



Why Choose Merit Quality Certification

When choose Merit Quality Certification as certification body to carry out ISO 9001:2008 certifications

Following are **the aspects the organization must take into account**.

- The best reason for wanting to implement the standards is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of company operations. Certification of the management system is not ISO 9001:2008 requirement.
- Deciding to have an independent audit of the system to confirm that it conforms to ISO 9001:2008 is **a decision to be taken on business grounds**: For example
 - If it is a contractual or regulatory requirements.
 - If it is a market requirement or to meet customer preferences.
 - If it falls within the context of a risk management program.
 - If the organization thinks it will motivate staff by setting a clear goal for the development of its management system.

Criteria to consider include:

- bear in mind that the cheapest might prove to be the most costly if its auditing is below standard
- establish whether the certification body has auditors with experience in the organization's sector of activity
- establish whether the certification body implements, or is migrating to **ISO/IEC 17021:2006, Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems**

Another point to clarify is whether or not the certification body has been accredited and, if so, by whom.

Accreditation, in simple terms, means that a certification body has been officially approved as competent to carry out certification in specified business sectors by any reputed accreditation body.

In most countries, accreditation is a choice, not an obligation and the fact that a certification body is not accredited does not, by itself, mean that it is not a reputable organization. For example, a certification body operating nationally in a highly specific sector might enjoy such a good reputation that it does not feel there is any advantage for it to go to the expense of being accredited. That said, **many certification bodies choose to seek accreditation**, even when it is not compulsory, in order to be able to demonstrate **an independent confirmation of their competence**.