

ACCREDITATION-GENERAL INFORMATION

The Department of Standards Malaysia (Standards Malaysia) was set up on 28 August 1996 under the Standards of Malaysia Act 1996 (Act 549). Governed by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), Standards Malaysia operates as the National Standards and Accreditation Body in the country.

As stipulated in the Act 549, the primary task of Standards Malaysia with respect to accreditation is to be responsible for the assessment and accreditation of conformity assessment bodies (CABs). CAB, as defined by the ISO/IEC 17011: Conformity assessment – Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies, is a body that performs conformity assessment services and that can be the object to or of accreditation, such as laboratories, certification bodies, inspection bodies, test facilities and proficiency testing providers. The Accreditation Division of Standards Malaysia carries out this specific task.

Currently there are four accreditation schemes available, Skim Akreditasi Makmal Malaysia (SAMM), Scheme for the Accreditation of Certification Bodies (ACB), Malaysia Inspection Bodies Accreditation Scheme (MIBAS), Malaysia Proficiency Testing Provider Accreditation Scheme (MyPTP) and one compliance programme called Good Laboratory Practice Compliance Programme (GLP CP).

Standards Malaysia performs its function as Government Accreditation Body and therefore the Government of Malaysia has adequate arrangements and resources to cover liabilities arising from its accreditation operations and related activities.

Financial resources required for the operation of the Standards Malaysia are financed by an annual budget allocation from the Government. The accreditation fees collected are channelled to the Ministry of Finance as revenue of the Government.

Standards Malaysia is staffed by full time technical administration officers and supporting staff to carry out the day-to-day operation. Its accreditation system operates in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011. It has access to a large pool of competent and qualified Lead Assessors, Technical Assessors and/or Technical Experts.

Standards Malaysia's policies, procedures, administration and implementation do emphasises the discouragement of discriminate, inhibit or impede in any way against any CABs,

who wishes to seek accreditation with Standards Malaysia. No application for accreditation shall be rejected without valid reasons being given. Access to the scheme does not depend upon the size of the applicant CABs or membership of any association or group, nor shall Standards Malaysia accreditation be conditional upon the number of CABs already accredited by Standards Malaysia.

Fee schedules for the various schemes are made available to all clients prior to application. Other than the approved and published fees, there are no other undue financial conditions imposed.

Standards Malaysia ensures that its assessors including those sourced externally are impartial and without any conflict of interest with regard to an assessment assigned. Standards Malaysia assessors are also required to sign code of ethics form. These documents are part of the documented agreement covering these arrangements. All Standards Malaysia's assessment personnel are required to sign individually a letter of undertaking of maintaining confidentiality and impartiality and declaration of conflict of interest.

ACCREDITATION SYMBOLS

<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Symbol</u>
SAMM	
ACB	
MIBAS	
GLP CP	
MyPTP	

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

RELATED BODIES

Standards Malaysia works hand-in-hand with several other government agencies and other private agencies. Some of our assessors are drawn from these government agencies for their technical expertise. On the other hand, Standards Malaysia also accredits laboratories managed and owned by these bodies.

As a government department, Standards Malaysia accords normal cooperation, as expected from any government agency, provides assistance, input, comments and feedback during meetings, discussions and dialogues on matters relating to accreditation and conformity assessment to the related bodies. We do not provide consultancy to any government conformity assessment bodies.

These related bodies, with respect to Standards Malaysia, have:

- different top management;
- different personnel performing the accreditation decision-making processes;
- no possibility to influence the outcome of an assessment for accreditation; and
- distinctly different name, logos and symbols.

Therefore, there is no conflict of interest and the activities of these related bodies do not affect the confidentiality, objectivity and impartiality of Standards Malaysia's accreditations.

