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International protocol for doping control

Protocole international sur le contrôle du dopage

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

In other circumstances, particularly when there is an urgent market requirement for such documents, a technical committee may decide to publish other types of normative document:

— an ISO Publicly Available Specification (ISO/PAS) represents an agreement between technical experts in an ISO working group and is accepted for publication if it is approved by more than 50 % of the members of the parent committee casting a vote;

— an ISO Technical Specification (ISO/TS) represents an agreement between the members of a technical committee and is accepted for publication if it is approved by 2/3 of the members of the committee casting a vote.

An ISO/PAS or ISO/TS is reviewed every three years with a view to deciding whether it can be transformed into an International Standard.

ISO/PAS 18873 was prepared by the International Anti-Doping Arrangement (IADA) and was adopted, under a special “fast-track procedure”, by the ISO member bodies.

Contents

Preamble

Australia, Canada, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom have established an international alliance in the area of anti-doping in sport. At the government level they have signed a memorandum of understanding, the International Anti-Doping Arrangement (IADA), outlining their commitment to co-operatively pursue and promote anti-doping in sport.

The IADA mission is to ensure the development and harmonisation of the domestic doping control programmes of the seven signatories and through this concrete example of good practice, positively influence the broader international sports community.

The IADA Strategic Plan for 1995-1998 emphasised the need for developing and implementing quality systems for national anti-doping programmes. Such systems will contribute to uniform practices and also increase world-wide confidence in doping control procedures.

At the July 1995 IADA meeting in Oslo, Norway, the IADA countries agreed to take part in the IADA Quality Project with the goals of developing and implementing quality systems for the participating countries' domestic doping control programmes, and having the quality systems certified by an internationally recognised and accredited ISO certifying agency. The ISO 9002 standard in the ISO 9000 series was recommended to be the reference standard for establishing quality systems in each IADA country.

The IADA Standard for Doping Control, version 2.0, was approved by the members of the IADA Steering Group at their March 1998 meeting in Sydney**,** Australia. In the IADA Standard for Doping Control, the IADA member countries have defined the overall quality policy for doping control programmes as follows:

«Through the implementation of quality systems for doping control which satisfy the requirements in the IADA Standard for Doping Control, the doping control procedures and practices will be consistent, secure and reliable in all phases of the doping control process.»

The IADA Standard for Doping Control shall be reviewed according to the «Procedure for Changing and Controlling the Quality Manual» which was approved by the IADA Steering Group in Canberra**,** Australia on 10 February, 1997.

Any departure from the policies and/or standards set out in the IADA Standard for Doping Control shall not invalidate the finding of a positive test result or failure to comply with a request to provide a sample unless such a departure casts real doubt on the reliability of the finding.

1.0 The IADA Quality Concept

The IADA Quality Concept presents a comprehensive approach for managing and improving quality control in doping control programmes.

By setting policies and standards for carrying out the doping control process and by ensuring that the doping control procedures in different anti-doping organisations are in compliance with these policies and standards, it will be possible to develop high quality, harmonised doping control practices world wide.

The IADA Quality Concept is comprised of the following elements:

The IADA Standard for Doping Control
ISO Certified Quality Systems for Doping Control
Guidelines for Implementing ISO Certified Quality Systems.

The IADA Standard for Doping Control

The objectives for the IADA Standard for Doping Control are to improve and harmonise doping control practices, particularly as they directly affect the athlete.

The IADA Standard for Doping Control prescribes policies and standards for the doping control process and for the quality management of doping control procedures and programmes. The IADA Standard for Doping Control was designed and developed at the international level with the support and joint commitment of the IADA countries. The Standard includes:

Policies and Standards for the Doping Control Process
Frame Conditions for Anti-Doping Organisations
Policies and Standards for Applying ISO 9002 to Doping Control.

Policies and Standards for the Doping Control Process
represent world best practices for doping control in sport and will be essential in harmonising doping control procedures and practices in the international sport community.

The doping control process has been divided into seven phases. Each of these phases focuses on activities that have a strong impact on the overall quality of the doping control process. The seven phases are: test distribution planning; selection and notification of athletes; preparing for and conducting the sample collection session; handling of samples; sample analysis; results management; and disciplinary procedures, sanctions and appeals. These seven phases represent a natural activity flow in the doping control process.

The main customers of the doping control process are the athletes.

Frame Conditions for Anti-Doping Organisations
include areas that have a considerable influence on the various phases in the doping control process. Frame conditions are not part of the natural activity flow in the doping control process but are prerequisites for conducting doping control programmes and procedures. Every anti-doping organisation must have these prerequisites in place in order to carry out doping controls in compliance with the policies and standards for the doping control process prescribed in the following chapter.

The frame conditions will vary depending on the type of organisation conducting doping controls. The IADA Standard for Doping Control distinguishes between frame conditions for anti-doping organisations at the national level, anti-doping organisations acting on behalf of international sport organisations and anti-doping organisations acting on behalf of major international event organisers.

Policies and Standards for Applying ISO 9002 to the Doping Control Process
introduce quality management principles. The objective of these policies and standards is to manage the doping control process using quality systems that are developed at the national or organisational level and that are in compliance with ISO 9002.

Through the implementation of quality systems for doping control that satisfy requirements in the IADA Standard for Doping Control, doping control procedures and practices will be consistent, secure and reliable in all phases of the doping control process. In turn**,** by applying the requirements in the ISO 9002 standard to the doping control process, a quality system will be developed that ensures the effective implementation of the IADA Standard for Doping Control at the national or organisational level. The ISO 9000 series standards are widely recognised and have been adopted by more than 70 countries. There is a growing interest in international quality standards in many industries, including the service sector. Quality systems developed in compliance with the ISO 9000 series will increase both the impact of doping control programmes and confidence in doping control practices.

The IADA Standard for Doping Control is the main reference document in the IADA Quality Concept. Therefore, any country or organisation participating in the IADA Quality Concept is committed to following the policies and standards prescribed in the IADA Standard for Doping Control.

ISO Certified Quality Systems for Doping Control

The policies and standards for applying ISO 9002 to the doping control process define the requirements for the development and implementation of quality systems that are in compliance with the IADA Quality Concept. Anti-doping organisations must implement quality systems according to these standards in order to be part of the IADA Quality Concept.

The quality systems shall be certified in accordance with ISO 9002 by an accredited certifying agency. Doping control is a new area of application for ISO 9000 quality systems. It is therefore necessary to adapt the requirements of the ISO 9002 standard in a manner that is appropriate for the doping control process.

The quality systems represent the operational level in the IADA Quality Concept. The development and implementation of required quality system documentation such as the quality manual, quality policies, procedures, work instructions, specifications, etc. are critical for the effective application of the IADA Standard for Doping Control. The quality system documentation is the main tool for ensuring that doping control activities are carried out in accordance with the prescribed standards.

The quality systems shall be audited and reviewed according to specific procedures in order to confirm that the critical activities in the doping control process are controlled, assured, improved and properly managed.

Guidelines for Implementing ISO Certified Quality Systems

In order to have a certified quality system, the IADA Quality Concept requires quality systems to be in compliance with the standards prescribed in the IADA Standard for Doping Control and the ISO 9002 standard.

The objectives of these guidelines are to ensure the effective and homogeneous implementation of quality systems within different anti-doping organisations such as national anti-doping organisations, international sport organisations and international event organisers, and to ensure that the quality systems are appropriately adapted to meet each anti-doping organisation's specific needs and requirements.

The guidelines describe the process of developing a quality system and provide direction on how to establish a quality system in practice.

The following model demonstrates the various elements in the IADA Quality Concept and how they interrelate:

The IADA Quality Concept