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HOKLAS Supplementary Criteria No. 49

Accreditation Requirements for Undertaking Testing Services for Mainland Voluntary Certification

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Agreement between the Mainland and Hong Kong on Achieving Basic Liberalization of Trade in Services in Guangdong under the framework of CEPA (Guangdong Agreement) was signed between the Mainland and HKSAR in December 2014. The scope of testing services that can be provided by Hong Kong testing organisations in the area of voluntary certification has been expanded to all products manufactured or processed in Hong Kong or Mainland. The coverage of the Arrangement is shown in Appendix I.
- 1.2 This Supplementary Criteria document explains the requirements as stated in the Implementation Guide for the Guangdong Agreement by the Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA) for Hong Kong testing organisations.

2. REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURE FOR QUALIFYING HONG KONG TESTING LABORATORIES

- 2.1 Hong Kong testing organisations (i.e. Hong Kong testing laboratories, or laboratories in short) intend to undertake the relevant testing activities shall obtain accreditation from Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS) under the Hong Kong Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (HOKLAS) for the tests concerned according to the qualification requirements for testing organisations as stated in the Implementation Guide for the Guangdong Agreement by the CNCA.
- 2.2 Laboratories shall comply with the following:
- A. Regulations for HKAS Accreditation (HKAS 002);
 - B. ISO/IEC 17025 'General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories' and HKAS Policy Document No. 1 (HKAS PD001);
 - C. HOKLAS Supplementary Criteria No. 33 (HOKLAS SC-33);
 - D. This Supplementary Criteria document (HOKLAS SC-49);
 - E. Other relevant HKAS and HOKLAS Supplementary Criteria documents;
 - F. Applicable implementation rules and special requirements for certification;²

² Laboratories can visit the website of CNCA (<http://www.cnca.gov.cn>) to obtain the applicable implementation rules and special requirements for certification. If a testing organisation breaches any laws and regulations for certification and accreditation, or breaches relevant implementation rules for certification, in the course of

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G. Applicable standards ³ (such as relevant certification, product, environmental and test standards)

- 2.3 HKAS will conduct an on-site assessment to confirm the applicant laboratory's conformity with the applicable accreditation requirements. At the same time, HKAS will also confirm the applicant laboratory's conformity with any special requirements of qualification specified for laboratories in the relevant certification schemes.
- 2.4 If a laboratory has successfully demonstrated its conformity with all applicable requirements for specific tests, HKAS will grant the related accreditation to the laboratory. The accredited laboratory can liaise with qualified Mainland certification bodies for co-operation in accordance with the procedures stated in Appendix II.
- 2.5 HKAS will conduct on-site surveillance visits and reassessments to the accredited laboratory to confirm its continuing conformity with the applicable requirements. If the accredited laboratory fails to continually comply with the applicable requirements, HKAS may suspend or terminate the laboratory's accreditation for the related testing activities and notify CNCA accordingly.
- 2.6 The accredited laboratory may voluntarily suspend or terminate its accreditation for the related testing activities by submitting an application to HKAS and informing that the application is related to the implementation of the Guangdong Agreement. When the application is approved, HKAS will notify CNCA.
- 2.7 CNCA announces updated requirements on voluntary certification through its official website from time to time. Accredited laboratories should visit the website regularly and ensure continual conformity with the requirements of CNCA.

3. REPORTING OF TEST RESULTS

- 3.1 All test reports shall be prepared in Simplified Chinese.

conducting its business under the co-operation agreement in the Mainland, CNCA will notify Hong Kong Accreditation Service after investigation by the relevant quality supervision administration of the Mainland.

³ When providing the related services, laboratories shall adopt the applicable GB test standards. Laboratories shall state clearly in their application the type of voluntary certification and the applicable test standards. Where a standard is to be updated to a newer version and a transition due date has been specified by the relevant authority or requirements for certification, an accredited laboratory shall obtain accreditation for the new version of the standard by the specified due date. If the laboratory fails to obtain accreditation for the new version of the standard by the specified due date, HKAS shall terminate the accreditation of the laboratory for the old version of the standard after the due date and inform CNCA accordingly.

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Appendix I

Coverage of testing services that can be undertaken by Hong Kong testing organisations for Mainland's voluntary certification under the Agreement between the Mainland and Hong Kong on Achieving Basic Liberalization of Trade in Services in Guangdong under the framework of CEPA (Guangdong Agreement)

(1) Place of Origin of Products

Applicable to certification of products produced or processed in Hong Kong and/or in Mainland China and associated business activities.

(2) Types of Certification

Applicable to all types of Mainland's voluntary certification.

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Appendix II

Procedures for qualified Hong Kong testing organisations to liaise with qualified Mainland certification bodies for co-operation

- (1) A qualified testing organisation in Hong Kong who wishes to undertake testing activities for a certification scheme may seek collaboration with a qualified Mainland certification body. Contact information of qualified Mainland certification bodies and their scope of services are available at the website of CNCA (www.cnca.gov.cn).
- (2) In accordance with the relevant certification scheme and implementation rules, the testing organisation is required to establish an agreement with the qualified Mainland certification body to undertake testing activities within the agreed scope of work. The certification body shall submit the collaboration agreement to CNCA for record. CNCA will then announce at its website the testing organisation in the directory of Hong Kong testing organisations in collaboration with Mainland certification bodies.
- (3) Upon receiving notification from HKAS that a Hong Kong testing organisation has no longer fulfilled the relevant requirements, CNCA will inform the concerned certification body. The certification body shall revise its collaboration agreement with the testing organisation and report the revision to CNCA. CNCA will announce the revised directory of testing organisations at its website.
- (4) If it is found by the Mainland Authority for Administration of Certification that a Hong Kong testing organisation undertaking testing activities for a certification scheme has breached any laws and regulations on certification and accreditation, or implementation rules of the certification scheme, CNCA should be notified. CNCA will then notify the responsible department of the HKSAR Government (HKAS).