independent in the range that is required with regard to the conditions under which its services in accordance with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17020.

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**1.8** A part of the assessment of the applicant for accreditation is the witness assessment of inspection to be carried out by observation of the inspection body during inspection.

**1.9** During the first assessment, all inspection body's sites are assessed where one or more key inspection activity are performed (policy formulation, processes development and/or procedures, contracts review, inspection planning, review, approving and decision-making on inspection results) and all items of inspection with regard to the type of inspection and range of requirements.

**1.10** After granting accreditation SNAS performs regularly planned surveillances over accredited inspection bodies; during accreditation certificate validity (surveillance visits and reassessment) verifies whether the inspection body permanently meets all accreditation requirements related to its accredited activities. During each surveillance is assessed compliance with the requirements relating to internal audits, management reviews and complaints and appeals.

**1.11** During surveillance, the inspection body is assessed in such a way that, using sampling procedures, all sites and all inspection items were assessed within one accreditation cycles (surveillance visits and reassessment) with regard to the type and extent of inspection requirements.

**1.12** All mentioned principles related to accreditation apply for reassessment of inspection bodies, however for reassessment information on accredited inspection bodies from previous assessments within of accreditation cycle are taken into account.

**1.13** SNAS performs accreditation extension of inspection bodies analogously to accreditation principles. Accreditation extension can concern new item of inspection, type of inspection and scope of requirements, methods and procedures of inspection within already accreditation scope or new sites. Extension of accreditation if the accredited person asks for it can be performing together with the planned surveillance. Extension activities of the new "Scope of accreditation"(e.g. certification or testing) is not an extension of accreditation of inspection body, but it is a new accreditation and it is managed by the principles required for accreditation.

**1.14** Extraordinary surveillance over accredited inspection body is performed proportionally to the incentive, flexibly, in the shortest time possible after incentive was given. In case of need SNAS which initiated the surveillance can the incentive scope flexibly extend.

**1.15** Where it is relevant, SNAS requires the participation of inspection bodies in appropriate proficiency testing, if it is available and justified by the inclusion of testing activities that directly affect and determine the inspection result or when required by law or by regulators. With over one accreditation cycle inspection body must participate in at least one proficiency testing with acceptable results for each relevant item of inspection.

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Proficiency testing is not a usual and expected element in the accreditation of most types of inspections.

## 2 RELATED DOCUMENTS

ISO/IEC 17011	Conformity assessment. General requirement for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies
ISO/IEC 17020	Conformity assessment. Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection
ILAC-P4	ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Policy and Management
ILAC-P15	Guidance on the application of ISO/IEC 17020:2012
IAF/ILAC-A5	IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Application of ISO/IEC 17011
PL-10	SNAS Policy on Accreditation for Notification or Authorization Purposes
MSA-04	Procedure for the accreditation
MSA-I/01	Accreditation scope and scope specification of accreditation of Inspection Bodies
MSA-I/02	Guidance on the application of ISO/IEC 17020
MSA-I/03	Witness assessment of Inspection Bodies

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