



SNAS

SLOVENSKÁ NÁRODNÁ AKREDITAČNÁ SLUŽBA

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Policy

PL-59

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE OF SNAS
IN ASSESSMENT OF PROFICIENCY TESTING
PROVIDER ACCORDING TO THE REQUIREMENTS
OF THE STANDARD ISO/IEC 17043: 2023**

Approved by: **Ing. Štefan Král, PhD.**
Director

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SCOPE:

This regulation determines the policy and procedure of SNAS when transitioning to the accreditation of proficiency testing providers according to the requirements of the revised ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard published in May 2023.

Elaborated by: **Ing. Stanislav Mikušinec**

Date of elaboration: **09.09.2023**

Reviewed by: **RNDr. Livia Kijovská, PhD.**

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1 POLICY

SNAS assesses the competence of proficiency testing (PT) providers, if they request it, according to the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17043 standard.

In May 2023, a revised version of the ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard was published, bringing a more comprehensive revision compared to its previous version, ISO/IEC 17043: 2010. The standard is applicable to all types of Proficiency testing providers.

SNAS, in accordance with the resolution adopted at the ILAC General Assembly: "Resolution GA 26.08" dated 15.11.2022 regarding the transition period for the implementation of the new standard and the assessment of compliance with its requirements for proficiency testing providers, recommended a three-year transition period for the implementation of the revised standard from its editions. The deadline for the end of the transitional period is set at **31.05.2026**. By this deadline, all accredited PT providers must meet the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard, which SNAS will check during planned or unplanned assessments and, in case of their fulfilment, grant accreditation with a reference to meeting the new version of the standard. In the event of a change in the date of the transition period by ILAC, SNAS reserves the right to modify the dates specified in this policy.

2 ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE AND DEADLINES

Applications for accreditation, reaccreditation and extension according to the ISO/IEC 17043: 2010 standard will be accepted by SNAS **no later than 30.04.2024**. (From May 1. 2024, SNAS only accepts requests for accreditation, reaccreditation and extension according to the ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard).

SNAS will accept applications for the granting of accreditation, applications for re-accreditation or applications for extension of PT according to the standard, **at the earliest from 01.05.2024**.

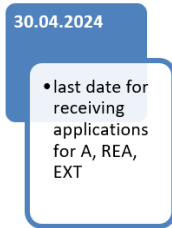
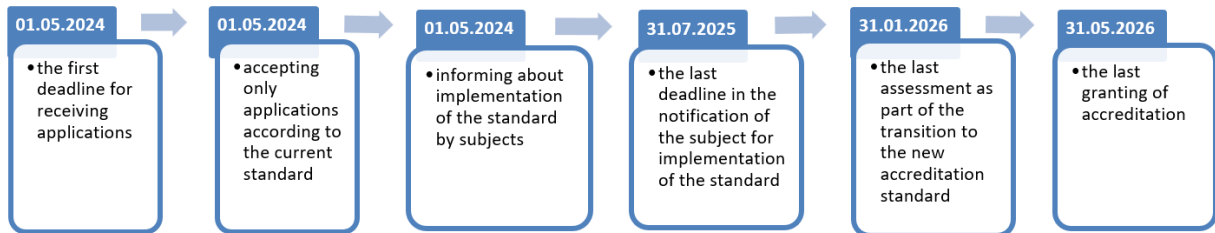
Accredited PT providers meeting the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17043: 2010 standard shall notify SNAS in writing by **01.05.2024 at the latest**, whether they have implemented the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard in their management system, or by what date they will implement these requirements, but this deadline **may not exceed 31.07.2025**. SNAS, during the planned assessments, will check the fulfilment of the requirements of the standard. PT organizers can request an assessment of the fulfilment of the requirements of ISO/IEC 17043: 2023, even outside of the planned assessments, which SNAS will carry out in the form of an extraordinary assessment. All assessments on site, remotely, or in a combined form with the aim of verifying the fulfilment of requirements will be carried out **by 31.01.2026 at the latest**.

Accredited PT providers according to the ISO/IEC 17043: 2010 standard shall demonstrate compliance with all requirements of the ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard **by 31.03.2026**, and SNAS will grant accreditation to these PT providers **by 31.05.2026 at the latest** with a decision and accreditation certificate, in which it will be listed reference to meeting the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard (the period of validity of the accreditation will remain).

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For the implementation of the requirements of the updated version of the ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard, a sufficiently long period of time is set. Since the ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard also includes unchanged or reformulated requirements of the previous version of the standard published in 2010, the assessment findings will be classified in accordance with MSA–04. Disagreements must be eliminated within the period specified in Act No. 53/2023 Coll. on the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies and on the amendment of certain laws.

ISO/IEC 17043: 2010:**ISO/IEC 17043: 2023:****3 RELATED DOCUMENTATION**

- ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 Conformity assessment — General requirements for the competence of proficiency testing providers
- ISO/IEC 17011 Conformity assessment - Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies.
- MSA–04 Accreditation procedure
- Act No. 53/2023 Z. z. Act on Accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies

4 ANNEXES

Annex 1 Plan of the implementation of the ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard into the practice of assessing SNAS performed by PT providers.

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Annex 1

**Implementation plan of the ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard into assessment practice
performed by SNAS at PT providers.**

No.	Phase	Term
1	Analysis of the requirements of ISO/IEC 17043: 2023	June - August 2023
2	Discussion within the SNAS on the interpretation of the requirements of the ISO standard ISO/IEC 17043: 2023	September - October 2023
3	Standard harmonization	European Commission
4	EA training on ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 requirements	February 2024 (date determined by EA)
5	Creation of the Working Group for the implementation of ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 into SNAS practice; Training for SNAS workers	January/February 2024
6	Update of the SNAS documentation, including control questions for assessing compliance with the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard	February- April 2024
7	Improvement training of VP/ P/E SNAS aimed at interpreting the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard and the updated SNAS documentation, informing the VP and P about the training outputs (if necessary)	May 2024
8	Information in the accreditation board about the provision of services according to the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 standard	May/June 2024
9	Informative seminar for PT providers accredited by SNAS	May 2023 – information about the release of a new standard, May 2024 – Slovak, English
10	Start of accepting applications for accreditation according to ISO/IEC 17043: 2023	May 2024

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