

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

Before any attempt can be made to talk about international recognition, one should clarify the concepts of certification and of accreditation. These are:

Certification is the procedure by which a third party gives assurance that a product, process or service conforms to specified requirements.

Accreditation is the procedure by which an authoritative body gives formal recognition that a body is competent to carry out specific tasks.

We have been accredited in South Africa by SANAS (the South African National Accreditation System) and is internationally accredited by the Raad voor Accreditatie (RvA), the Dutch Accreditation Organization, to perform SANS 9001 :2000/ SABS ISO 9000 certifications. SANAS and RvA are members of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF).

International recognition and/or acceptance of SABS CERTIFICATION certificate has been established through the multilateral European Accreditation of Certification (EAC) agreement. The national accreditation bodies of the following European countries agreed to recognize the equivalence of one another's system and the certificates of the certification bodies accredited under those systems:

RvA	Raad voor Accreditatie of the Netherlands	CAI	Czech Accreditation Institute
DAR	Deutsche Akkreditierungsrat (Germany)	DSM	Department of Standards (Malaysia)
FINAS	Finnish Accreditation Services	ENAC	Spanish Accreditation Organization
NA	Norsk Akkreditering (Norway)	JAZ-ANZ	Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand
SAS	Swiss Accreditation Services	EA	European Cooperation for Accreditation
SWEDAC	Swedish Board for Technical Accreditation	KAN-BSN	Indonesia Accreditation Organization
UKAS	United Kingdom Accreditation Service	KAB	Korean Accreditation Board
COFRAC	French Accreditation Organization	INMETRO	National Institute of Metrology, Standardization & Industrial Quality - Brazil
SINGER	Italian Accreditation Organization	MAC	National Accreditation Council - Thailand
DANAK	Danish Accreditation Organization	PAC	Pacific Accreditation Cooperation - Australia
ANSI-RAB NAP	American National Standards Institute (USA)	SAC	Singapore Accreditation Council
BELCERT	Belgium Accreditation System for Certification	SCC	Standards Council of Canada
CNAB	China National Accreditation for Import/Export	NAB	The Irish National Accreditation Board
CNACR	China National Accreditation for Registrars	JAB	The Japan Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment

The RvA and SANAS are both co-signatories of a Multilateral Agreement and also co-signatories of the EAC agreement, and this means that your SABS ISO 9000 certification is acknowledged and accepted in European countries as well as in all other countries where the RvA has accredited certification bodies.

The RvA and SANAS accreditations, as well as the use of their logos, places SABS CERTIFICATION certification on an equal footing with any certification granted by a European certifier, and will consequently further enhance the acceptability and good reputation of SABS worldwide. This will create even greater confidence between certified organizations and their clients.