



Accreditation Quality Policy

The Center for Offshore Safety's (COS) Accreditation Program for Audit Service Providers (ASP) accredits ASP that have demonstrated the ability to conduct Safety and Environmental Management System (SEMS) audits of offshore oil and gas operations that conform to the requirements of API Recommended Practice 75¹ for SEMS, COS requirements, and 30 CFR 250 Subpart S.

The policy of COS is to conduct its Accreditation Program in compliance with all applicable requirements and regulations, the highest level of integrity, and to give confidence in our accreditation of ASP.

Everyone within the Center for Offshore Safety (COS) is fully committed to promoting policies and procedures that demonstrate the overriding importance of quality and impartiality to its accreditation activities, and to compliance with the requirements of ISO 17011². COS personnel, and others performing accreditation duties on its behalf, are committed to upholding the principle of impartiality by making decisions that are based on objective criteria while maintaining the highest level of confidence in the assessment of SEMS ASP. This commitment is supported by processes grounded in the highest level of integrity that manage conflicts of interest, ensure personnel competence, maintain confidentiality of information, retain appropriate records, protect the value of accreditation and the COS mark, and promote openness and collaboration with stakeholders. This includes opportunities for feedback of concerns and issues that are appropriately addressed and resolved in accordance with a prescribed process. These policies are communicated to and understood by all personnel involved in the accreditation program, including COS personnel and others performing accreditation duties on its behalf.

¹ ASP are expected to be able to audit to both the 3rd and 4th Editions of API RP 75.

² ISO 17011 *Conformity Assessment – General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies*, Second Edition, November 2017.



Accreditation Quality Policy and Objectives

Objectives

- Conform with the requirements of COS' Accreditation Management System Manual, 30 CFR 250.1922 and ISO 17011.
- Only accredit ASPs that have demonstrated the capability to meet the requirements of COS and 30 CFR 250 Subpart S.
- Promote openness and transparency of the COS accreditation process, welcoming input from all stakeholders.
- Promote confidence in COS accreditations and in the SEMS audit results provided by accredited ASPs.
- Identify improvement opportunities for the accreditation program through regular audits and management reviews, and to implement those opportunities that will continue to ensure that COS' accreditation activities meet the needs of stakeholders and maintain confidence in the accreditations.

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Date