

## **“Accreditation News” issue 59**

### **First Quarter 2012**

#### **NEW ACCREDITED BODIES**

##### **TESTING LABORATORIES**

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###### **Acoustics**

PRECOVER ACÚSTICA Y MEDIO AMBIENTE, S.L.P. - 957/LE1844  
ESTUDIO Y GESTIÓN DEL RUIDO, S.L. (Unipersonal) - 958/LE1895  
LABORATORIO DE ACÚSTICA APLICADA DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DE LEÓN - 965/LE1892  
ACÚSTICA INTEGRAL APLICADA, S.L. (DB LABORATORIO Y ESTUDIOS ACÚSTICOS)-  
966/LE1884

###### **Environmental Testing**

LABORATORIO DE SALUD PÚBLICA (MADRID SALUD) AYUNTAMIENTO DE MADRID -  
215/LE1915  
FUNDACIÓ CTM CENTRE TECNOLÒGIC - 951/LE1829  
UNIVERSIDAD DE VALENCIA. LABORATORIO DE RADIATIVIDAD AMBIENTAL - 959/LE1381  
SERVICIOS ANALÍTICOS DE LA UNIDAD SOSPROCAN DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DE CANTABRIA  
- 971/LE1777

###### **Animal Health**

LABORATORIO DE SANIDAD ANIMAL DE CÁCERES - 953/LE1864  
CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIÓN EN SANIDAD ANIMAL (CISA) - 969/LE1865

###### **Water**

TECNOLAB LABORATORIOS, S.L. - 955/LE1786  
LABORATORIO TCAL, S.L. - 956/LE1799  
AIGÜES TER LLOBREGAT, ATLL - 960/LE1768  
ASESORÍA Y CONSULTORÍA SANITARIA, S.L. - 962/LE1805  
FREELAB, S.L. - 967/LE1787  
CEDIA CENTRE DE DIAGNOSI DE L'AIGUA, S.L. - 968/LE1942

###### **Agrifood products**

LIEC AGROALIMENTARIA, S.L. - 467/LE1974  
INTERCONTROL LEVANTE, S.A. - 469/LE1725  
LABORATORIO DR. F. ECHEVARNE ANALISIS, S.A. - 511/LE1876  
LABORATORIO DE SALUD PÚBLICA DE CUENCA - 952/LE1862  
TECNOLAB LABORATORIOS, S.L. - 955/LE1803  
LABORATORIO INTERPROFESIONAL LÁCTEO DE CASTILLA-LA MANCHA (L.I.L.C.A.M.) -  
963/LE1839  
LABORATORIO INTERPROFESIONAL DE ANÁLISIS DE LA LECHE DE LA COMUNIDAD  
VALENCIANA (LICOVAL) DE LA UPV - 964/LE1755  
INSTITUTO DE MEDICINA GENÓMICA, S.L. - 972/LE1835

###### **Clinical Laboratories (UNE-EN ISO 15189)**

CONSORCIO HOSPITAL GENERAL UNIVERSITARIO DE VALENCIA. Centre for Biomedical  
Diagnosis. Microbiology Service - 633/LE1866  
HOSPITAL COMARCAL DE MONFORTE. (SERVIZO GALEGO DE SAUDE). Emergency  
Laboratory - 954/LE1883  
HOSPITAL COMARCAL VALLE DE LOS PEDROCHES. (SERVICIO ANDALUZ DE SALUD).  
Emergency Laboratory of North Cordoba health - 961/LE1885  
HOSPITAL CLÍNICO UNIVERSITARIO DE SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA - 970/LE1934

**Vehicles and Components**

LABORATORIO DE AUTOMÓVILES DE LA ETS DE INGENIEROS INDUSTRIALES DE VIGO (CIMALab) - 949/LE1681

**Precious Metals**

ENSAYOS Y CONTRASTE DE METALES PRECIOSOS DE ANDALUCÍA, S.L. (Unipersonal) - 950/LE1902

**Fuels**

ASOCIACIÓN DE INVESTIGACIÓN DE LAS INDUSTRIAS CERAMICAS. (AICE) INSTITUTO DE TECNOLOGIA CERAMICA (ITC) - 2/LE1910

**INSPECTION BODIES**

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**Legionella Risk Facilities**

ECA, ENTIDAD COLABORADORA DE LA ADMINISTRACIÓN, S.A. (Unipersonal) - 1/EI436

**Environmental Inspection**

ENMACOSA, S.A. - 70/EI443

**Vehicle Reform Technical Service**

LABORATORIO DE AUTOMÓVILES DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE INGENIERÍA MECÁNICA DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DE ZARAGOZA - 252/EI451

**Road Vehicle Inspection**

INSPECCIÓN TÉCNICA DE VEHÍCULOS TRES AGUAS, S.L. - 57/EI/ITV070  
ITV TORRIJOS, S.L. - 58/EI/ITV065

**PRODUCT CERTIFICATION**

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**References of Quality Service. Ports.**

BUREAU VERITAS CERTIFICATION, S. A. - 18/C-PR171

**Appropriateness of Response to Voltage Dips in Wind Power and Photovoltaic Installations**

SGS TECNOS, S.A. (Unipersonal) - 87/C-PR244

**Protected Designations of Origin and Protected Geographical Indications**

CONSEJO REGULADOR DE LA D.O. "KAKI RIBERA DEL XÚQUER" – 88/C-PR195  
CONSEJO REGULADOR DE LA I. G.P." TERNERA GALLEGA" – 89/C-PR154  
CONSEJO REGULADOR DE LA I.G.P. "CORDERO DE EXTREMADURA" - 90/C-PR170  
CONSEJO REGULADOR DE LA I.G.P. "CITRICOS VALENCIANOS" - 91/C-PR191  
CONSEJO REGULADOR DE LA D.O. "PLA I LEVANT" - 92/C-PR186  
CONSEJO REGULADOR DE LA D.O. "VALENCIA" - 94/C-PR214  
CONSELLO REGULADOR DA I. G.P. "PATACA DE GALICIA" – 95/C-PR212

**Good Practices in Livestock Facilities**

UNIDAD DE INSPECCIÓN Y CERTIFICACIÓN, S.L. (Unipersonal) - 73/C-PR258

**Elements for Organic Farming**

INTERECO - 93/C-PR219

## **MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CERTIFICATION**

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### **Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series**

BUREAU VERITAS CERTIFICATION, S. A. - 4/C-SG029

SGS ICS IBERICA, S.A. - 5/C-SG049

### **PROFICIENCY TESTING PROVIDERS**

ASOCIACIÓN ESPAÑOLA PARA LA CALIDAD ACÚSTICA – AECOR - 5/PPI009

GABINETE DE SERVICIOS PARA LA CALIDAD, S.A.L. - 6/PPI011

## **CONTROL BODIES**

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### **Mining**

ABSIA, S.L. - OC-I/239

MARSAN INGENIEROS, S.L. (Unipersonal) - OC-I/251

### **Legal Metrology**

LABORATORIO METROLOGICO DE MURCIA, S.L. - OC-I/199

INSTITUTO DE SEGURIDAD DE LOS VEHICULOS AUTOMOVILES "DUQUE DE SANTOMAURO" - OC-I/224

INSPECCIÓN TÉCNICA DE VEHÍCULOS TRES AGUAS, S.L. - OC-I/253

## **GREENHOUSE GASES EMISSIONS VERIFIERS**

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LGAI TECHNOLOGICAL CENTER, S.A. - 9/VCDE013

## **(Page 5) Inside ENAC**

## **REPRESENTATIVE AND GOVERNING BODIES OF THE ASSOCIATION**

### **Renewal of the Steering Board**

On the 1st of March the election process among the representatives of the General Assembly was held for the renewal of the Board of Directors.

The new Board was inaugurated on the 14th of March, and at this same meeting the members of the Standing Committee and the Vice-Chairman and Secretary were elected. As a result, Angel Arce and Eugenio Salinero have been elected to the positions of Vice President and Secretary of ENAC respectively.

### **Antonio Muñoz, appointed chairman of ENAC**

On the 22nd of February, the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism appointed Mr. Antonio Muñoz as Chairman.

With this appointment Antonio Muñoz returns as Chairman of the company, a responsibility that he has been held on two previous occasions.

### **Standing Committee**

- Chairman: Mr. Antonio Muñoz (Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism)
- Vice-Chairman: Mr. Ángel Arce (Labein Foundation)
- Secretary: Mr. Eugenio Salinero (F212)

- Ms. Ana Bravo (Ministry of Agricultura, Food and the Environment)
- Ms. Teresa Zapatero Martínez (Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness)
- Mr. José Rodríguez Herrerías (Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism)
- Mr. Ramón Congost Vallés (AIDICO)
- Mr. Avelino Brito Marquina (AENOR)
- Mr. José Luis Sánchez Álvarez-Campana (CEIS)

## Composition of the Board of Directors

### MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND THE ENVIRONMENT

General Secretariat of Food and Agriculture. Department of Food Industry. General division of Control and Food Laboratories.

### MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, ENERGY AND TOURISM

Sub-directorate General of Industrial Quality and Safety

### MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Directorate General of Environmental Quality and Assessment - General Division of Air Quality and Industrial Environment.

### MINISTRY OF DEFENSE

Directorate General of Weaponry and Equipment

### MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND COMPETITIVENESS

Sub-directorate General Inspection and Certification Technical Assistance Foreign Trade

### MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, ENERGY AND TOURISM

Secretary of State for Telecommunications and the information society

### GENERALITAT DE CATALUNYA

Health Department – General Management of Health Care resources

### AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY OF LA RIOJA

Department of Industry, Innovation and Employment

### AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY

Department of Industry, Innovation, Trade and Tourism – Administration Management and Industrial safety

### JUNTA OF CASTILE-LA MANCHA

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

AESAN: Spanish Agency of Food Safety and Nutrition

FELAB: Association of Testing, Calibration and Analysis Bodies

INESCOP: Research Association of Footwear and Related Industries.

AIDICO: Association of Investigation of the Construction Industry – Technology Institute of Construction

AENOR: Spanish Association for Standardization and Certification

AUDIOTEC INGENIERÍA ACÚSTICA, S.A.

CEIS: Innovation and Testing Centre Services

CONFEDERATION OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES

EADS CONSTRUCCIONES AERONÁUTICAS, S.A. (Unipersonal)

TECNALIA RESEARCH INNOVATION FOUNDATION

FOUNDATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION

FERROVIAL, S.A.

GRUPO SGS ESPAÑA

IMPIVA

INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE TECNICA

AEROESPACIAL "ESTEBAN TERRADAS" (INTA)

LABAQUA, S.A.

LGAI TECHNOLOGICAL CENTER, S.A.

STATE PORT AUTHORITY

## **ACCREDITATION IN PERSONAL CERTIFICATION.** **ENDORSED COMPETENCE. INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION**

**Personal certification is an activity which is intended to provide confidence in the competence of professionals to carry out certain activities, "competence" is understood in this context as *the set of required knowledge, experience and skills and demonstrated ability to effectively develop the tasks assigned.***

It is common that companies have their management systems or their products and services certified. Certification is a proven tool that contributes to the improvement of the basic processes of the company, such as products and services and also to strengthen customer confidence. To achieve this, it is imperative that the certification body providing the service is technically competent, independent and reliable. Here is where accreditation plays a key role.

In some professional activities, the question is slightly different; can the good work of a professional in a particular area be recognized through an independent evaluation, and does it make sense?

A possible answer came up at the international level with the concept of Personal Certification in accordance with the UNE-EN ISOIEC 17024 standard, as well as other certification schemes involving formal recognition by an independent third party, in compliance with a set of requirements on the part, in this case, of people.

The personal certification goes beyond the mere formal recognition of knowledge, skills or abilities that a person possesses and is particularly designed to assess their ability to practically apply them.

Therefore, personal certification is based on the demonstration of a combination of formal knowledge and practical experience, which guarantees the qualification and ability of the professional who performs, or is responsible for, certain activities.

### **International situation**

While the degree of development of this activity varies in different countries, in recent years, it has been diversifying and increasing, especially in countries like the USA, the United Kingdom, France, Holland or Germany, where the accreditation bodies currently rely on a wide range of accredited certification services.

These countries have personal certification schemes in different fields such as health and social services, installations, construction, information technology, food, transport, insurance and finance.

Different professional activities linked to the development of projects of building accessibility, energy efficiency, railway engineering and photovoltaics, information security, food safety management, forestry, atmospheric emissions control, radiation protection, logistics, advice on heritage, finance and insurance management, or different clinical diagnostic techniques, all rely on accredited personal certification schemes.

In Europe, this activity is guaranteed by the Multilateral Agreement of Recognition, MLA, endorsed in the heart of the EA. Thanks to this agreement, the professional skills covered by an accredited certification are recognized in the 27 signatory countries of the MLA.

In Spain, the activity is diversifying, and the experience of these countries suggests that these measures should still be continued so that public administrations, professional colleges or employers know in more detail about the benefits of this type of conformity assessment.

Currently there are schemes of personal certification accredited in the following fields:

- Non-destructive Test Operators.
- Welders and Inspectors of welded constructions and metallic material.
- Gas industry Technicians (welders, installers, start-up and adjustment specialists)
- Quality management and environmental management professionals.
- Professionals in the management and administration of projects (civil engineering, R+D+i, software, etc...).

*Different professional activities linked to the development of projects, engineering, information security, food safety, radiation protection, logistics, advice on heritage, finance and insurance management, or different clinical diagnostic techniques, have accredited personal certification schemes.*

*Thanks to the MLA of the EA, 27 countries recognize the professional skills covered by the accredited personal certification.*

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## **(Page 7) Report**

### **SEDIGAS EXPANDS ITS ACCREDITATION**

The new activities cover five professional categories in two fields of the piped gas industry performance: the activities of gas distribution and the activities of the gas receptors located in the premises of the end-user of the gas:

#### **Activities of Distribution**

- Project Manager of Piping Distribution of Gas types A and B

#### **Activities of Reception**

- Emergency Care Technician in reception facilities and gas distribution systems.
- Household Operations Technician in the gas reception facilities.
- Inspectors of preliminary test operations and inspection of gas facilities commissioning supplied to a maximum pressure of operations less than or equal to 5 bar, as well as the conditions of location, installation and connection of gas appliances.
- Inspectors of periodic gas installations inspection supplied to a maximum pressure of operations less than or equal to 5 bar, as well as the conditions of location, installation and connection of gas appliances.

The Spanish Gas Association is a non-profit making association that brings together all enterprises, organizations and individuals engaged in the development of the piped gas industry. Since 2001, it has possessed the ENAC accreditation in the Welders of Polyethylene Types A, B and C categories.

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## **UMBILICAL CORD BLOOD BANKS. ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION**

**Spain is a global leader in the storage and therapeutic use of umbilical cord blood. The CAT Foundation carries out certification processes of these blood banks in collaboration with the National Transplant Organization.**

ENAC has granted the CAT Foundation accreditation for certification of umbilical cord blood banks.

The blood obtained from umbilical cords is rich in a type of cell; hematopoietic progenitor (or hematopoietic stem cells), from which all blood cells are formed.

In normal situations, the blood cells are formed from bone marrow hematopoietic progenitors, but in certain situations (because of hematological diseases such as leukaemia, certain congenital diseases or cancer, chemotherapy or radiation treatment) the damaged bone marrow stops producing blood cells and hematopoietic progenitor transplantation may be the only alternative treatment.

In these cases, the hematopoietic progenitors can be obtained from both the bone marrow and the umbilical cord blood. But the umbilical cord blood presents a number of advantages over bone marrow transplantation: the absence of risk to the donor, the immediate availability of the cells, the slight need of compatibility between the donor and the recipient of the histocompatibility molecules and the low risk of graft versus host disease.

### **Cord blood banks**

To be able to treat patients who may require this treatment, it is necessary to have a large number of units of cord blood of unrelated people kept in appropriate conditions. This is carried out in specialized centres; **umbilical cord blood banks** that are responsible for obtaining, processing, storage and distribution.

Information on the units of stored cord blood characteristics is available for use in the treatment of patients who require it. This is carried out through the Spanish Bone Marrow Donor Registry (REDMO) which in turn sends the data to international registries such as BMDW, EMBDIS and NMDP. Therefore validated cord blood is available to any patient in the world who requires it.

Umbilical cord blood remains cryo-preserved for many years and the stored units which do not meet the criteria for transplantation may be used in research for future application in regenerative medicine.

Of the 7 umbilical cord blood banks in Spain which store more than 50,000 units of umbilical cord blood, four have the CAT certificate representing 87% of the units of cord in the Spanish inventory.

***The network of cord blood banks of the National Plan of Umbilical Cord Blood Banks has more than 50,000 units of cord blood.***

***The CAT Foundation has been accredited since November 2010, for the certification of blood transfusion centres and services.***

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**Sectors**

## **STUDIES OF HISTOCOMPATIBILITY FOR TRANSPLANTS**

**The Immunology laboratory of the Hospital Clínico Universitario of Santiago de Compostela, is the first laboratory to have been accredited by ENAC for studies of histocompatibility in kidney and bone marrow transplants.**

In human medicine, transplantation is a common practice now and it is usual to do these transplants between genetically different individuals. These genetic differences mean that the recipient starts an immune rejection response directed against the foreign structures present in the cells of the organ or donor tissue.

To avoid risks arising from this situation, studies of donor and recipient compatibility are carried out. In the study, in addition to verifying the blood group compatibility, the human leukocyte antigens (HLA) are assessed, which are a type of protein located on the surface of almost every cell of the human body especially, and in great quantity, on the surface of white blood cells which help the immune system to differentiate its own tissue from that of foreign tissue.

Every person has a number of relatively unique HLA antigens which he inherits from his parents. Therefore, half of his HLA antigens are compatible with half of the HLA antigens of his mother and the other half compatible with half of those of his father.

### **Analysis of histocompatibility**

The analysis of histocompatibility carried out in each case depends on the degree of family relationship or immunological similarity between donor and recipient and also on the transplant organ or tissue. In kidney transplants, histocompatibility studies are fundamental, but bone marrow cases produce the greatest immunological complexity.

These analyses include the classification of HLA in donor and recipient methods (techniques) of molecular biology (PCR-SSP, PCR-SSO).

In kidney transplants, the possible presence in the receptor antibodies anti-HLA serum is also evaluated. This cross cytotoxicity test is performed to avoid immediate loss of grafting because of immune rejection.

After the kidney transplant, post-transplant cytotoxic antibodies are tracked in order to monitor the response to the graft.

In addition, the laboratory of the Service of Clinical Analysis of the Hospital de Santiago has been accredited for emergency biochemistry and hematology analysis and for studies of HLA antigens associated with diseases, such as HLA-B27 which is related to spondyloarthropathies, HLA-DQ, related to celiac disease and HLA-B57: 01, linked to a response to certain drugs. The Immunology Laboratory of the University Hospital Gregorio Marañón has also been accredited for these latest tests since 2009.

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## **PRIVATE SECURITY, NEWLY-ACCREDITED SERVICES**

On the 1st of February, 2011 the Ministry of the Interior approved the orders INT3162011; on operation of the alarm systems in the field of private security, and INT3172011; on private security measures.

Both establish compulsory accreditation for the bodies that assess the conformity of products related to the private security.

### **Alarm systems operations**

The INT3162011 order, establishes that any element or device which forms part of an alarm system which has been recognized by private security regulations must have the relevant assessments carried out by accredited bodies.

This has motivated accredited organizations to expand their scope to provide this new service.

Therefore, several accredited laboratories have been including the testing of intrusion and robbery alarm systems in their range of accreditation:

- Alter Technology TÜV NORD, S.A., has expanded its accreditations to take on a wider range of functional, electrical and environmental testing of electromagnetic compatibility.
- The Institute of Applications of Information Technologies and Advanced Communications Association ITACA, which did immunity testing in accordance with EN 50130-4 has incorporated environmental tests into their accredited services.

Last February LGAI Technological Centre S.A. was accredited for the certification of intrusion and robbery alarm systems.

### **Private Security Measures**

The INT3172011 order regulates the conformity assessment of various products relating to private security, such as vaults, safes and cash dispensers, used in banks, pharmacies, jewellers, etc.

In this order of July 2011, AENOR obtained accreditation for the certification of safes, doors and vaults, an activity which in Spain relies on the LGAI laboratory Technological Centre S.A. accredited for carrying out these tests.

In addition, the Tecnia Research Innovation Foundation has recently been accredited for carrying out necessary tests to classify and determine the levels of burglar resistant door security in accordance with UNE-EN 1627.

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**Sectors**

## **CONSTRUCTION QUALITY CONTROL**

### **First Certification of Laboratories for Test Groups**

Last January the first accreditation for testing of construction quality control was granted according to the accreditation program established in the NT-54 of the CYE CONTROL Y ESTUDIOS, S.L laboratory.

Since 2001, the CYE CONTROL Y ESTUDIOS, S.L., laboratory has had accreditation relating to tests of ballast, mortar and concrete and steel for concrete. Since the publication of the NT-54 it has kept contact with ENAC to adapt its accreditations to include new tests for compliance with the established groups in the aforementioned article.

Finally the laboratory opted to focus its accreditation on all sectors of the NT-54; "Geotechnics, building and civil engineering". In this way, it has unified the two expedients that previously had been one relative to only construction quality control which includes tests of the groups: "Geotechnical laboratory tests", "Concrete", "Welded steel frames for reinforced concrete", "Laboratory tests - land movement and granular materials", "Laboratory tests - bituminous paving" and "Field tests - bituminous paving."

As a result of this change in the accreditation, the CYE CONTROL Y ESTUDIOS S.L laboratory currently has the most extensive list of accredited UNE-EN 12697 series tests of soils and bituminous mixtures.

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## **INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION OF PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS**

**With these new accreditations, accredited services are now offered in all the required conformity assessment categories of the sector: testing, certification and inspection.**

The different facilities and technologies that use renewable energy as primary energy sources must meet conditions that enable them to resist tension gaps in the network without disconnecting and prevent tripping disconnections from affecting the continuity of the electricity supply.

ENAC has recently granted the first accreditations for the certification activities and the initial and periodic inspection required in the procedure of operation P.O. 12.3. "Response requirements to tension gaps in the Special Regime production facilities", which is applicable to photovoltaic facilities that form a part of groups that exceed 2 MW power.

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## **FIRST ACCREDITATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEW ISO 17021**

**ENAC has updated the first accreditations of the management systems certification in regards the new edition of the UNE EN ISOIEC 17021 2011 standard.**

On the 3rd of February 2012, ENAC's Certification Committee agreed to the update of the accreditations of IVAC-Institute of Certification, S.L. as well as Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance LTD. (Spain Operations) for the certification of management systems, the ISOIEC 17021: 2011 standard.

The new version of the ISOIEC 17021 standard - Conformity Assessment - Requirements for assessment bodies and certification of management systems - that repeals and replaces the 2006 version, was approved in February 2011. ENAC prepared a Plan to regulate the Transition from the accreditation of management certification bodies to the new criteria for accreditation. The aim of the Plan is to complete the process within a period of two years before the 1st of February 2013.

In the evaluations that have been carried out since September 2011; in addition to the continuous compliance with accreditation requirements, ENAC has been reviewing the degree of compliance with the new standard and so is able to give additional input to the accredited certifiers in order to control the progress of the schedules included in their corresponding transition plans. As the certification bodies demonstrate compliance to the new accreditation criteria, the reference of their accreditation is updated.

The ISOIEC 17021: 2011 standard; applicable to organizations that certify all kinds of management systems, ensures that the certification organizations provide their services in a competent, consistent and impartial manner thereby facilitating their own recognition and the acceptance of their certifications at national and international levels.

This revision of the standard contains the text full of the previous version ISOIEC 17021: 2006, and includes new requirements basically focused on sections of professional competence and the auditing process. Also new requirements have been added to increase the value of the audit and third party certification.

***As the certification bodies demonstrate compliance to the new accreditation criteria, the reference of your accreditation is updated.***

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## **NEWLY-ACCREDITED PROFICIENCY TESTING SERVICES**

ENAC has granted accreditation to the company Gabinete de Servicios para la Calidad, S.A.L. as a proficiency testing program software provider for the organization of proficiency tests in food testing analysis.

This new accreditation means there are now 5 providers of proficiency testing services accredited in both calibration and testing in different fields.

Calibration	Instituto Nacional de Técnica Aeroespacial "Esteban Terradas".
Water	Ielab Calicad, S.L. Gabinete de Servicios para la Calidad, S.A.L.
Mud, soil and sampling media	Ielab Calidad, S.L.
Food	Gabinete de Servicios para la Calidad, S.A.L.
Acoustics	Teleacustik Ingenieros S.L Asociación española para la Calidad Acústica, AECOR

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## **ENAC, ALLIED TO THE EXPORT COMPANY**

**The accreditation of ENAC is a support for the internationalization of Spanish companies.**

**In the current economic climate, one of the main techniques, if not the main one; for both Spanish companies and also the national economy, is the opening up of markets abroad. The international recognition of services accredited by ENAC makes access to these markets much easier.**

Opening up the way to international markets is often a challenge; facing local competition and customs taxes, in addition to technical barriers which mean products must meet a number of requirements generally associated with security features, protection of the environment or quality, known as Technical Barriers to Trade.

These obstacles "are, the second in order of importance, assuming nearly 28% of the total number of obstacles identified by Spanish companies. These include those related to the lack of recognition of certificates or approvals obtained in Spain, and the unwritten or voluntary technical impositions of the market."(Source: Proyecto Línea Abierta for the identification of problems of Spanish companies in the European single market.) (Secretary of State for Foreign Trade ICEX, CEOE).

And if this is the situation within the European Union, it is clear that the problem can be significantly higher when it comes to dealing with third countries.

Accreditation and Accreditation Agencies are currently relied on in order to overcome and minimize these barriers practiced in all the developed countries.

The growing international recognition of accredited services takes place through various mechanisms, although all of them are based on a common feature: the prestige and competence demonstrated on different levels by ENAC internationally.

\* The Mutual Recognition Agreements (MLA) is currently signed by more than 60 countries, including all of the EU and EFTA. USA, Canada, Japan, China, Australia, Brazil, India, etc have also signed these agreements.

\* Recognition by the authorities, who require the competition of accredited assessors in a number of areas and activities in different economic sectors - industry, energy, agriculture and animal husbandry, transport, construction...- all subject to regulation.

\* Participation of the accredited services in numerous voluntary conformity assessment schemes, set up for big purchasers or purchase associations, business organizations or consumers.

***The Dossier which ENAC has produced is an informative document which explains the ability of accreditation to make access to international markets easier.***

### **An ally of export companies. Information pack.**

Conscious of the importance of the internationalization of activities for organizations, agencies and companies, ENAC has prepared a complete Dossier which can be accessed online through [www.enac.es](http://www.enac.es) which has more detailed information on the international dimension of accreditation and how it can help companies access foreign markets.

The document contains a wide-range of information on technical barriers to trade and the mechanisms for international acceptance of accredited certificates and reports to help smooth the internationalization of Spanish companies.

To access more information: [www.enac.es](http://www.enac.es)

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**Highlights**

**SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL DELEGATIONS VISITED ENAC**

During the first quarter of the year, representatives of accreditation bodies in China, Ecuador and Morocco met with ENAC.

**The Chinese Delegation**

On the 22nd of February, a delegation of the Chinese accreditation body (China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment - CNAS-) visited ENAC in order to understand the way the organization and the management of the accreditation system worked.

**The Moroccan Standardization Institute**

On the 2nd of March a delegation from the Moroccan Institute of standardisation, IMANOR, under the Moroccan Ministry of Commerce, Industry and the New Technologies, met with several representatives of ENAC. They showed special interest in understanding all the aspects relating to how a notified body worked and its performance, as well as the process and requirements of notifying an agency.

**Collaboration with Ecuador**

ENAC, continuing with the policy defined in its statutes of active support to Latin American countries, for the development of their conformity assessment infrastructure, will receive a visit by several members of the Ecuadorian accreditation body (OAE).

From March to June, several of its members will visit ENAC with the purpose of understanding various aspects of the accreditation system and evaluation process in depth and will have the opportunity to participate as observers during several on-site audits scheduled for these dates.

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**Forthcoming events**

**NATIONAL MEETINGS**

**CONGRESS OF ORIGIN SPAIN FOR THE  
PROTECTED DESIGNATIONS OF ORIGIN  
AND PROTECTED GEOGRAPHICAL  
INDICATIONS**

24th May 2012 in Cáceres  
ENAC representative: E. Gredilla

**FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON  
FOOD SAFETY. ACOFESAL 2012**

28th and 29th of June 2012 in Madrid  
Representative of ENAC: E. Gredilla

**INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS**

**EA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

22nd of May 2012 in Madrid  
ENAC representative: I. Pina

**EA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

23rd and 24th of May 2012 in Madrid  
ENAC representatives: B. Rivera and I. Pina

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### **IAF SURVEY ON ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION. A VALUABLE TOOL FOR COMPANIES**

**83% of over 4000 companies who participated in the study consider that the accredited certification adds value.**

The IAF, International Accreditation Forum, has conducted a survey in which companies from 40 countries have participated. Its aim was to obtain information about the value of accredited certification.

Therefore, 90% of more than 4,000 companies who participated in the study opted for an accredited certification body, and 2 out of 3 companies consider that accreditation is important for its business activity.

The survey reaffirms that accredited services provide value and generate benefits for certified companies as, beyond contributing to the internal improvement, they respond to the requirements of their clients and ease compliance to legal requirements. 50% of the participants experienced an increase in sales as a direct result of such certification.

For further information, please consult the IAF web site: [www.iaf.nu](http://www.iaf.nu)

### **e-medida: THE NEW SPANISH MAGAZINE ON METROLOGY**

The first issue of this new magazine e-medida is now available, it is a bi-annual publication edited by the Spanish Metrology Centre CEM in collaboration with the Spanish Association of Quality AEC, and is aimed at spreading and promoting knowledge of metrology in its broader spectrum.

To learn about this new magazine [e-medida.com](http://e-medida.com), [e-medida.es](http://e-medida.es) o [e-medida.org](http://e-medida.org)

