



**Australian Government**

Department of Defence

Intelligence and Security - Australasian Information Security Evaluation Program

AI005

# **Australasian Certification Authority**

## **AISEP Interpretation**

<b>AI No.</b>	AI005
<b>AI Version</b>	1.0
<b>Status</b>	FINAL
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<b>Issue Date</b>	06 FEB 2007
<b>Summary</b>	This AISEP Interpretation enhances the timing requirements associated with the attainment of NATA test laboratory status.
<b>Reference</b>	AISEP Publication No. 1 – Program Policy V3.1. (AP1)

### **Evaluation Requirement**

*The Arrangement on the Recognition of Common Criteria Certificates In the field of Information Technology Security*, commonly known as the Common Criteria Recognition Arrangement (CCRA) sets out various conditions for certificate recognition including that:

*a) the Evaluation Facility*

*- either has been accredited in its respective country by a recognised Accreditation Body in accordance with EN 45001 or ISO Guide 25 or in accordance with an interpretation thereof approved by all Participants and has been licensed or approved in accordance with Annex B.3,*

*- or has been established under the laws, statutory instruments, or other official administrative procedures valid in the country concerned and meets the requirements laid down in Annex B.3 to this Arrangement;*

Further, the requirements of Annex B.3 of the CCRA state that:

*Unless an Evaluation Facility has been established under a law or statutory instrument, if it is to participate in a Scheme, it needs to fulfil two conditions:*

- a) be accredited by an Accreditation Body officially recognised in the country concerned;*
- and*
- b) be licensed or otherwise approved by the CB responsible for the management of the Scheme.*

*Accreditation entails the Evaluation Facility's demonstrating its impartiality and its general technical, methodological and procedural competence and in particular that it meets the requirements of EN 45001 or ISO Guide 25 in so far as these requirements are consistent with the peculiarities of the domain of IT security.*

Within Australia the relevant ISO Guide 25 (AS ISO/IEC 17025) accreditation body is the National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia (NATA).

## **Background**

AISEP Publication No. 1 – Program Policy currently requires AISEFs to attain the relevant accreditation status from NATA within the first year of the AISEF's operation.

With the elimination of the AISEF provisional licence concept, it will become technically feasible for any new AISEF to complete a genuine evaluation before such accreditation is attained.

AISEP Interpretation AI005 resolves this potential discrepancy by enhancing the timing requirements associated with the attainment of NATA test laboratory status.

## **Evaluation Guidance**

Upon release of AI005, the relevant affected paragraphs of AP1 are deemed to read:

- 73. An AISEF MUST submit an application to NATA for accreditation as a test laboratory. Test laboratory status MUST be achieved:*
  - a. within the first year of the AISEF's operation, and*
  - b. before the end of the conclude phase for the AISEF's first evaluation requiring recognition under the CCRA.*

*Note: For the purposes of paragraph 73 the conclude phase of an evaluation project is deemed to end two calendar months after ACA acceptance of the final version of the Evaluation Technical Report (ETR) associated with that evaluation.*

74. *Within the timeframe constraints outlined in paragraph 73, an AISEF MUST be accredited by NATA against the following requirements:*
- a. ISO/IEC 17025: General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories (Ref. [10])*
  - b. Supplementary Requirements for Accreditation of Australasian Information Security Evaluation Facilities (Ref. [11]).*

Prospective AISEFs should note that AI005 officially changes the policy requirements relevant to the acquisition of NATA accreditation.