LATAK-D.011

Regulations on the Use of the National Accreditation Mark and the Reference to Accreditation and EA MLA

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The updated version of this document is available on the official website **www.latak.gov.lv**.

This document may be translated into other languages. The text in Latvian shall be considered the base text.

1. Abbreviations, Terms and References

1.1. **CAB** – conformity assessment body accredited for one of the following scopes of accreditation: inspections; certification of management systems; certification of persons; testing; calibration; medical laboratory examinations; certification of products; environmental verification; validation and verification; organization of skills testing.

1.2. **LATAK** – Latvian National Accreditation Body, State Agency "Latvian National Accreditation Bureau".

1.3. **Accreditation logo (LATAK logo)** – trademark registered in the Patent Office of the Republic of Latvia on 20 February 1997 under the registration number M36333 (registration renewed on 27 February 2005), which is protected pursuant to the regulatory enactments in force. The trademark is owned by the State Agency "Latvian National Accreditation Bureau". Only LATAK is entitled to use the LATAK logo.

1.4. **Accreditation mark** – serves to attest the accreditation status of the CAB. The accreditation mark consists of the accreditation logo, number of the accreditation standard and the accreditation registration number of the CAB, in accordance with the Annex to Cabinet Regulation No. 754 "Regulations on the Assessment, Accreditation and Monitoring of Conformity Assessment Bodies" of 19 December 2023. In the documents of the international accreditation organizations, also the term "accreditation symbol" is used. Example of the accreditation mark:

EN ISO/IEC 17025
T-001

1.5. **Reference to accreditation** – way of attesting the accreditation status, which contains a statement on the accreditation of a CAB, identifying the CAB's accreditation number and scope of accreditation.

1.6. **EA MLA** – Multilateral Agreement of the European Cooperation for Accreditation signed between the EA members whereby the signatories recognize and accept the equivalence of the accreditation systems and the reliability of the conformity assessment results provided by conformity assessment bodies that are signatories to the agreement.

1.7. **EA MLA Mark**: the registered word/device mark for the purpose of identifying an EA MLA signatory and its accredited CABs, whose copyright is owned by EA.

1.8. **IAF MLA mark** – The ownership of the IAF MLA Mark belongs to the International Accreditation Forum, Inc. (IAF), and IAF is responsible for the worldwide protection of the IAF MLA Mark. IAF ML 2:2023 "General Principles on the Use of the IAF MLA Mark" https://global-aci.org/.

1.9. **IAF MLA combined mark** – The "Combined Mark" is the combination of the IAF MLA Mark and the IAF MLA signatories own logo or symbol.

1.10. **ILAC MRA mark** – registered as a word/device mark and is owned by ILAC. The ILAC MRA Mark is associated with the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) and can only be used on its own by ILAC and by Recognized Regional Cooperation Bodies.

1.11. **ILAC MRA combined mark** – is the ILAC MRA Mark used in combination with the ILAC MRA signatory's logo. The Combined ILAC MRA Mark can only be used by an ILAC MRA signatory for accreditation activities covered by the scope of their ILAC MRA signatory status, once an example of the Combined ILAC MRA Mark has been approved by the ILAC Secretariat and after signing *the ILAC R7-F1Agreement for the use of the ILAC MRA Mark.* https://global-aci.org/.

1.12. **IAF** – International Accreditation Forum.

1.13. **Accredited report/ certificate** – document that includes the conformity assessment results in the CAB's scope of accreditation and bears the accreditation mark or reference to accreditation.

1.14. **Regulations** – "Regulations on the Use of the Accreditation Mark and the Reference to Accreditation and EA MLA".

1.15. **Cabinet Regulation No. 754** – Cabinet Regulation No. 754 "Regulations on the Assessment, Accreditation and Monitoring of Conformity Assessment Bodies" of 17 December 2019.

1.16. **Standard LVS EN ISO/IEC 17011:2017** – Conformity assessment – Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies (ISO/IEC 17011:2017).

1.17. **Document EA-3/01 M:2021** „*EA conditions for the use of accreditation symbols, logos and other claims of accreditation and reference to the EA MLA signatory status*" and *EA-3/01 S1:2025 "Rules on the use of EA MLA Mark",* available on: http://www.european-accreditation.org.

2. Purpose

The Regulations prescribe the conditions for the use of the Latvian national accreditation mark and/or reference to accreditation, the EA MLA mark and EA MLA signatory status, ILAC MRA combined mark and IAF MLA combined mark, as well as special conditions for accreditation schemes for conformity assessment bodies accredited within the Latvian national accreditation system.

3. General Terms and Conditions

A full text reference to accreditation may be used instead of the accreditation mark. Typical phrase: "<CAB> accredited by LATAK under the accreditation number <XXX> for <scope of accreditation – inspections/ certification of management systems/ certification of persons/ testing/ calibration/ medical laboratory examinations/ certification of products/ environmental verification/ validation and verification/ organization of skills testing>".

4. Reference to EA MLA Signatory Status and Use of the EA MLA Mark

4.1. Reference to EA MLA Signatory Status

The CAB may refer to the EA MLA signatory status only in accredited reports/certificates by including statements or textual references to the EA MLA:

4.1.1. when used together with the accreditation mark, the statement **"LATAK is a signatory to the EA MLA"** shall be included;

4.1.2. when a reference to accreditation is made, a reference to the EA MLA shall also be included, for example: **"<CAB name> is accredited by LATAK under accreditation number <scope type><XXX>, which is covered by the EA MLA."**

4.2. Use of the EA MLA Mark

4.2.1. The CAB may use the EA MLA Mark provided that all requirements set out in the current version of **EA-3/01 S1** are complied with;

4.2.2. The EA MLA Mark may only be used in combination with the LATAK accreditation mark and only in relation to activities that fall within both the CAB's scope of accreditation and LATAK's EA MLA signatory scope;

4.2.3. When using the EA MLA Mark, the CAB shall also comply with all conditions set out in these Rules for the use of the LATAK accreditation mark.

5. Regulations on the Use of the Accreditation Mark and the Reference to Accreditation

5.1. The accreditation mark and/or reference to accreditation may be used **only by the CAB.**

5.2. It shall be the responsibility of the CAB to ensure that the accreditation mark and/or reference to accreditation, including on electronic media, are used in accordance with these Regulations.

5.3. The CAB shall be entitled to use the accreditation mark and/or reference to accreditation, if it has been granted accreditation for the relevant scope of accreditation.

5.4. The accreditation marks and/or references to accreditation shall not state, imply or suggest that LATAK accepts responsibility for the accuracy of the results and/or the decision made. There shall be no statements/ references indicating that LATAK approves the respective conformity assessment results.

5.5. The CAB shall use the accreditation mark and/or reference to accreditation only together with its name and/or logo. The accreditation mark shall appear in close proximity to the CAB's logo or name. The accreditation mark shall not be highlighted more than the CAB's logo and name.

5.6. When using the accreditation mark or reference to accreditation, the CAB shall ensure that the CAB, the scope of accreditation and the accreditation body are clearly identified.

5.7. Requirements with regard to the size, colour and shape of the accreditation mark are laid down in Cabinet Regulation No. 754.

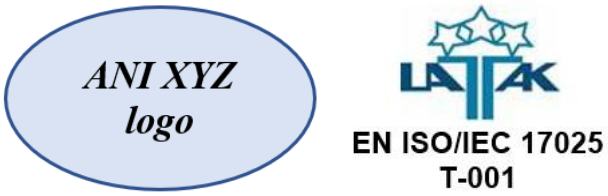
5.8. It shall be taken into account that the Annex to Cabinet Regulation No. 754 prescribes the size of the accreditation mark when used on A4 format sheet. Further information on the text:

- Font – Arial or Times New Roman, black.
- Font size – 8 pt (or proportionally to the increase or decrease of the accreditation logo).
- Space between the logo and the text – 1 mm.
- Spacing between lines – 0 pt.
- In the reference to a standard, the abbreviation of the Latvian standard, i.e., LVS, shall not be used.

On a larger or smaller surface, the accreditation marks may be increased or decreased, in accordance with the proportions referred to in the Annex to Cabinet Regulation No. 754. When decreasing the sizes, the accreditation standard and CAB number shall be clearly legible.

5.9. If a body is accredited for several scopes of accreditation:

5.9.1. Only one accreditation mark covering a specific accredited service may appear on the report, certificate or any other document containing conformity assessment results. Example:



5.9.2. The communication media may contain all accreditation marks or references to accreditation, indicating the respective scope of accreditation next to the number of each body. Also, the respective standard may be indicated, e.g., *"SIA XYZ accredited by LATAK under the accreditation number T-001 for testing (EN ISO/IEC 17025) and 1-004 for inspections (EN ISO/IEC 17020)"*. Example with the logo and accreditation marks of the body:



6. Use of the Accreditation Mark and the Reference to Accreditation in Reports and Certificates

6.1. When a CAB's customer requires an activity, which is covered by the CAB's scope of accreditation, it is an implicit expectation of the customer to get an accredited report/ certificate. So, for conformity assessment activities that are covered by the CAB's scope of accreditation, the CAB shall issue an accredited report/ certificate, unless explicitly agreed between the CAB and its customer on a service without accreditation mark. In these cases, the CAB shall inform its customer that such reports/ certificates are not covered by EA MLA, i.e., results issued by an accredited

CAB without accreditation mark or reference to accreditation may not be recognized in the European Union (they may not be assumed as compliant with the respective accreditation standards or EA MLA provisions).

6.2. In order to use an accreditation mark or refer to accreditation and the EA MLA signatory status, the reports/ certificates shall contain accredited results.

6.3. When issuing results in scopes for which the CAB has been accredited, the following shall be taken into account:

6.3.1. In case of certification of management systems, the CABs shall issue accredited certificates (see IAF Resolutions 2016-17, 2018-13, 2017-19). When issuing an accredited certificate for the scope of management systems, the body may, within the scope of certification, refer only to the standards and mandatory documents or codes of practice covered by the CAB's scope of accreditation (IAF TC 16/10/03, EA CC 36.10).

6.3.2. In case of inspections, testing and calibration, medical laboratory examinations, environmental verification, validation and verification, and organization of skills testing, the CAB reports shall bear the accreditation mark or reference to accreditation (unless prevented by legal or regulatory requirements), when they contain results covered by the regulated area (accreditation is mandatory by law) or when they are to be displayed or sent to third parties (document EA-3/01, Paragraph 5.2.1.).

6.3.3. Testing, calibration and medical laboratories carrying out their activities both within and without the scope of accreditation, may use the accreditation mark and/or references to accreditation only if the amount of results/ parameters of the accredited methods exceeds 80% of the total amount of results/ parameters.

6.3.4. A clear distinction shall be made between the results of an accredited and non-accredited activity. The results/ methods not falling within the scope of accreditation shall be clearly identified in the accredited certificates/ reports issued by the CAB.

6.3.5. Whenever an accredited CAB operates from several sites among which several have not been granted accreditation, the joint reports may contain the accreditation mark and/or reference to accreditation only in conjunction with due reference to the accredited sites.

7. Use of the Accreditation Mark and the Reference to Accreditation in Other Documents and In Cases Where the Accreditation is Suspended or Withdrawn

7.1. The CAB shall be entitled to use the accreditation mark and/or reference to accreditation on letters and promotional materials of accreditation services, and on the CAB's website, provided that the CAB is clearly and unambiguously identified and relevant to the scope of accreditation, the accreditation does not cover a non-accredited scope, and the compliance with these Regulations is ensured (the CAB may not mislead its customers and third parties).

7.2. On commercial documents, such as quotations with regard to the accredited activities which do not fall into the CAB's accreditation scope, it should be clearly and

unambiguously identified which activities are covered by the scope of accreditation and which are not.

Example: *"ABC laboratory" accredited by LATAK under the accreditation number T-XXX for microbiological testing of food (full scope of accreditation available in the laboratory upon request or on the LATAK website: http://www.latak.gov.lv) offers (..)."*

7.3. The use of the accreditation mark and reference to accreditation, EA MLA Mark and/or the EA MLA signatory status in cases other than those described in these Regulations shall not be discouraged if it is in line with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011 and it is not forbidden by the relevant legal or regulatory requirements. The CAB shall be invited to seek a written approval from LATAK prior to any such use.

7.4. If the CAB's accreditation is withdrawn or suspended, either in full or for a specified part of its scope, the CAB shall cease using the accreditation mark, any reference to accreditation and the EA MLA Mark upon notification thereof.

8. General principles on the use of the ILAC MRA Mark

8.1. The Combined ILAC MRA Mark can only be used by an ILAC MRA signatory for accreditation activities covered by the scope of their ILAC MRA signatory status. The ILAC MRA mark may only be used in conjunction with national accreditation mark.

8.2. Accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) that are accredited by an Accreditation Body that is a signatory to the ILAC MRA, such as LATAK, can obtain permission to use the 'Accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA Mark'. This is a mark that combines the LATAK national accreditation symbol with the ILAC MRA Mark. Rules for the reproduction and use of the Accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA Mark are specified in ILAC publication ILAC-R7.

8.3. All LATAK accredited Testing and calibration laboratories, medical laboratories and Inspection bodies are entitled to use the Combined ILAC MRA Mark provided they have signing and submit to LATAK a declaration that it has familiarized itself with and will comply with all LATAK and ILAC rules and requirements relating to the use of the ILAC MRA combined mark and must obtain LATAK's permission to use the ILAC MRA mark.

8.4. The combined ILAC MRA mark is used only in the format and placement specified in these rules (the ILAC MRA logo may be placed to the left, right, above or below the mark in close proximity to the mark, unless LATAK has given written permission to use an alternative configuration.

8.5. The ILAC MRA mark shall always be used in its original, designed proportions. Not be distorted, compressed or stretched in any way. Not appear in a size that renders the ILAC MRA words unreadable. Maintain similar proportions to the accreditation body's logo (within the Combined ILAC MRA Mark) or the accreditation symbol. As a general guideline, one dimension of the accreditation body logo/symbol, preferably the height, should be within approximately 5% of the size of the ILAC MRA Mark. Only be used in its normal horizontal orientation and not be rotated. Be based upon the original artwork to ensure high-quality reproduction. Photocopies of

logos from other documents shall not be used. The ILAC MRA Mark may be reproduced in black and white or in colour provided the approved colours are used.

8.6. The national accreditation mark contained in the ILAC MRA combined mark is subject to all the conditions set out in these rules for the visual display of the national accreditation mark.

Mono color/black (100% black)



Full color

ILAC MRA Mark: CMYK C100 M56 Y0 K0; Pantone 293C (blue); RGB R0 G0 B229

LATAK National Accreditation Mark: Pantone T and stars 5415C, the rest of mark Pantone 654C



9. General principles on the use of the IAF MLA Mark

9.1. The IAF MLA Mark can be used by accreditation body to demonstrate their status as a signatory to the IAF MLA. Certification and validation/verification bodies accredited by IAF MLA signatories can also use the IAF MLA Mark in combination with the accreditation mark on their certificates or statements. All LATAK accredited Certification bodies for management systems, for persons and products, verification and validation bodies are entitled to use the Combined IAF MLA Mark. The ILAC MRA mark may only be used in conjunction with national accreditation mark.

9.2. LATAK enables all Certification/Verification/Validation accredited bodies to sign a sub-license agreement which specifies precisely the rules for using the combined IAF MLA Mark. After concluding the Agreement, the accredited body will receive IAF MLA Mark, which it may use in accordance with the provisions of the agreement. Accredited bodies wishing to accede to signing the agreement should inform LATAK to that effect.

9.3. The accredited CAB shall only use the IAF MLA Mark together with their national accreditation mark in the manner set out in IAF ML 2 General Principles on Use of the IAF MLA Mark and in accordance with the main scopes and sub scopes of the IAF MLA of which the licensed IAF MLA Member is a Signatory, and for which the CAB has been accredited.

9.4. The IAF MLA Mark shall be reproduced using an authorized copy obtained from the licensed IAF MLA Member and shall be reprinted according to the following

specifications - in black and white or in the colours Pantone 2747 (dark blue); and Pantone 299 (light blue), on a clearly contrasting background, in a size which makes all the words of the IAF MLA Mark clearly distinguishable, with the width of the IAF MLA Mark no less than 20 millimetres for printed media and 75 pixels for digital media. More information about rules https://iaf.nu/en/mla-mark/

Mono color/black (100% black)



Full color

IAF MLA Mark: CMYK C100 M90 K16;

LATAK National Accreditation Mark: Pantone T and stars 5415C, the rest of mark Pantone 654C



10. Liability for the Non-Compliance with These Regulations

The CAB shall bear full responsibility for compliance with these Rules. Any use of the accreditation mark and/or reference to accreditation, the EA MLA Mark, the ILAC MRA Combined Mark, the IAF MLA Combined Mark or a reference to the EA MLA that does not comply with these Rules shall be considered a material infringement of trademark rights, copyright and accreditation requirements.

Register of Changes

Version	Content of changes	Date
09	Incorporation of a reference to the EA MLA status.	19 August 2013
10	Paragraph 5.1.3. –specification of the amount of the results in a non-accredited scope in reports and certificates bearing the accreditation mark.	5 March 2014
11	Paragraph 9 – specification of the transition period to implement the amendments referred to in Paragraph 5.1.3.	6 May 2014
12	Updating of the accreditation mark in accordance with Cabinet Regulation No. 1059, amendments to Paragraph 5.3.2.2. on the use of references and interpretations, and exclusion of the paragraph on transitional provisions containing outdated information.	
13	Full review and correction of the entire document, including with regard to the change of the accreditation mark, EA-3/01 M:2021 and ISO/IEC 17011.	5 August 2021
14	Clause 5.1 of the rules has been clarified, including a reference to clauses 6 and 7 of the rules. Clause 6.1 of the rules has been clarified, including a reference to subsection 6.3.2 of the rules. Subsection 6.3.2 of the Rules specifies the cases when the ANI report must be issued with an accreditation mark or a reference to accreditation. Subsection 6.3.3 of the Regulations specifies the cases when the use of the accreditation mark and/or reference to accreditation is permissible.	30 November 2021
15	Supplemented with rules for the use of the combined mark of ILAC MRA and IAF MLA	19 October 2022
16	Throughout the document, the reference to Cabinet Regulation No. 673 of December 17, 2019, “Regulations on the Assessment, Accreditation, and Supervision of Conformity Assessment Bodies,” has been replaced with a reference to Cabinet Regulation No. 754 of December 19, 2023, “Regulations on the Assessment, Accreditation, and Supervision of Conformity Assessment Bodies.”	10 January 2025
17	References to EA documents have been updated. The Rules have been supplemented with conditions governing the use of the EA MLA Mark, and the provisions concerning its use in the event of suspension or withdrawal of accreditation, as well as liability for non-compliant use, have been clarified.	19 August 2026