



## PIAWAI BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

### CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT – REQUIREMENTS FOR THE OPERATION OF VARIOUS TYPES OF BODIES PERFORMING INSPECTION (ISO/IEC 17020:2012, IDT)

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The Piawai Brunei Darussalam has been endorsed by the National Standards Council and are subject to periodical review according to the current needs of the local industries and to keep abreast of progress in the industries concerned. Suggestion of amendments will be recorded and in due course brought to the notice of the committees concerned.

Any changes made hereafter are documented through the issue of either amendments or revisions.

This PBD ISO/IEC 17020:2012 was published in 2023 as a direct adoption, with no modification from ISO/IEC 17020:2012.

Attention is drawn to the fact that this Piawai Brunei Darussalam does not confer any immunity from legal obligations in any contract for compliance to the Standard.

### Amendments issued since publication

Amd No	Date of issue	Text affected

## **NATIONAL FORWARD**

The National Standards Council formed in 2009, acts as the body responsible for strengthening and monitoring standards and conformance in Brunei Darussalam. Its members encompass multiple agencies across the government, industry, academia and consumer interests and are envisaged to provide policy direction that will firm up national initiatives to create and stimulate sustainable economic growth. In this endeavor, factors such as the creation and promotion of awareness on consumer safety and interests will also form part of the main scope for the council.

The work of the council is facilitated by the National Standards Centre (NSC), under the Ministry of Finance and Economy. With the main role of strengthening the capacity and sustainability of the national standards infrastructure, the centre has been instructed to act as the body that provides a platform to complement the formation of the Council.

On matters pertaining to the development of national standards i.e. Piawai Brunei Darussalam (PBD), the management of activities are monitored through the formation of National Standards Committees. Clustered based on the scope of its industry, the work of developing PBD stands guided by international practice with the involvement of multiple agencies across the government, industry and public as a whole.

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## **Foreword**

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work. In the field of conformity assessment, the ISO Committee on conformity assessment (CASCO) is responsible for the development of International Standards and Guides.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

Draft International Standards are circulated to the national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO/IEC 17020 was prepared by the ISO Committee on conformity assessment (CASCO).

It was circulated for voting to the national bodies of both ISO and IEC, and was approved by both organizations.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 17020:1998), which has been technically revised.

## Introduction

This International Standard has been drawn up with the objective of promoting confidence in bodies performing inspection.

Inspection bodies carry out assessments on behalf of private clients, their parent organizations, or authorities, with the objective of providing information about the conformity of inspected items with regulations, standards, specifications, inspection schemes or contracts. Inspection parameters include matters of quantity, quality, safety, fitness for purpose, and continued safety compliance of installations or systems in operation. The general requirements with which these bodies are required to comply in order that their services are accepted by clients and by supervisory authorities are harmonized in this International Standard.

This International Standard covers the activities of inspection bodies whose work can include the examination of materials, products, installations, plants, processes, work procedures or services, and the determination of their conformity with requirements and the subsequent reporting of results of these activities to clients and, when required, to authorities. Inspection can concern all stages during the lifetime of these items, including the design stage. Such work normally requires the exercise of professional judgement in performing inspection, in particular when assessing conformity with general requirements.

This International Standard can be used as a requirements document for accreditation or peer assessment or other assessments.

This set of requirements can be interpreted when applied to particular sectors.

Inspection activities can overlap with testing and certification activities where these activities have common characteristics. However, an important difference is that many types of inspection involve professional judgement to determine acceptability against general requirements, for which reason the inspection body needs the necessary competence to perform the task.

Inspection can be an activity embedded in a larger process. For example, inspection can be used as a surveillance activity in a product certification scheme. Inspection can be an activity that precedes maintenance or simply provides information about the inspected item with no determination of conformity with requirements. In such cases, further interpretation might be needed.

The categorization of inspection bodies as type A, B or C is essentially a measure of their independence. Demonstrable independence of an inspection body can strengthen the confidence of the inspection body's clients with respect to the body's ability to carry out inspection work with impartiality.

In this International Standard, the following verbal forms are used:

- "shall" indicates a requirement;
- "should" indicates a recommendation;
- "may" indicates a permission;
- "can" indicates a possibility or a capability.

# Conformity assessment — Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection

## 1 Scope

This International Standard contains requirements for the competence of bodies performing inspection and for the impartiality and consistency of their inspection activities.

It applies to inspection bodies of type A, B or C, as defined in this International Standard, and it applies to any stage of inspection.

NOTE The stages of inspection include design stage, type examination, initial inspection, in-service inspection or surveillance.

## 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 17000, *Conformity assessment — Vocabulary and general principles*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO/IEC 17000 and the following apply.

### 3.1

#### **inspection**

examination of a **product** (3.2), **process** (3.3), **service** (3.4), or installation or their design and determination of its conformity with specific requirements or, on the basis of professional judgment, with general requirements

NOTE 1 Inspection of processes can include personnel, facilities, technology or methodology.

NOTE 2 Inspection procedures or schemes can restrict inspection to examination only.

NOTE 3 Adapted from ISO/IEC 17000:2004, definition 4.3.

NOTE 4 The term "item" is used in this International Standard to encompass product, process, service or installation, as appropriate.

### 3.2

#### **product**

result of a process

NOTE 1 Four generic product categories are noted in ISO 9000:2005:

- services (e.g. transport) (see definition in 3.4);
- software (e.g. computer program, dictionary);