

POLICY NUMBER 05/09



**Introduction of EA Guidance on the application of ISO/IEC 17021:2006 for
Combined Management Systems Audits**

Authority to Issue

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James Galloway". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Dr James Galloway
Chief Executive
with Authority of the Governing Board

1. OBJECT AND FIELD OF APPLICATION

- 1.1 This document details the JAS-ANZ policy regarding the introduction of EA Guidance on the Application of ISO/IEC 17021:2006 for Combined Audits (EA-7/05) as accreditation criteria.
- 1.2 This policy shall apply to all accredited and applicant certification bodies seeking JAS-ANZ accreditation for management systems certification services.
- 1.3 This policy shall remain current until 9 December, 2009.

2. REFERENCES

- 2.1 EA-7/05 EA Guidance on the Application of ISO/IEC 17021:2006 for Combined Audits
- 2.2 ISO/IEC 17021:2006 Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 EA-7/05 was prepared by a task force under the direction of the European Co-operation for Accreditation (EA) Certification Committee and published in October 2008 to provide guidance on the application of ISO/IEC 17021:2006 for the planning and delivery of combined audits.
- 3.2 This guidance will harmonise audit durations for combined audits of Integrated Management Systems (IMS) among accredited certification bodies.
- 3.3 In some situations this guidance offers the potential for a more efficient audit of combined audits of IMS and consequently the potential benefit from a reduction in the audit duration.
- 3.4 The aim of EA-7/05 is to establish guidance for the combined audit and, if appropriate, the certification of an organisation's management system against two or more sets of audit criteria.
- 3.5 All clauses of ISO/IEC 17021:2006 continue to apply and EA-7/05 does not supersede any of the requirements in ISO/IEC 17021:2006.
- 3.6 Annexes at the rear of EA-7/05 are also part of the guidance given and should be read as such.

4. POLICY

- 4.1 Certification bodies wishing to issue JAS-ANZ accredited certificates as a result of a combined management system audit shall comply with EA-7/05.



- 4.2 Certification bodies shall not reduce audit durations for integrated management systems audits by any means other than as specified in EA-7/05 and the following transition requirements:
- a) For new applications for certification, this policy shall take effect within six months from the date of publication i.e., on or before 13 December 2009.
 - b) For existing certification body clients, this policy shall take effect when certification contracts (or equivalent) are renegotiated on or after 13 December 2009.