



Joint Statement

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World Accreditation Day 2019 (#WAD2019)

Accreditation: Adding Value to Supply Chains



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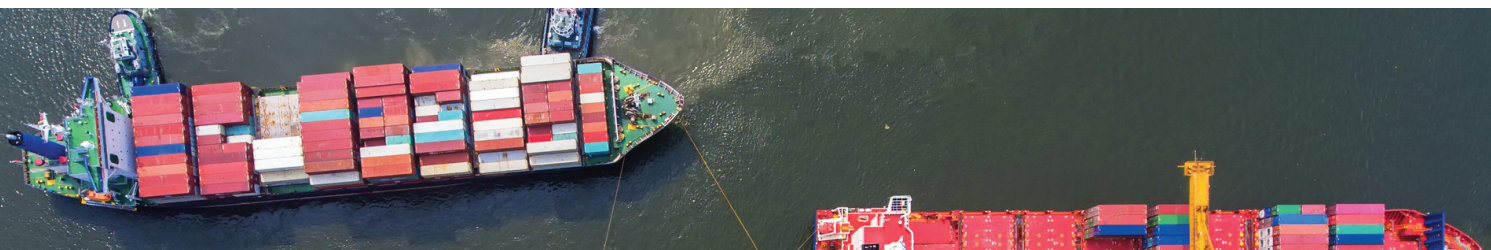
World Accreditation Day 2019 highlights the role of accreditation in adding value to supply chains.

Supply chains provide a vital role in delivering products and services for consumers, business and the public sector in a timely, cost-efficient and quality manner. Supply chains are constantly evolving from complex systems crossing multiple borders to new and diverse supply chains aimed at ensuring all stakeholders' requirements are met, including the need for ensuring sustainability and responsible supply.

Accreditation and, with it, other quality infrastructure tools such as standards, metrology and conformity assessment, provide widely accepted tools that help deliver value to the supply chain. These tools help with trust and assurance, enabling confidence in both final products and services and the manner in which they are placed on the market and used.

From the accreditation of laboratories which test safety of toys, the inspection of manufacturing processes, to the accredited certification of food manufacturers to food safety standards, accreditation adds value to supply chains by supporting the wide spectrum of needs of interested parties.

Global supply chains which cross international borders are significant beneficiaries of the global nature of accreditation. The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) both manage accreditation based on internationally developed and accepted standards. As such, laboratories, inspection bodies and certification bodies are accredited against international standards. Conformity assessment bodies in turn use global standards to evaluate samples, products, services, management systems and persons. By having this global accreditation system in place, confidence is provided for each leg of supply chains, helping businesses deliver products and services which, most importantly, consumers can trust.





The system of accreditation has been estimated to cover economies that represent 96% of global GDP (*Source: World Economic Forum*); IAF members accredit certification bodies and verification/validation bodies and ILAC members accredit laboratory and inspection bodies. This system helps to ensure the work of accreditation bodies across the globe is consistent, maintaining international standards from one accreditation body to another.

The mainstream acceptance of accreditation by both pan-regional bodies and domestic regulators within individual governments also helps WTO member governments to meet their responsibilities under the Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement. This example demonstrates one of the key goals of accreditation to support trade.

World Accreditation Day 2019 aims to highlight and celebrate the way accreditation adds value to supply chains. Its objective enable a wide audience of businesses, government, regulators and consumers to understand better the role of accreditation in adding value to supply chains.

Resources such as www.business-benefits.org and www.publicsectorassurance.org will support events, press and television coverage, and workshops and seminars will take place in conjunction with the celebration of World Accreditation Day in over 100 economies to raise awareness of the value that accreditation plays supporting supply chains.

For further details, contact your local accreditation body.
http://www.iaf.nu//articles/IAF_MEMBERS_SIGNATORIES/4 and
<https://ilac.org/ilac-membership/>

Further case studies, research and support material is available at
<http://www.publicsectorassurance.org/topic-areas/health-safety/>

