

GMP+ Standard Accreditation Protocol – Product/Process Certification

1. Introduction

This document specifies the GMP+ International requirements for Accreditation Bodies (ABs) that provide accreditation to Certification Bodies (CBs) offering certification to companies in accordance with the GMP+ Feed Certification scheme - Module: Feed Safety Assurance.

2. Requirements for Accreditation Bodies (AB)

- 2.1 The AB must be either part of the European Accreditation (EA) Multilateral Agreement (MLA) or member of the International Accreditation Forum Multilateral Agreement (IAF MLA).
- 2.2 The AB must Inform GMP+ International in case of any change on the member-ship status stated in article 2.1.
- 2.3 The AB must meet the requirements stated in the ISO/IEC 17011 for accrediting CBs with GMP+ Feed Certification scheme - Module: Feed Safety Assurance for Product certification, in the scope of accreditation.
- 2.4 The AB must meet the relevant IAF mandatory documents (MD) for accrediting CBs for Product certification.
- 2.5 On request of the AB, GMP+ International can share Compliance assessment audit reports and overall analysis, regarding GMP+ International accepted CBs under their responsibility. Provided that the CB has agreed prior to disclosure of these documents in writing (Art. 5.4 of the GMP+ A5). This information must be shared strictly confidential and must only be used as supporting evidence during assessments conducted by the AB.
- 2.6 The AB must appoint a contact person for the communication with GMP+ International.
- 2.7 The AB must conduct an annual on-site assessment as part of the accreditation process. In case of any deviation the AB must inform GMP+ International.
- 2.8 The AB must notify GMP+ International on the status of the accreditation of CBs for this scheme and when the status changes. GMP+ International maintains a registration of accredited CBs.

3. GMP+ competence of AB assessors

- 3.1 AB assessor teams must meet the relevant IAF mandatory requirements for AB assessors.
- 3.2 The AB must appoint a GMP+ program manager for the GMP+ FC scheme. This can be the contact person for the communication with GMP+ International (see article 2.6).
- 3.3 The GMP+ program manager must attend at least one of the two annual GMP+ International harmonization meetings on invitation of GMP+ International, to as-sure knowledge regarding updates in the GMP+ FC scheme and to maintain up to date knowledge of the GMP+ FC scheme.

4. Accreditation of Certification Bodies

- 4.1 The CB must have a GMP+ Feed Certification Scheme License Agreement "GMP+ A5" signed with GMP+ International prior to its accreditation.
- 4.2 The CB must acquire the accreditation within one year after the date of the li-cense.
- 4.3 The accreditation process must cover the requirements of the GMP+ Feed Certification scheme - Module: Feed Safety Assurance applicable to the scope of accreditation. The CB performance on the GMP+ certification scheme must be assessed by GMP+ International as part of its Integrity Policy.
- 4.4 The CB with a license and under the accreditation process of the GMP+ Feed Certification scheme - Module: Feed Safety Assurance for the applicable scope of accreditation may already carry out GMP+ audits with a qualified GMP+ auditor. One of these audits must be witnessed by the AB and the accompanying certification process must be assessed as part of the initial accreditation process.

5. Witness audits

- 5.1 AB witness audits must meet all requirements established in the IAF mandatory documents (MD) for witnessing CBs.

6. GMP+ International expert

- 6.1 A GMP+ International auditor could assist during AB accreditation audits. For this purpose the AB can request the presence of a GMP+ International auditor (see article 2.5).

7. The scope of accreditation

- 7.1 The applicable scope of accreditation must be precisely defined and included on the accreditation documents with reference to the:
- 7.1.1 Annex 5 Normative documents of the GMP+ C6 *Assessment and Certification Criteria for GMP+ Certification-process certification*.
 - 7.1.2 The CB locations included in the CB accreditation.

8. Integrity Policy

- 8.1 The assessment that CBs meet requirements of the GMP+ Standard Accreditation Protocol must be monitored by GMP+ International and feedback on compliance with it will be shared directly with ABs for discussion and action when appropriate.

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