

Implementing ISO/IEC 17025:2024 Second Edition: The Ultimate Guide for Achieving Laboratory Accreditation

ISO/IEC 17025:2024 is the second edition of the international standard for laboratory accreditation. It was published on March 1, 2024, and replaces the previous edition, ISO/IEC 17025:2017. The new edition includes a number of significant changes, which are intended to improve the effectiveness of the standard and to make it more relevant to the needs of modern laboratories.

This article will provide you with an in-depth understanding of ISO/IEC 17025:2024, its key changes, and how to effectively implement it within your laboratory to achieve accreditation.

ISO/IEC 17025:2024 is an international standard that specifies the requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories. It is based on the principles of good laboratory practice (GLP) and is intended to ensure that laboratories produce accurate and reliable results.



Implementing ISO/IEC 17025:2024, Second Edition

by Manfred Böckl

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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ISO/IEC 17025:2024 is used by accreditation bodies to assess the competence of laboratories. Accreditation is a formal recognition that a laboratory meets the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2024. Accredited laboratories are able to demonstrate that they have the technical expertise and quality management systems in place to produce accurate and reliable results.

The second edition of ISO/IEC 17025 includes a number of significant changes, which are intended to improve the effectiveness of the standard and to make it more relevant to the needs of modern laboratories. Some of the key changes include:

- A new focus on risk-based thinking
- A greater emphasis on the importance of impartiality and confidentiality
- A requirement for laboratories to have a quality management system that is based on the ISO 9001:2015 standard
- A requirement for laboratories to have a technical manager who is responsible for the technical operation of the laboratory
- A requirement for laboratories to have a quality assurance manager who is responsible for the quality management system
- A requirement for laboratories to participate in proficiency testing programs

There are a number of benefits to implementing ISO/IEC 17025:2024 within your laboratory, including:

- Improved accuracy and reliability of test and calibration results
- Increased customer confidence in the quality of your laboratory's services
- Reduced risk of errors and non-conformances
- Improved efficiency and productivity
- Enhanced reputation and credibility
- Increased opportunities for business growth

Implementing ISO/IEC 17025:2024 within your laboratory can be a challenging but rewarding process. The following steps will help you to get started:

1. **Establish a project team.** The project team should be responsible for planning, implementing, and maintaining your laboratory's ISO/IEC 17025:2024 quality management system.
2. **Develop a quality policy statement.** The quality policy statement should define your laboratory's commitment to quality and to meeting the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2024.
3. **Develop a quality manual.** The quality manual should describe your laboratory's quality management system and how it meets the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2024.
4. **Implement the quality management system.** The quality management system should be implemented throughout your

laboratory and should include all of the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2024.

5. **Train your staff.** Your staff should be trained on the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2024 and on how to implement the quality management system.
6. **Internal audit.** Conduct internal audits to assess the effectiveness of your quality management system.
7. **Management review.** Conduct management reviews to assess the overall effectiveness of your quality management system and to make any necessary improvements.

Implementing ISO/IEC 17025:2024 within your laboratory can be a challenging but rewarding process. By following the steps outlined in this article, you can successfully implement ISO/IEC 17025:2024 and achieve accreditation. Accreditation will demonstrate your laboratory's commitment to quality and will help you to improve the accuracy and reliability of your test and calibration results.



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