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Standard Terminology for Accreditation and Certification[1]

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1. Scope

1.1 This terminology defines terms related to accreditation and certification. These terms are compiled from existing ASTM E36 standards and other sources to enable the development of future ASTM documents and to provide guidance on proper usage of the terms. The first edition of this standard contained terms relating to personnel certificate and certification programs and is expanded. The source document for each definition is cited when an appropriate document is available. Many definitions are the product of the committee that compiled this terminology, and as such, are the result of the collected knowledge and experience of the committee members.

1.1.1 Since accreditation and certification are being carried out by many different bodies in many fields, usage of descriptive terms can vary. There is no attempt to include all accreditation and certification terms in this terminology. Rather, this terminology contains those terms most commonly encountered in accreditation and certification programs.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*[2]

D4538 Terminology Relating to Protective Coating and Lining Work for Power Generation Facilities

E1187 Terminology Relating to Conformity Assessment (Withdrawn 2006)[3]

E1424 Test Method for Determining the Rate of Air Leakage Through Exterior Windows, Curtain Walls, and Doors Under Specified Pressure and Temperature Differences Across the Specimen

E1605 Terminology Relating to Lead in Buildings

E1732 Terminology Relating to Forensic Science

E1986 Guide for Information Access Privileges to Health Information

E2135 Terminology for Property and Asset Management

E2159 Guide for Selection, Assignment, and Monitoring of Persons To Be Utilized as Assessors/Auditors or Technical Experts

E2161 Terminology Relating to Performance Validation in Thermal Analysis and Rheology

E2659 Practice for Certificate Programs

2.2 *Other Standards:*

ASAE Certification and Accreditation Law Handbook, Second Edition, 2004[4]

ICE Basic Guide to Credentialing Terminology, 2006[5]

ISO 9000 Quality Management Systems—Fundamentals and Vocabulary, 2000[6]

ISO/IEC 17000 Conformity Assessment—Vocabulary and General Principles, 2004[6]

ISO/IEC 17011 Conformity Assessment—General Requirements for Accreditation Bodies Accrediting Conformity Assessment Bodies, 2004[6]

ISO/IEC 17024 Conformity Assessment—General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certification of Persons, 2003[6]

ISO/IEC 17050-1 Conformity Assessment—Supplier's Declaration of Conformity—Part 1: General Requirements, 2004[6]

3. Definitions

access/access to a system or scheme, *n*—opportunity for an applicant to obtain conformity assessment under the rules of the system or scheme. **ISO/IEC 17000**

accommodation, *n*—a reasonable modification in an assessment instrument or its administration made to compensate for the effects of a qualified disability without altering the purpose of the assessment instrument. **ISO/IEC 17000 and ICE**

[1] This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E36 on Accreditation & Certification and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E36.95 on Terminology.

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[2] For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

[3] The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

[4] Available from American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), 1575 I St. NW, Washington, DC 20005, http://www.asaecenter.org.

[5] Available from Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE), 2025 M Street, N.W. Suite 800 Washington, DC 20036, http://www.credentialingexcellence.org.

[6] Available from International Organization for Standardization (ISO), 1, ch. de la Voie-Creuse, Case postale 56, CH-1211, Geneva 20, Switzerland, http://www.iso.ch.

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