



INFORMATIVE DOCUMENT FOR QMS AND EMS SCOPES OF ACCREDITATION

Issue Date: 10 July 2026
Implementation Date: 31 August 2026
Version No: 1.0

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on this document or other Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated (Global ACI) documents, contact the Global ACI Secretariat.

Email: secretariat@global-aci.org

Phone: +1 (571) 569-2614

© Copyright 2026

Global ACI encourages the authorised reproduction of its publications, or parts thereof, by organisations wishing to use such material for areas related to education, standardisation, accreditation, or other purposes relevant to Global ACI's area of expertise or endeavour. The document in which the reproduced material appears must contain a statement acknowledging Global ACI's contribution to the document.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. PREAMBLE.....	4
1.1 Purpose	4
1.2 Scope	4
2. INTRODUCTION	4
3. QMS AND EMS SCOPES OF ACCREDITATION	4
4. AMENDMENT TABLE.....	4
ANNEX A - MODELS FOR EMS AND QMS ACCREDITATION SCOPES.....	5

1. PREAMBLE

1.1 Purpose

This informative document is applicable for QMS and EMS management systems certification and is to help define the scopes of accreditation.

1.2 Scope

1.2.1 This document is based upon the IAF (International Accreditation Forum) document IAF ID 1:2023 *IAF Informative Document for QMS and EMS Scopes of Accreditation*. On the transfer of the role of IAF to the Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated (Global ACI), the text has been reformatted to be a Global ACI document without any substantive change to the text.

1.2.2 This document reflects the consensus of Global ACI members on this subject and is intended to support the consistent application of requirements. However, being a document for information purposes only, Global ACI Accreditation Body (AB) Members, and the Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) they accredit, are not under any obligation to use or comply with anything in this document.

2. INTRODUCTION

This is an informative document and is to facilitate the consistent application of Clause 7.1.2 of ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 and Clause 7.2.1 of ISO/IEC 17011:2017 by Accreditation Bodies. All clauses of ISO/IEC 17021-1 will continue to apply, and this document does not supersede any of the requirements in that standard.

The lists of scopes of accreditation are based on the statistical nomenclature for economic activities NACE rev. 2.1 published by the Commission of European Communities (10.10.2022), and applicable from 1 January 2025.

3. QMS AND EMS SCOPES OF ACCREDITATION

The accredited scope of an EMS / QMS Certification Body may be expressed in terms of one or more elements from a list of economic activities. The following tables for QMS and EMS (see Annex A) are one such model.

4. AMENDMENT TABLE

Section	Previous Version	Summary of Changes
All	-	Initial issue of Global ACI document

ANNEX A - MODELS FOR EMS AND QMS ACCREDITATION SCOPES

QMS Accreditation Scope		
No	Description of economic sector / activity	NACE – Division / Group / Class (rev.2.1)
1	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	01, 02, 03
2	Mining and quarrying	05, 06, 07, 08, 09
3	Food products, beverages and tobacco	10, 11, 12
4	Textiles and textile products	13, 14
5	Leather and leather products	15
6	Wood and wood products	16
7	Pulp, paper and paper products	17
8	Publishing companies	58.1, 59.2
9	Printing companies	18
10	Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products	19
11	Nuclear fuel	24.46
12	Chemicals, chemical products and fibres	20
13	Pharmaceuticals	21
14	Rubber and plastic products	22
15	Non-metallic mineral products	23, except 23.5 and 23.6
16	Concrete, cement, lime, plaster etc	23.5, 23.6
17	Basic metals and fabricated metal products	24 except 24.46, 25 except 25.4, 33.11
18	Machinery and equipment	25.4, 28, 30.4, 33.12, 33.2 also see 33.18
19	Electrical and optical equipment	26, 27, 33.13, 33.14, 95.1
20	Shipbuilding	30.1, 33.15
21	Aerospace	30.3, 33.16, 33.18
22	Other transport equipment	29, 30.2, 30.9, 33.17, also see 33.18

23	Manufacturing not elsewhere classified	31, 32, 33.19
24	Recycling	38.2
25	Electricity supply	35.1, 35.4
26	Gas supply	35.2, also see 35.4
27	Water supply	35.3, 36
28	Construction	41, 42, 43
29	Wholesale and retail trade; Repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods	46, 47, 95.2, 95.3
30	Hotels and restaurants	55, 56
31	Transport, storage and communication	49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 61
32	Financial intermediation; real estate; renting	64, 65, 66, 68, 77
33	Information technology	58.2, 62, 63.1
34	Engineering services	71, 72, 74 except 74.2 and 74.3
35	Other services	69, 70, 73, 74.2, 74.3, 78, 80, 81, 82, 95.4
36	Public administration	84
37	Education	85
38	Health and social work	75, 86, 87, 88
39	Other social services	37, 38.1, 38.3, 39, 59.1, 60, 63.9, 79, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 96

EMS Accreditation Scope			
No	Description of economic sector /activity	NACE – Division / Group / Class (rev.2.1)	Examples of Common Environmental Aspects
1	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	01, 02, 03	Pesticides/herbicides, etc.
2	Mining and quarrying	05, 06, 07, 08, 09	Hazardous waste, etc.
3	Food products, beverages and tobacco products	10, 11, 12	Industrial water effluent treatment, energy usage, pesticides, etc.
4	Textiles and textile products	13, 14	Industrial water effluent without treatment, energy usage, solid waste; Hazardous and bulk chemical storage, etc.
5	Leather and related leather products	15	Industrial water effluent treatment, solid waste; Hazardous and bulk chemical storage, etc.
6	Wood and wood products	16	Solid waste, energy usage, etc.
7	Pulp, paper and paper products	17	Industrial water effluent treatment, air emissions, hazardous chemical storage, etc.
8	Publishing companies	58.1, 59.2	Solid waste, hazardous chemical storage, energy usage, etc.
9	Printing companies	18	Solid waste, hazardous chemical storage, energy usage, etc.
10	Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products	19	Hazardous and bulk chemical storage, industrial water effluent treatment, hazardous air emissions, hazardous waste, etc.
11	Nuclear fuel	24.46	Radiation/radioactivity, etc.
12	Chemicals, chemical products and fibres	20	Hazardous and bulk chemical storage, industrial water effluent treatment, hazardous air emissions, hazardous waste, etc.
13	Pharmaceutical products	21	Hazardous and bulk chemical storage, industrial water effluent treatment, hazardous waste, etc.

14	Rubber and plastic products	22	Hazardous and bulk chemical storage, industrial water effluent treatment, hazardous air emissions, hazardous Waste, etc.
15	Non-metallic mineral products	23, except 23.5 and 23.6	Energy usage, etc.
16	Concrete, cement, lime, plaster etc	23.5, 23.6	Air emissions, solid waste, etc.
17	Basic metals and fabricated metal products	24 except 24.46, 25 except 25.4, 33.11	Solid waste, hazardous chemical storage, energy usage, etc.
18	Machinery and equipment	25.4, 28, 30.4, 33.12, 33.2, also see 33.18	Hazardous waste, hazardous chemical storage, industrial water effluent, etc.
19	Electrical and optical equipment	26, 27, 33.13, 33.14, 95.1	Hazardous waste, hazardous chemical storage, industrial water effluent, etc.
20	Shipbuilding	30.1, 33.15	Hazardous waste, hazardous chemical storage, industrial water effluent, solid waste, etc.
21	Aerospace	30.3, 33.16, 33.18	Hazardous waste, hazardous chemical storage, industrial water effluent, solid waste, etc.
22	Other transport equipment	29, 30.2, 30.9, 33.17	Hazardous waste, hazardous chemical storage, industrial water effluent, solid waste, etc.
23	Manufacturing not elsewhere classified	31, 32, 33.19	Solid waste, Industrial water effluent, air emissions, etc.
24	Recycling	38.2	Hazardous waste, solid waste, sanitary effluent, etc.
25	Electricity supply	35.1, 35.4	Air emissions, industrial water effluent, etc.
26	Gas supply	35.2	Air emissions, etc.
27	Water supply	35.3, 36	Drinking water effluent treatment, etc.
28	Construction	41, 42, 43	Sanitary effluent, noise pollution, energy usage, etc.
29	Wholesale and retail trade; Repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods	46, 47, 95.2, 95.3	Hazardous chemical storage, sanitary effluent, etc.

30	Hotels and restaurants	55, 56	Solid waste, hazardous chemical storage, sanitary effluent, pesticides, etc.
31	Transport, storage and communication	49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 61	Bulk oil storage, energy usage, hazardous chemical storage, air emissions, etc.
32	Financial intermediation; real estate; renting	64, 65, 66, 68, 77	Energy usage, air emissions, etc.
33	Information technology	58.2, 62, 63.1	Energy usage, hazardous waste, solid Waste, etc.
34	Engineering services	71, 72, 74 except 74.2 and 74.3	Hazardous chemical storage, hazardous waste, air emissions, sanitary effluent, etc.
35	Other services	69, 70, 73, 74.2, 74.3, 78, 80, 81, 82, 95.4	Hazardous chemical storage, hazardous Waste, etc.
36	Public administration	84	Energy usage, solid waste, etc.
37	Education	85	Energy usage, solid waste, etc.
38	Health and social work	75, 86, 87, 88	Biohazard waste, radiation/radioactivity, sanitary effluent, etc.
39	Other social services	37, 38.1, 38.3, 39, 59.1, 60, 63.9, 79, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 96	Wide variation

Note 1: No risk level has been assigned for each Global ACI code. Each AB would be responsible to define the risk level of each scope taking into account the local legislation, the environmental aspects and the requirements defined in Global ACI-TECH-3-004.

Note 2: Sections T and U from NACE Rev 2.1 including the NACE codes 97, 98, and 99 are not included in the table.

Note 3: The use of QMS Scopes / EMS Scopes to describe “technical areas” for a quality / environment management system, as referred to in ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015, 7.1.2., is limited. While scope 11 “Nuclear Fuel” might constitute a legitimate descriptor for a technical area, few of the other headings would do so.