

Certification Agreement

Introduction

This Certification Agreement ("Agreement") is made between Assurco Ltd ("Certification Body") and [The Client]. This Agreement outlines the terms and conditions under which the Certification Body will provide certification services to the Client in accordance with ISO 17021-1 and ISO 17030:2021 standards.

Scope

This Agreement applies to the certification of the Client's management system against the specified standards. The scope of certification includes the assessment, audit, and certification of the Client's management system.

Definitions

- **Certification Body:** The organization providing certification services.
- **Client:** The organization seeking certification.
- **Certification Marks:** Marks indicating that the Client's management system meets the specified standards.

General Requirements

The Certification Body and the Client agree to comply with the requirements of ISO 17021-1 and ISO 17030:2021. The Certification Body will ensure that its certification activities are impartial, competent, and consistent with the standards.

Certification Process

1. **Application:** The Client submits an application for certification.
2. **Audit Planning:** The Certification Body plans and schedules the audit.
3. **Initial Audit:** The Certification Body conducts an initial audit of the Client's management system.
4. **Certification Decision:** The Certification Body reviews the audit findings and makes a certification decision.
5. **Surveillance Audits:** The Certification Body conducts periodic surveillance audits to ensure ongoing compliance.
6. **Re-certification:** The Certification Body conducts re-certification audits at specified intervals.

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Use of Certification Marks

The Client agrees to use the certification marks in accordance with ISO 17030:2021. The Certification Body grants the Client the right to use the certification marks on its products, services, and promotional materials, subject to the following conditions:

- The certification marks must be used in a manner that does not mislead or deceive.
- The certification marks must be used only in relation to the certified management system.
- The Certification Body reserves the right to withdraw the right to use the certification marks if the Client fails to comply with the terms of this Agreement.

Read more: <https://www.assurco.com/knowledge-base/use-of-assurco-certification-marks/>

Responsibilities of the Certification Body

The Certification Body agrees to:

- Conduct audits and assessments in an impartial and competent manner.
- Provide the Client with audit reports and certification decisions.
- Maintain confidentiality of the Client's information.
- Manage conflicts of interest and ensure impartiality.

Responsibilities of the Client

The Client agrees to:

- Provide the Certification Body with access to all necessary information and facilities.
- Comply with the requirements of the specified standards.
- Use the certification marks in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
- Inform the Certification Body of any changes that may affect the certification.

Confidentiality

The Certification Body and the Client agree to maintain the confidentiality of all information exchanged during the certification process. This includes audit reports, certification decisions, and any other sensitive information.

Read more: <https://www.assurco.com/knowledge-base/confidentiality/>

Impartiality

The Certification Body will ensure that its certification activities are free from any conflicts of interest. The Certification Body will manage any potential threats to impartiality, including financial incentives, self-review, and familiarity.

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Read More: <https://www.assurco.com/knowledge-base/impartiality/>

Liability and Financing

The Certification Body and the Client agree to the following terms regarding liability and financing:

- The Certification Body will not be liable for any damages resulting from the Client's use of the certification marks.
- The Client agrees to pay the Certification Body for the certification services provided.

Termination and Withdrawal of Certification

The Certification Body reserves the right to terminate or withdraw the certification if the Client fails to comply with the terms of this Agreement. The Client may also terminate the Agreement by providing written notice to the Certification Body.

Dispute Resolution

Any disputes arising from this Agreement will be resolved through negotiation between the parties. If the dispute cannot be resolved through negotiation, it will be referred to arbitration in accordance with the rules of the [Arbitration Institution].

Governing Law

This Agreement will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of England.