



REPORT ON IPC FOR 2019 (Presented 2020)

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of activities undertaken at the direction of the IPC Board of Directors (BoD) during the 12 month period to December 2019.
- 1.2 IPC is working towards responding to the expectations of its stakeholders, in particular to reflect the requirements of the international standard ISO/IEC 17024 in the IPC MLA criteria and in extending IPC schemes. It is also recognised that IPC must be effectively represented at a range of international forums to ensure that the views of members are considered when new Management Systems are under development.
- 1.3 IPC has renewed its Association Membership of IAF
- 1.4 In addition, IPC is represented to the following technical groups and committees:
 - ISO-TC176-SC2
 - ISO-CASCO
 - ISO/TC 176/SC 2/TG 5
 - ISO-TMB JTCG-TF 14
 - ISO/TC 34/SC 17
- 1.5 IPC is working in updating the IAF endorsed IPC Management System Auditors Certification Scheme during 2019. Submission of revised version to IAF is expected by mid-2020.
- 1.6 The mission of IPC – ‘to provide recognition to individuals who, having demonstrated competence to IPC approved schemes, can improve the performance of organisations’ has been reflected in the activities undertaken by IPC during the past year.
- 1.7 IPC Objectives were updated as per clause 2.1 below.

2. Business Planning

- 2.1 The Plenary and Annual IPC General Meetings were held at Seoul, October 28-29, 2019 considered the objectives and priorities for IPC. The members agreed on key objectives for 2020 as follows:

IPC strives to promote business improvement, through the recognition of individuals who, having demonstrated competence to internationally agreed industry criteria will provide an effective contribution to business performance. The organization also aims to provide assurance to industry, through the provision of consistent, competent personnel performance worldwide.

To achieve this objective, IPC operates in several ways. First, it seeks to establish internationally accepted, competency-based criteria that govern the certification of professionals and are observed by all personnel certification bodies who are members

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of the organization. These criteria now concern various personnel certification categories, based on the ISO/ IEC 17024 standard and other related IAF guidelines. In addition, IPC strives to ensure the equivalence of the certification process worldwide, by actively participating in IAF community and by achieving IAF endorsement for IPC schemes. It is through this process and the establishment of IAF regional MLAs that the organization can safeguard the uniformity of the certification awarded by each of its members.

- 2.2 The Business Planning reflected the members' agreement that IPC should continue to work in cooperation with IAF.
- 2.3 The Business Planning also confirms the intention of members identified in the previous year's decision to develop a closer relationship with ISO through consistent participation in relevant ISO technical committees (TC176, CASCO, Food etc).

3 Work related to ISO/IEC 17024

One of the main requirements to update IPC validation study to fully comply with ISO/IEC 17024 was implemented through the IPC Scheme Committee. All members are invited to participate in the:

- Process of IPC scheme revision and upgrade which is expected to be submitted to IAF by mid 2020.
- Introduce new IPC schemes in the following areas:
 - Inclusion professionals
- Update IPC schemes in the following areas:
 - Management Systems Managers
- Identification of any additional changes required to IPC schemes to reflect requirements of ISO/IEC 17024;

4 Engagement with IAF

- 4.1 The BoD has continued to support the engagement with IAF as this is perceived as vital to ensure that IPC activities gain wider recognition and acceptance.
- 4.2 Association Membership has been renewed with International Accreditation Forum (IAF).
- 4.3 Revise the International Personnel Certification Association's "*IPC Management System Auditors certification scheme*" that received endorsement as a sub-scope of the IAF MLA, during the thirty-first IAF General Assembly that took place on 28 and 30 October 2017 at Vancouver, Canada.

The IPC Management System Auditors certification scheme is the first personnel certification scheme ever to have achieved official endorsement by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF). This means more consistency and integrity for Management System Auditors certificates issued around the world.

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IPC is only working with those Accreditation Bodies that are participating in the IAF MLA for personnel certification. The IAF MLA delivers the confidence needed for market acceptance of conformity assessment outcomes. Certification of persons issued, within the scope of the IAF MLA, by a Personnel Certification Body (PCB) that is accredited by an IAF MLA signatory, ensures worldwide recognition, thereby facilitating international trade.

From now on, the IAF peer evaluation process will take into account not only generic personnel certification requirements, but also the specific IPC scheme normative documents that are now endorsed by the IAF. This creates an additional layer of assurance that ISO/IEC 17024 accredited PCB's – including in their scope the IPC Management System Auditors certification scheme - are certifying competent and knowledgeable management system auditors.

Both IAF and IPC have decided to develop and maintain a close cooperation between the two organizations to ensure harmonization in the accreditation practices performed by IAF members in the "IPC Management System Auditors" certification scheme and to cooperate in the continuous improvement of the certification scheme with the final goal of assuring the highest level of competence in the "IPC Management System Auditors" certification scheme's accredited CBs.

5 International Engagement

- 5.1 The BoD has recognised the importance of ensuring that IPC has effective input to forums and committees such as ISO TC176, ISO/CASCO, Food Management Systems and others.
- 5.2 To enable this engagement to be achieved, the BoD has agreed to continue nominating particular experts to undertake liaison roles with relevant groups.
- 5.3 The BoD has also provided suitable allocations in the budget to enable appropriate participation by the nominated liaison at functions organised by these groups.

6 Project activity

- 6.1 IPC concluded work for new personnel certification requirements during the reporting period (2019):
 - Introduce new IPC schemes in the following area:
 - Inclusion professionals
 - Update IPC schemes in the following area:
 - Management Systems Managers
 - Introduce new IPC sub-schemes in the following areas:
 - IPC Requirements for Testing and Calibration Laboratories Auditors
 - IPC Requirements for Information Security Management System Auditors
 - IPC Requirements for Building Information Modelling (BIM) Auditors

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- IPC Requirements for Sustainable Procurement Auditors

7 Future Directions for IPC

7.1 Organizational update

7.1.1 No constitution updates took place during 2019.

7.1.2 IPC BoD agreed that the Constitution and Bylaws will be amended as required in the future to reflect the changes in structure for governance and membership.

7.1.3 The organization registration and contract for management of the IPC secretariat remains to USA effective since early 2017.

7.2 Engagement:

7.2.1 IPC will continue to be effectively represented at relevant international forums for example ISO/CASCO working groups, IAF meetings and selected industry groups.

7.2.2 Members are encouraged to participate in the activities of IPC to ensure that their views are understood and represented in these forums.

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8. Membership

EXECUTIVE PARTNERS

EOQ - European Organisation for Quality (Europe)

FULL MEMBERS

ALBERK QA INTERNATIONAL TECHNIC CONTROL AND CERTIFICATION CORP. (TURKEY)

AOSH AWARDING BODY (UK)

BVQI- CEPAS S.R.L. (ITALY)

CERTIFICATION ASSOCIATION "RUSSIAN REGISTER" (RUSSIA)

CHINA CERTIFICATION & ACCREDITATION ASSOCIATION (CHINA)

DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FUR QUALITAT – DGQ (GERMANY)

GLOBAL PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION BODY – GPC (S. KOREA)

HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF CERTIFIED AUDITORS – HKICA (HONG KONG)

NORSK SERTIFISERING AS (NORWAY)

PROFESSIONAL EVALUATION AND CERTIFICATION BOARD – PECB (CANADA)

QUALITY AUSTRIA - TRAININGS, ZERTIFIZIERUNGS UND BEGUTACHTUNGS (AUSTRIAS)

STAREGISTER INTERNATIONAL INC. (USA)

TRA CERTIFICATION INT'L (USA)

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ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

AUDITOR QUALIFICATION ASSOCIATION – AQA (TURKEY)

GLOBAL NEW KAIZEN CO., LTD (VIETNAM)

INTERNATIONAL QUALITY SERVICES (IQS) (UK)

K2A MANAGEMENT CO (CAMBODIA)

QACS INTERNATIONAL (INDIA)

QUANTAS SYSTEM TRAINING AND PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION LIMITED (UK)

SIGMACERT-SQR (TURKEY)

TECHNICAL REGULATION ASSOCIATION "ASSTR" (RUSSIA)