

## Accreditation to ISO/IEC 17029:2019

The Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB)<sup>1</sup> is the national body in Ireland officially recognized under Regulation (EC) No. 765/2008<sup>2</sup> for the provision of accreditation services for conformity assessment activities in Ireland. The objective of the Regulation is to ensure that, within the European Union (EU), one accreditation certificate is sufficient for the whole territory of the EU. In accordance with the Regulation, where a conformity assessment body (CAB) requests accreditation, it shall do so with the national accreditation body of the Member State in which it is “established”<sup>3</sup>.

Under Regulation (EC) No. 765/2008, INAB may only properly accredit bodies that establish in Ireland. At this time however, INAB is not signatory to the EA or IAF multi-lateral agreements (MLAs) for accreditation to ISO/IEC 17029:2019. (A multilateral agreement is a signed agreement between EA Members whereby the signatories recognize and accept the equivalence of the accreditation systems operated by the signing members, and also the reliability of the conformity assessment results provided by Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) accredited by the signing members. It makes the objective ‘*Accredited once, accepted everywhere*’ effective).

Therefore, INAB is not currently in a position to provide accreditation to ISO/IEC 17029:2019 at this time. In accordance with Regulation 765/2008, INAB has agreed with RvA, the accreditation body in the Netherlands, that entities established in Ireland can obtain accreditation from RvA, in the short to medium term, after which time, the accreditation will transfer to INAB.

In that intervening period, INAB shall re-build its competence in this sector and apply for MLA recognition. INAB staff will accompany RvA assessment teams, over the duration of this arrangement.

The Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation (DBEI) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are aware of this arrangement.

For details on making applications for accreditation directly to RvA, please contact [nieuweaanvragen@rva.nl](mailto:nieuweaanvragen@rva.nl) and copy [Rosemary.Hayden@inab.ie](mailto:Rosemary.Hayden@inab.ie)

Application forms are available at <https://www.rva.nl/en/documents/application-forms>

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<sup>1</sup> INAB is part of the Health and Safety Authority

<sup>2</sup> REGULATION (EC) No 765/2008 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 9 July 2008 setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 339/93

<sup>3</sup> Established is not the same as registered for the purposes of INAB accreditation