



# NATURE SCIENCE FOUNDATION

NSF/8.3.1/01		Rules for using certification mark				
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## Conditions for Use of ISO Accreditation Symbol and NSF logo

The CAB (Conformity Assessment Body) can only use the NSF and relevant ISO Logo, as applicable, for the specific conformity assessment services and office(s) of the CAB included in the Certification granted by NSF. The CAB shall not make any statement regarding its certification that NSF may consider misleading or unauthorized. Specifically:

- a) The NSF or ISO Logo, as relevant, shall only be used to refer to the accredited status of the accredited CAB, and where applicable, in conjunction with the mark of the CAB to refer to accredited certificates issued.
- b) The NSF Accreditation Symbol or ISO Logo shall not be used in any way that misleads the reader about the accredited status of the CAB or its client organization.
- c) For management systems certification:
  - Neither the certification body's nor the accreditation body's symbol shall be used on product packaging, labels, publicity material, or written announcements in a manner that suggests the certification body or the accreditation body has certified or approved any product, process, or service.
  - For product certification, the certification body may authorize the use of its mark on products, in accordance with its procedures.
  - Use of the NSF accreditation symbol on products is not permitted.
  - The product conformity mark and any mark/logo/symbol used for management systems must be distinct.
- d) The NSF Accreditation Symbol or ISO Logo shall not be displayed on vehicles, except as part of publicity material like a large advertisement.
- e) The NSF Accreditation Symbol or ISO Logo shall not be displayed on buildings or flags.
- f) All quotations and contracts by the accredited CAB bearing the NSF Accreditation Symbol or ISO Logo shall clearly indicate the portion of activities that are not accredited by NSF.
- g) The NSF Accreditation Symbol or ISO Logo shall not be used on visiting cards.
- h) Upon suspension or withdrawal of its accreditation, the accredited CAB shall discontinue use of the NSF Accreditation Symbol or ISO Logo and all advertising matter that contains any reference to an accredited status.
- i) The accredited CAB shall not allow the fact of its accreditation to be used to imply that a product, process, system, or person is approved by the accreditation body.
- J) A certification body shall not permit its mark or the NSF accreditation symbol to be applied by its certified clients to:
  - Laboratory test reports, calibration certificates, or inspection reports in a manner that could be interpreted as an endorsement, approval, or certification of a product.

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- These reports and certificates shall clearly state that they are not covered under the scope of management system certification and are not accredited by NSF unless the CAB is separately accredited for those activities.
- The certification mark of the CAB, and the NSF accreditation symbol, must not appear on any such reports unless the CAB holds appropriate product certification accreditation or accreditation under testing, calibration, or inspection schemes, and such use is explicitly permitted within those scopes.
- The CAB shall provide documented guidance to its certified clients clearly restricting the use of certification marks in contexts where it might mislead users or imply product conformity certification.
- Any misuse by clients must be addressed by the CAB through formal corrective actions, which may include suspension or withdrawal of certification in the case of repeated or wilful misuse.

## Conditions for Other Claims of NSF Accreditation

- a) The accredited CAB shall fully conform to NSF requirements when referencing its accreditation in communication media.
- b) Shall not make any misleading or unauthorized statement regarding its accreditation.
- c) Upon withdrawal of accreditation, shall discontinue all references to accreditation.
- d) Shall not imply in any way that a product, process, service, management system, or person is approved by the accreditation body.
- e) Shall inform all affected clients of suspension, reduction, or withdrawal of accreditation and the associated consequences without undue delay.

## EOMS (Education Organization Management System) Certification-Specific Conditions

- a) The certification body shall ensure that use of the accreditation symbol for EOMS certification does not imply accreditation beyond the education management system scope.
- b) Marketing materials for EOMS certification must clearly indicate the scope of the certified management system and not imply endorsement of educational services or content quality by NSF.
- c) The EOMS certification documents and symbols shall only be used by certified organizations in a manner that reflects the certified management system and not the curriculum, teaching quality, or academic credentials.
- d) The certification body shall monitor the use of EOMS certification symbols to ensure no misrepresentation or misuse in promotional materials, websites, or brochures.

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## Contravention of the Conditions

- a) If an accredited CAB or its client misuses the NSF accreditation symbol or ISO logo, the CAB shall take appropriate corrective actions. Repeated violations by the client may result in withdrawal of conformity assessment attestation.
- b) If the CAB fails to act, NSF may suspend or withdraw the CAB's accreditation.
- c) If the CAB itself misuses the symbols/logos, NSF shall require corrective action. Depending on the severity, actions may include suspension, withdrawal, public notice, or legal action.

## Action on Suspension and Termination

- a) Upon **suspension**, the CAB must immediately cease use of all materials with the NSF accreditation symbol or ISO logo. Use can only resume once the suspension is revoked.
- b) Upon **termination** (due to non-renewal or withdrawal), the CAB shall immediately stop using any stationery, certificates, or publicity materials bearing the NSF accreditation symbol or ISO logo.

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