

## TIC Council Accreditation Principles

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### Value of TIC conformity assessment services

Testing, inspection and certification conformity assessment services demonstrate fulfillment of specified requirements. Conformity assessment bodies contribute through their services to the enhancement of quality, safety and security as well as other societal benefits. These services have been proven to reduce the uncertainty about, and risk to, the benefits expected from fulfillment of specified requirements when the services are delivered competently, consistently and impartially.

### Conformity assessment and accreditation

Accreditation is a demonstration that TIC conformity assessment bodies fulfill requirements for competence consistency and impartiality.

Conformity assessment bodies issue and are responsible for the certificates, reports and other statements of conformity, and are responsible for their content.

Accreditation demonstrates that TIC conformity assessment bodies have the competence to deliver their services in accordance with requirements, in a consistent and impartial manner.

Accreditation activities that contribute to such demonstrations support the value of TIC conformity assessment services; activities unrelated to such demonstrations and that reach beyond accepted international standards and practices are unjustified.

Accreditation bodies shall be competent to carry out their functions in accordance with relevant requirements, in a consistent and impartial manner.

ISO/IEC standards for conformity assessment bodies and accreditation bodies are the most effective requirements currently available for demonstrating the competence, consistency and impartiality of TIC bodies as these standards, by their nature, are the expression of the consensus by the entire worldwide field of conformity assessment.

To optimize value, demonstrations of TIC body fulfillment of competence, consistency and impartiality requirements must be sufficiently thorough and rigorous and avoid unnecessary costs and obligations.

Market forces and internationally accepted fair competition principles should drive accreditation bodies to increase the value to TIC bodies by controlling costs, improving customer service (consistent with effective demonstrations) and by expanding the number and types of demands for assurances that accreditation satisfies. Accreditation bodies shielded from market forces must be incentivized to expand the value they provide.

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**TIC Council** is a global association representing over 90 international independent third-party testing, inspection, certification and verification organizations. The industry represents an estimated one million employees across the world with annual sales of approximately USD 200 billion.