

# **Conformity Assessment Practices of the Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards (TTBS)**

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# TTBS Conformity Assessment Practices

- **Conformity Assessment practices in TTBS are found in the following areas:**
  - **Certification**
  - **Testing**
  - **Implementation (Inspection)**
  - **Lab Accreditation**

# Certification

## Definition

**Third party *attestation* related to products, processes, systems or persons”**

***Attestation* – “Issue of a statement based on a decision following review that fulfillment of specified requirements have been demonstrated”**

**ISO/IEC 17000:2004**

# TTBS Certification Services

- **Product Certification** → ISO/IEC Guide 67:2004 *SYSTEM 5*  
ISO/IEC 17030:2003; ISO/IEC GUIDE 53  
ISO/IEC Guide 65: 1996

*“All Goods covered by a compulsory standard shall carry a standard mark approved by the Bureau ...”*

*T & T Standards Regulations 2004 Part II Section 8 (2)*

- **Batch Certification** → ISO/IEC GUIDE 23:1982  
**(Certificates of Conformity)** ISO/IEC GUIDE 28:2004

*“The Bureau shall certify against national, regional and international standards, guides and other requirements and shall issue certificates of conformity.”*

*T & T Standards Regulations 2004, Section 32*

# TTBS Certification Services

- Quality Management Systems (QMS) Certification (ISO 9001:2000)



ISO/IEC Guide 62: 1996  
ISO 19011:2002

*“The Bureau is the national quality certifying body ...”*

*T & T Standards Regulations 2004 Part VI Section 31*

*“The Bureau shall be the national quality certifying body...”*

*T & T Standards Act 1997 Part II Section 3 (2b)*

- Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Certification (ISO 14001: 2004)



ISO/IEC GUIDE 66: 1999  
ISO 19011:2002

- Quality and Environmental Management Systems Certification for SME's (Q& EMS SME 2000)

*T & T Standards Regulations Part II Section 6 and 8 (1)*

# TTBS Certification Services



## • **Tourism** (TTTIC) Certification

Tour Guides, TTS 579:2001

Tour Operators, TTS 580: 2001

Car Rentals, TTS 540: 1998

## • **Environmental and Tourism Certification**

### **Green Globe 21** (Accredited Service)

Company Standard

Community Standard

International Ecotourism Standard

*T & T Standards Regulations Part II Section 6 and 8 (1)*

# TTBS CERTIFICATION SERVICES THE FUTURE

- **Personnel Certification** → **ISO/IEC 17024: 2003**
- **National Quality System**

*T & T Standards Regulations 2004 Part VI 34 (1)*

*"The Bureau shall institute a National Quality System..."*

*T & T Standards Act 1997 Part IV, Section 15 (2m)*

- **Mutual Recognition Agreements**
- **Accreditation of ISO 9001:2000**

**The Accreditation Process is very costly  
for  
a developing nation**

# International Conformity Assessment Guides/Standards used

- **ISO/IEC Guide 67:2004**  
Conformity assessment – Fundamentals of product certification.
- **ISO/IEC Guide 28:2004**  
Conformity assessment – Guidance on a third party certification system for products
- **ISO/IEC Guide 53: 2005**  
Conformity assessment – Guidance on the use of an organization's quality management system in product certification.
- **ISO/IEC Guide 65:1996**  
General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems.
- **ISO/IEC 17030:2003**  
Conformity assessment – General requirements for third-party marks of conformity.
- **ISO/IEC Guide 23:1982**  
Methods of indicating conformity with standards for third-party certification systems.



■ ***ISO/IEC Guide 62:1996***

General requirements for bodies operating assessment and certification / registration of quality systems

■ ***ISO/IEC Guide 66:1999***

General requirements for bodies operating assessment and certification / registration of environmental management systems.

■ ***ISO/IEC 19011:2002***

Guidelines for quality and / or environmental management systems auditing.

***ISO/IEC 17024:2003***

General requirements for bodies operating certification of person.

# Certification Procedures

## Product Certification

Product tested  
Against TTS  
Standard

QMS assessed

Surveillance of product  
and QMS

## Quality or Environmental Management system Certification

QMS and/or EMS  
Documentation  
assessed against  
ISO 9001 or 14001

Site Audit

Surveillance of  
QMS and/or  
EMS

## Personnel Certification

Education, Training  
and Experience  
assessed against  
TTS Standard

Demonstration  
of skills and  
competence

Surveillance of  
personnel

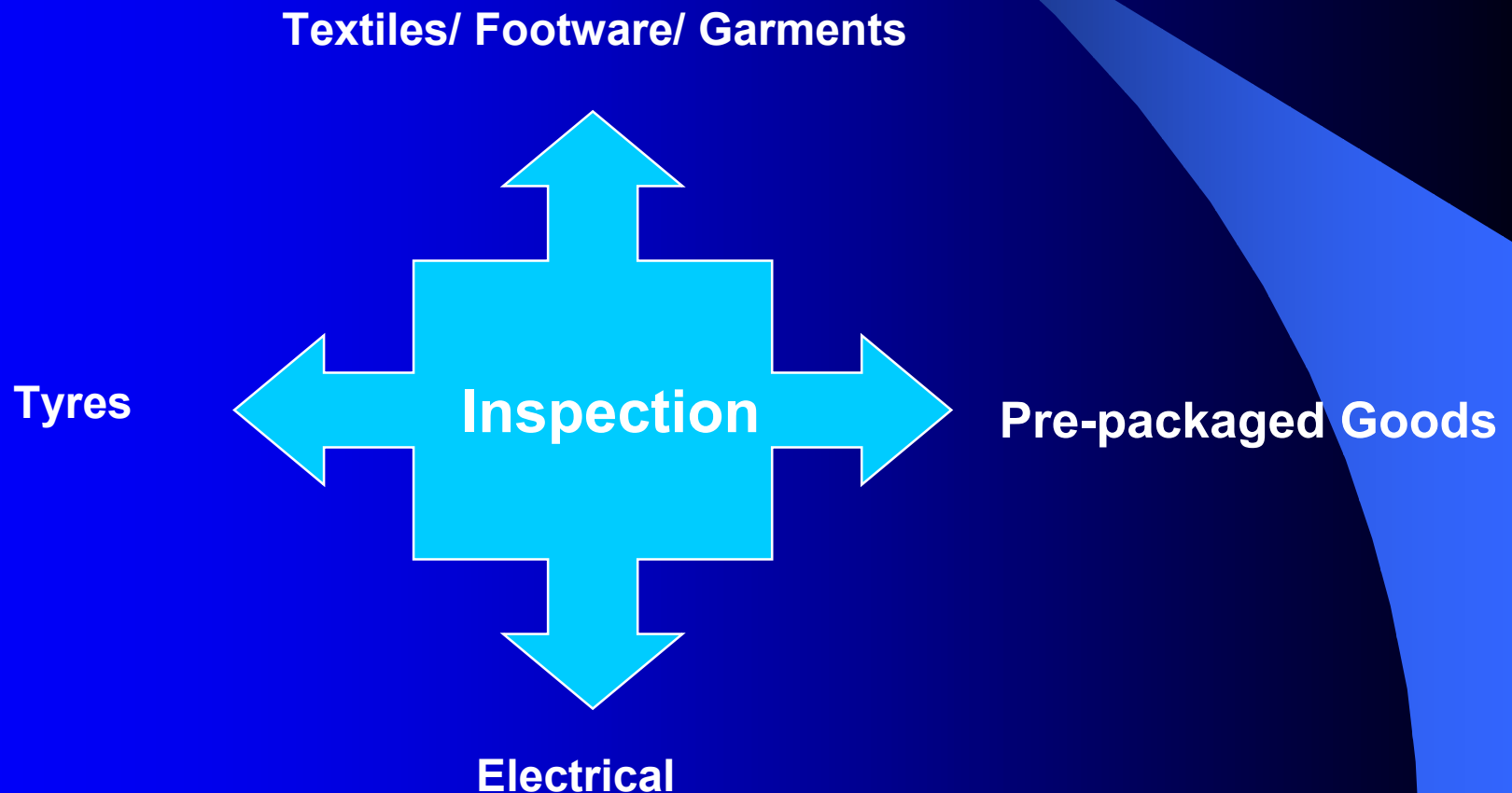
# Inspection

## Definition

Examination of a product design, product, process or installation and determination of its conformity with specific requirements or, on the basis of professional judgement, with general requirements.

ISO/IEC 17000:2004 (4.3)

# Inspection Implementation Services



# Inspection

## Implementation Services

- Currently guided by the requirements of ISO 9001:2000.  
**Certified in May 2005.**
- To start using ISO/IEC 17020:1998 - General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection.
- Inspections conducted at Ports of entry, Wholesalers & Importers premises; Surveillance conducted at retailers premises.
- Some inspection of locally manufactured goods within textiles and chemical sectors.

**T & T Standards Act 1997 Part IV Section 24**

**T & T Standards Regulations Part V**

# Testing

## Definition

Determination of one or more characteristics of an object of conformity assessment, according to a procedure.

ISO/IEC 17000:2004 (4.2)

# Testing

## Laboratory Services Division

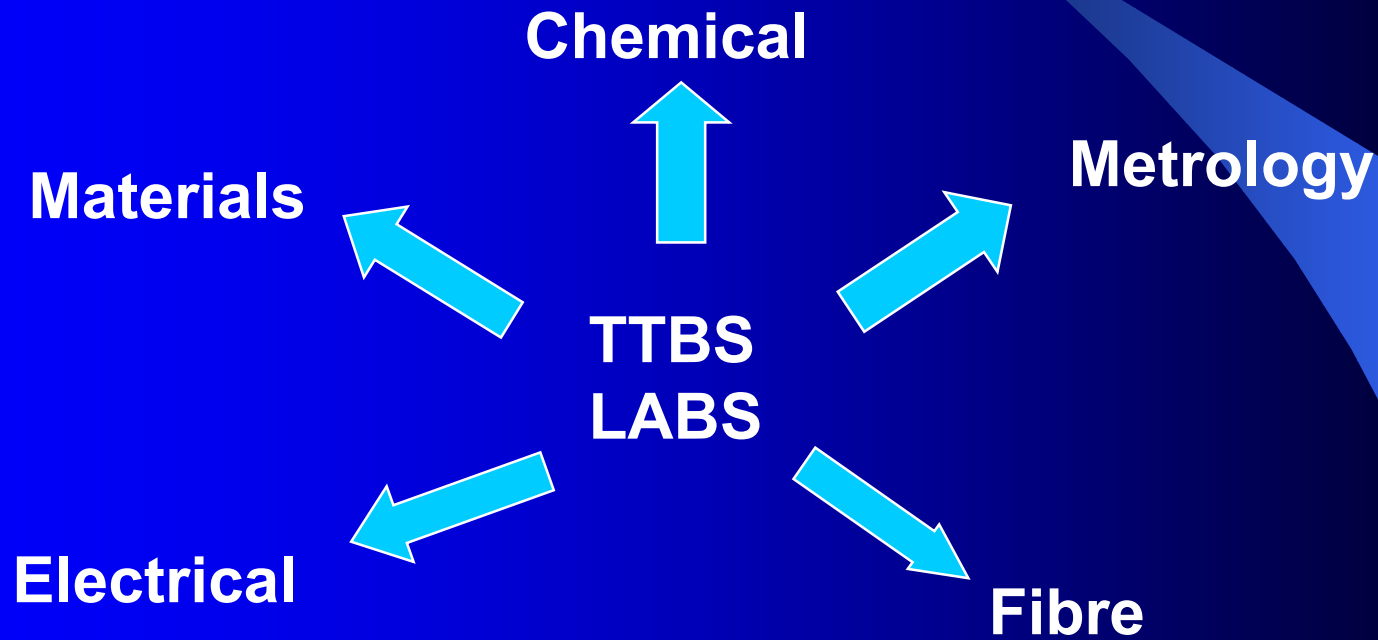
- Testing & Calibration Labs utilize Internationally accepted Methods & procedures
- Testing and Calibration Labs accredited by UKAS
- Test Reports & Calibration Certificates issued bear the UKAS **Accreditation** Logo for Accredited Tests and Procedures
- TTBS Scope of Accreditation listed by UKAS on their Website – globally available

# Laboratory Services Division

- Laboratories available for third party audits
- Clients are free to witness Test & Calibration Procedures
- Traceability well- established for Metrology Facility – Custodian of National Weights & Measures
- Certified Reference Materials, Proficiency Testing, Inter-laboratory Comparisons utilized by Testing Laboratories



# Laboratory Services Division



# Accreditation

## Definition

Third-party attestation related to a conformity assessment body conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tests.

ISO/IEC 17000:2004 (5.6)

# Lab Accreditation

30 Steps are required for international recognition as a National Accreditation body (NAB). These include

- ✓ National policy on Quality
- ✓ Management structure
- ✓ Equipment
- ✓ Quality documentation
- ✓ Independency
- ✓ Lead assessors
- ✓ Technical assessors
- ✓ Metrology Support in Country and
- ✓ MLA / MRA.

# Lab Accreditation

- Majority of steps have been planned or are in progress.
- Almost half of the steps are completed or nearly finished.
- Independency (Impartially), Metrology support, Technical Experts trained in Assessment should be concluded by 2006

“ The Bureau is the national body for accrediting laboratories...”

T & T Standards Regulation 2004 Part VII Section 39

# Unilateral Acceptance of Conformity Assessment Results

- **Inspection (Implementation)**  
Inspection of Tyres - acceptance of the DOT Mark
- **Testing**  
Acceptance of Test Results from Local and regional labs after assessments
- **Certification**  
International Product Certification Marks approved by TTBS
  - A list has been established based on product certification scheme employed

## Specific Needs Conformity Assessment Infrastructure

- Expansion of Testing Capabilities
- Improved Consumer awareness
- Culture change to give preference to quality

# Technical Assistance Projects

## Title

Promoting SME Competitiveness in the Caribbean through Technical Standards.

## Organisation

Caricom Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ)

## Funding Agency

Inter-American Development Bank ( IADB)

# Objectives of the CROSQ Project

- To facilitate trade and eliminate technical barriers to trade so as to enhance integration and support the mutual recognition of regional practices in the international community
- Awareness Building
- Training in Conformity Assessment
- Design and Set up of Information System