



Certification Europe Transition Policy for ISO 22301:2019

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ISO 22301:2019 Business Continuity Management Systems was published on 30th October 2019, this replaces the older version of the standard, ISO 22301:2012, and the IAF Transitional Arrangements, via Resolution 2019-17, confirmed a transition period of 3 years from that date.

Due to unprecedented circumstances because of COVID-19, the IAF subsequently confirmed a 6-month extension to the transition period. This extension applies to all intermediate requirements contained in these transition arrangements.

Certification Europe is accredited to certify organisations' management systems to ISO 22301:2012 and intends to be in a position to offer accredited certification to ISO 22301:2019 from Q2 2021.

Certification Europe will cease conducting all initial certification (Stage 1 and Stage 2) and recertification audits to ISO 22301:2012 by 31st October 2021.

All other existing ISO 22301:2012 certifications must transition no later than 31st October 2022.

Any remaining ISO 22301:2012 certifications shall expire or be withdrawn at the end of the transition period, 30th April 2023.

Once clients successfully transition their existing certification from ISO 22301:2012 to ISO 22301:2019, the expiry date of the new certificate will be in-line with their current 3-year certification cycle, so no certification time will be lost.

Certification Europe has created this policy document to clarify the certification process for current and future clients.

While ISO 22301:2019 is similar in parts to ISO 22301:2012, there are some clarifications and additional requirements that clients will have to meet before their Business Continuity Management System can be deemed to be compliant with the ISO 22301:2019 standard.

As we want to make the ISO 22301:2019 certification process clear and smooth for current and future clients, we have developed a simple policy involving three different scenarios which can be applied to specific situations.

Scenario A - New clients

- For organisations that have developed a Business Continuity Management System with a view to obtaining ISO 22301:2012 certification, Certification Europe recommends that you consider an assessment against the requirements of ISO 22301:2019, as certification to ISO 22301:2012 cannot be provided to **new clients** after **31st October 2021**.



Scenario B - Existing clients

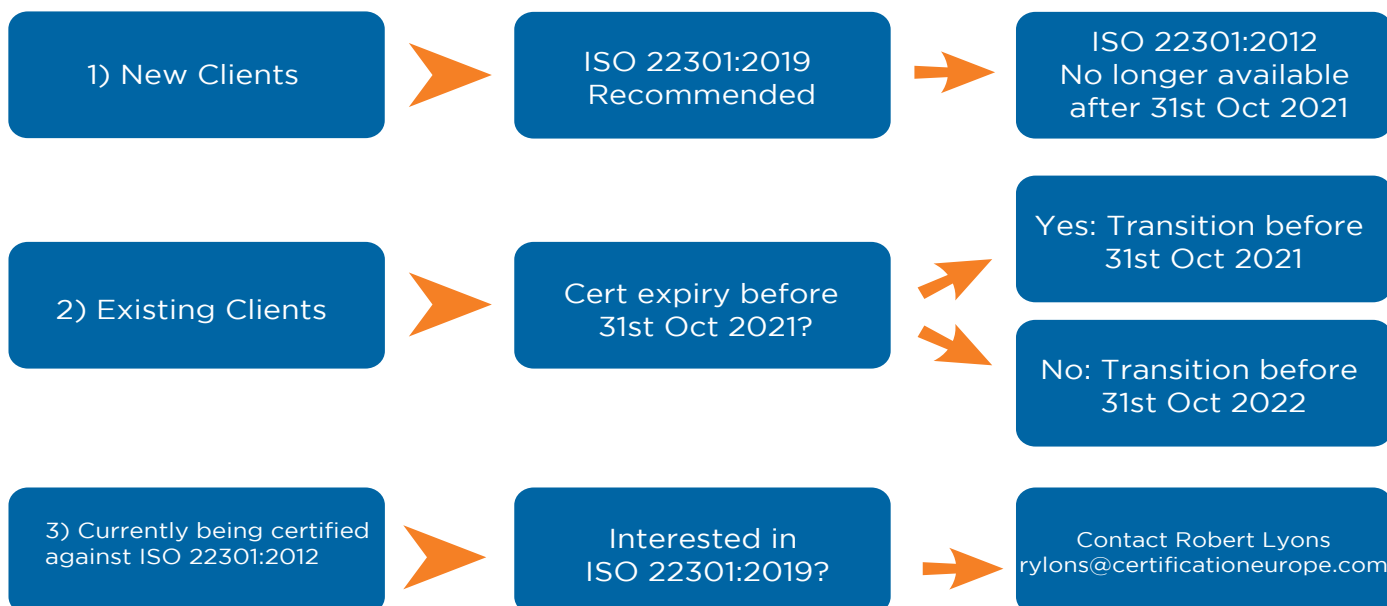
- For our existing clients certified to ISO 22301:2012, Certification Europe will continue to audit against ISO 22301:2012 as per your planned surveillance / recertification audit schedule. Reference will only be made to ISO 22301:2012 standard when reporting audit findings.
- During your scheduled assessments, our assessor will agree with the client a date in the future to perform a Transition Assessment of the Business Continuity Management Systems against the requirements of ISO 22301:2019.
- Surveillance and recertification audits will continue to be conducted against the ISO 22301:2012 version of the standard until the client is in a position to carry out their transition audit.
- Recertification audits to ISO 22301:2012 cannot be conducted from 31st October 2021
- If your current ISO 22301:2012 certificate expires by 31st October 2021, if you wish to remain certified for Business Continuity Management Systems you must complete a transition audit to ISO 22301:2019 prior to **31st October 2021**.
- If your current ISO 22301:2012 certificate expires after 31st October 2021 you must complete a transition audit against the requirements of ISO 22301:2019 no later than **31st October 2022**.
- At the end of the transition audit, if our assessor is of the opinion the Business Continuity Management System conforms to the requirements of the ISO 22301:2019 standard, then a positive recommendation transition of certification may be made based upon the evidence observed during the audit.
- Findings and recommendations from this assessment will be recorded in the surveillance / recertification audit report and will be subject to an independent technical review prior to the transition certification decision being made.
- If the assessor is not in a position to recommend transition for certification to ISO 22301:2019, then a further assessment may be required depending on the nature of issues requiring action. Any required action would be agreed between the assessor and client representative at the audit closing meeting.
- If transition to ISO 22301:2019 is not approved prior to the end of the transition period on the **30th April 2023**, the clients Business Continuity Management Systems will not be certified to either ISO 22301:2012 or ISO 22301:2019 and will need to commence the certification process again with a Stage 1 and Stage 2 certification audits to have their system certified.



Scenario C

- Any client / organisation that is in the process of being certified to ISO 22301:2012 but who now wishes to be assessed to ISO 22301:2019, should contact Rob Lyons via email at rlyons@certificationeurope.com, who will be in a position to discuss client requirements on an individual basis
- This should be taken into account by clients / organisations as they plan activities for the maintenance and continual improvement of their Business Continuity Management System.
- You should familiarise yourself with the new version of the standard, and ensure all relevant personnel are aware of the changes from the previous version and any impact on the operation of your Business Continuity Management System.
- Identify if there are any gaps which need to be addressed in order to fulfil the requirements of the new standard, and if additional training is required, and create a plan to address those gaps.
- Any further queries should be directed to Rob Lyons via email at rlyons@certificationeurope.com

To Summarize





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