



AP-D177: Product manufacturer participation in APAS

1. Scope

- a) This document provides advice to Clients (product manufacturers and toll/contract manufacturers) and Members on how:
 - i. APAS operates, and
 - ii. to become a Recognised Manufacturing Unit (RMU) of APAS Certified Products.
- b) This procedure applies to the Australian Paint Approval Scheme (APAS), under CSIRO Verification Services (CVS), a division of Infrastructure Technologies (InfraTech), Science Connect. It is to be applied to documents and other information relating to the operations of the quality, safety, environmental management, and conformity assessment audit and product certification systems.
- c) When considering this procedure, the following document(s) should also be consulted (where applicable): Verification Services Operations Manual (VS-M001), APAS Operations Manual (AP-M001), Rules governing how APAS operates (AP-D001), Rules governing how specifying organisations become members of APAS & PCCP (AP-D150) and the APAS Schedule of Fees (AP-D003).
- d) This procedure is prepared in a manner compliant with the requirements of AS/NZS ISO/IEC 17065.
- e) APAS® is a trademark registered with IP Australia, owned by CSIRO, the Scheme Owner, and protected under applicable laws. Use of the trademark or the Certification Scheme is prohibited unless prior approval in writing is obtained from CSIRO via the APAS Secretariat.

2. Authority and responsibility

- a) When considering this procedure, the following applies:
 - i. The CVS Group Leader, CVS Executive Officer, and APAS Executive Officer (EO) are responsible for the content of this procedure.
 - ii. The APAS EO is responsible for ensuring compliance to and maintenance of this procedure.
 - iii. Personnel with the authority to carry out activities related to the content of this procedure in the course of their daily activities are responsible for adhering to all the applicable requirements of this procedure.

3. Definitions and acronyms

3.1 Definitions

The definition of terms used in this procedure and in the Certification Scheme can be found in APAS document AP-D001. In addition, the following definition within this procedure shall apply:

Client	<p>The organisation responsible to the Certification Body (APAS) for ensuring that certification requirements, including product requirements, are fulfilled. The Client nominates a person(s) directly responsible (APAS Signatory) within its organisation, and to communicate directly with the Certification Scheme (APAS).</p> <p>A Client can be deemed as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. producing their own products within their own organisations manufacturing facility(s), and/or ii. having products produced for them under contractual agreement with an existing RMU(s) as a toll/contract manufactured product.
Major Non-Conformance	A significant deviation from or failure to meet the APAS RMU conformance requirements that are likely to significantly impact the production safety, quality, or compliance typically from repeated occurrences or complex problems that require significant effort to correct. A major non-conformance can also occur as a result of a previously detected minor non-conformance that is then detected again in a subsequently audit.
Minor Non-Conformance	A deviation from conformance requirements or an event (or series of events) that does not follow the APAS RMU conformance requirements but is unlikely to cause significant impact on production safety, quality, or compliance.



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Non-Conformance	Any deviation from the APAS requirements for RMU conformance where the Clients process, product, or services does not conform to the established criteria. Non-conformances can be graded as minor or major.
Observation	Audit findings that highlight an opportunity for improvement, a potential area of concern or a potential non-conformance if left unaddressed.

3.2 Acronyms

APAS	Australian Paint Approval Scheme
APLAC	Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
ARA	Aspects Requiring Attention
ATAP	APAS Technical Advisory Panel
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
CVS	CSIRO Verification Services
EO	Executive Officer, APAS
IAV	Initial Assessment Visit
InfraTech	Infrastructure Technologies
PT	Proficiency Testing
QC	Quality Control
R&D	Research and Development
RMU	Recognised Manufacturing Unit
VSA	Verification Services Agreement
WHS	Workplace Health and Safety

4. Referenced documents

a) The following standards are referenced in this procedure:

- i. **AS/NZS 1580** – Paint and related materials - Methods of Test
- ii. **AS/NZS ISO 9001** – Quality management systems - Requirements
- iii. **AS ISO/IEC 17025** – General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories
- iv. **ISO/IEC 17043** – Conformity Assessment - General Requirements for Proficiency Testing
- v. **AS/NZS ISO/IEC 17065** - Conformity assessment: Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes, and services.

These documents may be purchased through the Reference [Standards Australia website](#).

b) The following APAS and CVS documents and forms are referenced in this procedure:

- i. AP-C001 Certificate of APAS Recognition (Internal)
- ii. AP-D001 Rules Governing How APAS® Operates
- iii. AP-D003 APAS® Schedule of Fees
- iv. AP-D004 Complaint and Appeal Process
- v. AP-D112 APAS® Terms of Reference for the Certification Scheme
- vi. AP-D114 Rules Governing APAS® Recognition as a Testing Authority
- vii. AP-D150 Rules Governing How Specifying Organisations become Members of APAS®
- viii. AP-D174 APAS® Conformance Requirements
- ix. AP-D178 Rules Governing Proficiency Testing Providers
- x. AP-D183 Guidelines for Changes to Formulation of Approved Products
- xi. AP-D192 Rules Governing the APAS® Product Certification Scheme
- xii. AP-D194 Application for APAS® Signatory Status
- xiii. AP-F002 Application form for Certification as an APAS Recognised Manufacturing Unit
- xiv. AP-F003 Application form for Certification as a Recognised Reseller
- xv. AP-M001 APAS Operations Manual (Internal)
- xvi. VS-D001 Verification Services Impartiality Policy
- xvii. VS-M001 Verification Services Operations Manual (Internal)



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All APAS documents (except AP-C001, AP-M001 and VS-M001) are available for download from the [Documents Section](#) of the [APAS website](#) or Document Section of the [CVS website](#).

5. Participation criteria

- a) APAS recognises manufacturing units as complying with APAS requirements for good manufacturing practices and processes. This identifies them as having:
 - i. business control systems to consistently manufacture products to a defined quality standard i.e., current, and valid ISO 9001 accreditation with a technical function, and
 - ii. technical competence to evaluate products routinely and consistently to the same standard, and
 - iii. a system of technical control that safeguards on-going product quality, and
 - iv. a manufacturing process that is consistent with good industry practice, and
 - v. processes and procedures to ensure an adequate level of workplace health and safety (WHS) and environmental practices are in place.
- b) Compliance with these criteria is detailed in [clause 6](#) below.
- c) Where the manufacturer is based overseas, and it is deemed preferable to make product certification applications locally in Australia, for example, due to familiarity with AS/NZS 1580 test methods, the requirements of APAS document AP-D114 shall apply to the test authority.
- d) The specific conformance requirements for recognition as an APAS RMU are detailed in APAS document AP-D174.

6. Compliance requirements

6.1 Business control systems

- a) Applicants shall be able to demonstrate compliance with clause 7 of APAS document AP-D114.

6.2 Technical competence systems

- a) Applicants shall be able to demonstrate compliance with clauses 8, 9 and 10 inclusive of APAS document AP-D114.

6.3 Manufacturing Competence Systems^{1,2,3}

- a) All Applicants shall participate in an APAS audit of their manufacturing facility, including QC and/or R&D test laboratories, in order to determine compliance to the requirements.
- b) Applicants that manufacture their own products will have the audit performed on each of their own manufacturing facilities requiring certification (refer to First Tier in clause 1 b) 1. in APAS document AP-D174).
- c) Applicants that have their products manufactured for them under contractual agreement (toll/contract manufacturing) with an existing RMU, will have the toll/contract manufacturing facility(s) audited accordingly. This audit will be additional to the existing RMUs standard audit for ongoing certification (refer to Second Tier in clause 1 b) 2. in APAS document AP-D174).
- d) Should an existing RMU acting in a toll/contract manufacturing capacity for the Client have its certification Suspended and/or Withdrawn, by extension, the Applicant (or an existing Client) using this service will also have this certification Suspended and/or Withdrawn (refer to [clause 9](#)).

NOTE:

¹ The RMU undergoing the First Tier audit (initial full APAS audit) is responsible for all costs associated with this audit.

² The RMU undergoing the Second Tier audit (whose products are made by the First Tier RMU on their behalf under a toll/contract manufacturing arrangement) is responsible for all costs associated with this audit.

³ A senior management representative of the RMU undergoing the Second Tier audit shall be present at the time of the audit to be able to answer any and all questions relating to the products toll/contract manufactured for them by the RMU that underwent the First Tier audit process.



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7. Recognition process

7.1 Application

- a) Applicants can be either a local (Australian) or overseas based organisations. Local organisations shall have a current ABN or ACN and not be a Trust.
- b) The Applicant can be either a product manufacturer [owned manufacturing facility(s)] and/or a Client that has its products toll/contract manufactured at an existing RMU.
- c) If the manufacturer is overseas based, the Applicant may also be the local importer or agent making the application on behalf of the overseas manufacturer.
- d) The Applicant shall study and become familiar with this document and all other referenced documents located in the [Documents Section](#) of the [APAS website](#).
- e) When satisfied that the Applicant will meet the requirements outlined in this document, the application form AP-F002 (downloadable from the above link) shall be forwarded in electronic form (email) to:
Executive Officer, APAS
Email: apas@csiro.au
- f) Where a local agent is making the Application as per 7.1 c) above, an AP-F003 form will also need to be submitted.
- g) The EO or their delegate shall review the application(s) to ensure all required data is provided and all pre-conditions have been complied with, for example current and active AS/NZS ISO 9001 and/or AS ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation. Any omissions or errors shall be resolved with the Applicant prior to proceeding with the application.
- h) All applications shall, to the maximum extent possible, be processed in order of receipt.
- i) Except for situations outlined in 7.3 d) below, and in line with the CVS Impartiality Policy (VS-D001), there shall be no accelerated advancement up the queue as a result of applicant's size, importance, or payment of incentive.

7.2 Service agreement

- a) APAS shall acknowledge receipt of the application and forward a Verification Service Agreement (VSA) for signing and return (refer to APAS document AP-D112, clause 12.4).
- b) The purpose of the VSA is to clearly document:
 - i. what the Applicant can expect in the way of CSIRO's APAS services, and
 - ii. what CSIRO expects in return of the Applicant, and
 - iii. the price of those services, and
 - iv. a Certified Trademark Agreement governing how the APAS logo and trademark(s) may be used.
- c) Once the signed VSA is returned, CSIRO shall issue a tax invoice for the Application fee (refer to the current Schedule of Fees, APAS document AP-D003).

7.3 Pre-audit activities

- a) APAS will acknowledge receipt of the signed VSA and forward a pre-audit questionnaire to obtain basic information regarding the state of adherence to compliance requirements. The purpose of the questionnaire is to determine how ready the Applicant is for an APAS manufacturing audit. An Applicant who is not ready will be wasting their money and everyone's time by submitting to an audit at this stage.
- b) APAS will review the completed questionnaire and advise the Applicant of any obvious shortcomings which may impede an immediate audit.
- c) Once a prima facie case is established that the Applicant is likely to be ready for an Initial Assessment Visit (IAV), a Lead Auditor will be assigned, and the Lead Auditor and the Applicant will agree on a date for an IAV.

NOTE: If there is a basis for a legitimate conflict of interest identified in the personnel (internal or external) nominated as the Auditor, an application can be made to change the Auditor. The application shall be supplied with verifiable evidence that could reasonably lead to the conclusion that the assessment could not be undertaken without bias or that either



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directly or through any employer, the credibility of the results could be compromised (for further information refer to AP-M001 Appendix B and VS-D001).

- d) Wherever possible, applications will be processed in order of receipt. However, in some instances this may not be optimal for either APAS or the Applicant. APAS tries to maximise the value of audit travel, so wherever possible, more than one audit is scheduled for each trip to a region. Sometimes, for example when there is only one trip per year to that region, and a trip is due soon, the new Applicant may be added to the trip, thereby effectively *jumping the queue*. The alternative will require extra expense for both the Applicant and CSIRO.

7.4 Initial assessment visit

- a) The IAV shall only be scheduled once the application fee has been paid.

NOTE: In certain circumstances, for example at the request of the Applicant or if there has been a history of slow payment or other issues, CSIRO may choose to request whole or part payment of the audit fee **prior** to undertaking the audit.

- b) The IAV shall be conducted according to the criteria in [clause 6](#) above and APAS document AP-D174.
- c) The IAV shall be conducted by the Lead Auditor and any additional personnel necessary to ensure that any and all gaps in experience or technical knowledge of the Lead Auditor have been covered. Such additional persons shall first be approved by the Applicant prior to the IAV.
- d) The IAV Lead Auditor (or Audit Team) will pay particular attention during the visit to the *culture* of the organisation – the professionalism, good corporate citizenship, and general attitude of employees towards technical and QA issues in particular.
- e) At the completion of the IAV during the closing meeting the Lead Auditor (or Audit Team) shall present a brief verbal report detailing all Aspects Requiring Attention (ARA), where practicable, detected during the audit. These are typically graded as Minor Non-Conformances, Major Non-Conformances, or Observations (refer to [clause 3.1](#) for definitions of the ARA types). Depending on the complexity of the audit, this report is typically prepared and presented within 2 weeks post-audit.

7.5 Post-audit activities

- a) Corrective actions are made by the Applicant as necessary to the satisfaction of the Lead Auditor.
- b) Evidence of corrective actions, including evidence of the actual implementation, shall be supplied. This may in some instances necessitate a further (chargeable) visit depending on the nature of the corrective actions needed (refer to [clause 7.8](#) below).
- c) All evidence shall be supplied to the Lead Auditor within four (4) weeks of the date of despatch of the audit report.
- d) Where evidence of corrective actions is not supplied within the required time, extension(s) may be granted if approved by the EO. If the audit is not closed within four (4) months of the audit date, the EO shall advise the Applicant that unless progress is made within the next five (5) working days, the audit and application will be terminated. There shall be no refund of any monies paid to date and any current outstanding invoices shall be immediately due.
- e) ARAs require evidence of corrective action taken to be provided to APAS before recognition can be granted.
- f) Observations need to be considered but there is no requirement to immediately report any action taken. However, at the next audit, any Observations not addressed **may** be upgraded to a higher ARA type.

7.6 Nomination of APAS signatory

- a) Each Applicant organisation shall nominate at least one (1) person who shall function as an APAS Signatory.
- b) RMUs may have up to four (4) APAS Signatories.
- c) There are two types of APAS Signatory:
 - i. **Formulation Signatory:** is typically a member of the R&D department or product development section; the role of this Signatory is principally to oversee the submission of product certification application and to ensure they meet all the requirements of APAS document AP-D192.
 - ii. **Production Signatory:** is typically a member of the QC or other technical department; the role of this Signatory is to ensure that certified products are made in accordance with APAS requirements – no Significant formulation changes



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(refer to APAS document AP-D183), no correction batches to bring a faulty batch into specification and no use away of faulty stock.

- d) In smaller organisations, one Signatory may fill both roles identified in [clause 7.6 c\) i. & ii.](#) above.
- e) Applications for Signatory status shall be made on the appropriate APAS form AP-D194.
- f) Training for a new Signatory may be delivered by either an existing Signatory or, in the case of a new Applicant, by the Lead Auditor during or immediately after the IAV. Records of the training shall be kept.

7.7 Issue of certificate of recognition

- a) Following a response(s) to all audit ARA's to the satisfaction of the Lead Auditor, a recommendation for recognition shall be made to the EO who will decide on whether recognition is warranted.
- b) If approved, a Certificate of Recognition (Certificate of APAS Accreditation, APAS document AP-C001), shall be issued by the Audit Coordinator (in conjunction with the Lead Auditor) provided that all outstanding invoices have been paid.
- c) The first Certificate of Recognition shall have an expiry date twelve (12) months from the date of the IAV.
- d) Subsequent certificates, assuming there have been no significant issues or lapses detected, shall have an expiry date **not more than** twenty-four (24) months from the audit date. Certificates may also have expiry dates less than twenty-four (24) months dependant on if a more frequent surveillance program is warranted.
- e) Once Client recognition is granted by APAS, products may be submitted against relevant product specifications (refer to APAS document AP-D192).

7.8 Subsequent audits

- a) Following the IAV, the first subsequent audit shall take place approximately twelve (12) months after the IAV or at such a date acceptable to both parties.
- b) ARAs from the IAV that have not been adequately corrected or fully implemented into the manufacturing and quality systems, shall be upgraded to Major Non-Conformances and their resolution to the satisfaction of the EO shall be a condition of continuing recognition. The determination of the acceptability of the corrective action(s) may require a Mini Audit (chargeable) in order to verify satisfactory implementation.
- c) Where a first audit report after the IAV lists more than four (4) Major Non-Conformances, the EO shall **suspend** the application pending consideration by the ATAP on whether the application should be terminated.
- d) The satisfactory resolution of the first audit subsequent to the IAV shall result in the RMU going onto a two-yearly audit cycle. Depending on future audit performances, the EO may increase but not decrease the audit frequency so that APAS Member confidence in manufacturers is maintained.
- e) To ensure ongoing compliance and product quality, during the subsequent audits the Lead Auditor may collect a 1 L (wet sample) or 1 Kg (solid sample) of product from a randomly selected batch of APAS-certified product. The product will be sent to the CSIRO Materials Performance Laboratories for random testing according to the relevant specification.

NOTE: All costs associated with this testing is the responsibility of the RMU for payment.

8. Post-recognition requirements

8.1 System changes

- a) It is the responsibility of the management of the RMU and/or the APAS Signatory to inform APAS of any changes to the:
 - i. range of APAS-certified products manufactured, and
 - ii. organisation, its ownership, or management, and
 - iii. quality control system including technical personnel or responsibilities in the quality assurance function.
- b) Failure to do so may result in suspension and/or withdrawal of RMU recognition.



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8.2 Surveillance visits

- a) Continuing compliance to APAS requirements is ensured through a system of ongoing audits or surveillance visits. The initial post-recognition surveillance visit will take place typically twelve (12) months after recognition, as indicated in [clause 7.8 a](#)) above. Subsequent surveillance visits will typically occur at twenty-four (24)-month intervals, assuming a satisfactory surveillance outcome previously.
- b) In line with clause 7.8 b) above, ARAs detected from the previous audit undertaken prior to the current audit cycle that have not been adequately corrected or fully implemented into the manufacturing and quality systems, shall be upgraded to Major Non-Conformances. Their resolution to the satisfaction of the EO shall be a condition of continuing recognition and the determination of the acceptability of the corrective action(s) may require a Mini Audit (chargeable) in order to verify satisfactory implementation.
- c) The EO may decide that a more frequent surveillance program is warranted where there have been lapses in the system or breaches of compliance requirements deemed to be of a serious nature, such as (but not limited to) seen in clause 8.2 b) above.

8.3 Proficiency testing program

- a) In order to provide APAS Members with confidence that the technical aspects of the RMU's operations continue to be under a level of control sufficient to ensure continuing consistent product quality, a program of Proficiency Testing (PT) has been established for all laboratories that do not hold AS ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation.
- b) APAS requires that laboratories **without** AS ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation participate in at least two (2) PT programs of four (4) tests per calendar year, at their own expense.
- c) APAS requires that laboratories **with** AS ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation participate in one (1) PT program of four (4) tests every two (2) years, at their own expense, as per the requirements of maintaining their ongoing AS ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation (once achieved).
- d) PT programs shall be conducted by agencies formally recognised as competent in conducting such services in accordance with the requirements of APAS document AP-D178.

8.4 Certification of products

- a) Once the Client's manufacturing facility has achieved RMU status, product(s) can then be submitted requesting certification to defined APAS specifications (refer to APAS document AP-D192 for further instruction on the application process).
- b) The timeframe between the attainment of RMU recognition and initial product submissions by the RMU is set at two (2) years **maximum**.
- c) Should the RMU have extenuating circumstances and be unable to submit within this timeframe, the EO shall be contacted, and their needs discussed on a case by case basis.
- d) There may be manufacturing facilities that choose to obtain RMU status in order to produce products in a toll/contract manufacturing capacity (refer to APAS document AP-D001 for definitions of Contract Manufacture and Toll Manufacture). If this is the case, these facilities shall be considered on a case-by-case basis and a suitable timeframe between RMU attainment and product certification be determined by the EO in conjunction with the manufacturer.

9. Withdrawal of RMU recognition

9.1 General

- a) When certain issues have been breached, the EO may withdraw recognition from a Client. This withdrawal is a two-stage process: **Suspension** followed by **Withdrawal**.
- b) Examples of issues initiating such action include, but are not limited to where:
 - i. the Client or any of its key members have been convicted of fraudulent or other criminal activity, &/or
 - ii. in a civil case the Client, its products or any of its employees have been found to be wholly or partly responsible for any loss or damage due to a failure of a coating(s) and/or other APAS certified product, &/or
 - iii. the Client has been placed in liquidation, &/or



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- iv. the actions of the Client or any of its employees have brought the reputation of APAS or CSIRO into disrepute, &/or
 - v. the Client has failed to comply with the basic principles under which APAS is established:
 - 1. Any external accreditation such as AS/NZS ISO 9001 or AS ISO/IEC 17025 has been withdrawn; or
 - 2. Failure to participate in proficiency testing; or
 - 3. Failure to embrace the principles of continuous improvement.
 - vi. the Client persistently refrains from implementing lawful actions issued by the EO, for example audit corrective actions, continuous improvement actions, non-payment of accounts, &/or
 - vii. the Client has more than one manufacturing site, all of which operate under a single corporate management system and where one or more sites have satisfied the condition(s) for Suspension of RMU status, production of APAS certified products at the offending RMU shall cease until the detected issue(s) is rectified (and the Suspension Notice is withdrawn).
- c) Should the Suspension Notice be upheld and RMU status be Withdrawn, either:
- i. no further manufacture of APAS certified products shall occur at the offending site but may continue at other site(s) or
 - ii. APAS certification for all products continuing to be made at the offending site (and other sites) shall be withdrawn.
- d) Under 9.1 c) above, RMU management or the former APAS Signatory shall promptly advise APAS as to the direction the Client intends to take with respect to manufacture of APAS certified products affected by the Withdrawal of RMU status.

9.2 Withdrawal process

- a) Where the EO believes that one or more of the issues in [clause 9.1](#) above have been breached, a written Notice of Suspension shall be provided to the Client. The manufacturer shall have ten (10) working days to provide the EO with a case for closing the Notice of Suspension.
- b) After ten (10) working days, the EO shall prepare a case for consideration by the ATAP detailing the circumstances of detection and issue(s) which caused the Notice of Suspension to be raised. The EO shall attach to the submission all documentation received from the manufacturer. The submission to the ATAP shall be distributed by email.
- c) The ATAP may request clarification or additional information, but within one (1) calendar month of receipt of the submission, the ATAP shall provide the EO with a recommendation for action. This shall comprise either:
 - i. uphold the Notice of Suspension, or
 - ii. reject the Notice of Suspension.
- d) The EO may vary the timing requirements (in clause 9.2 b) and c) above) depending on the calendar situation, for example Easter, Christmas etc.
- e) All proceedings up to this stage shall be between the EO and ATAP only and shall be treated as Commercial-in-Confidence.

9.3 Withdrawal of recognition

- a) If the Notice is upheld, the EO shall advise the Client in writing (email) and publish the Withdrawal of Recognition on the APAS website and to APAS Members.
- b) Withdrawal shall be for a **minimum** of six (6) months.
- c) Withdrawal shall simultaneously involve the retraction of all product approval certifications.
- d) Should an existing RMU acting in a toll/contract manufacturing capacity for the Client have its certification Suspended and/or Withdrawn, by extension, the Client using this service will also have this certification Suspended and/or Withdrawn.

9.4 Reinstatement of recognition

- a) Reinstatement shall only be considered at the conclusion of the period of Suspension.
- b) Reinstatement shall be considered as a new application for recognition and shall be initiated by the Client.



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10. Complaints and appeals

- a) Clients may lodge a complaint or an appeal against a decision made by the Certification Body, Certification Scheme, Scheme Owner or any of its processes or personnel.
- b) Appeals and complaints shall be subject to the process detailed in APAS document AP-D004.



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Appendix A Document History

Status: Current
Version: 19
Date Published: 20-09-2024
Authorised by: Trudy Lennon-Bowers, Executive Officer - CVS

Document Version No.:	Date Published:	Summary of Changes:
19	20-09-2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Document updated in line with internal audit findings and general document review: Additions/changes: name change 'Rules governing how product manufacturers participate in APAS' to 'Product manufacturer participation in APAS'; responsibilities (clause 2); definition of 'Client' extended from AP-D001 to include information originally from clause 1 c) of AP-D177 V18 and addition of Non-Conformance, Minor Non-Conformance, Major Non-Conformance and Observation (clause 3.1); CVS & InfraTech (clause 3.2); AP-DF003, AP-M001, VS-D001 & VS-M001 [clause 4 b)]; removal of clause 5 (Background) previously in AP-D177 V18; incorporated reference to AP-D001, AP-D003 and AP-D150 into clause 1 c); AP-D114 reference (clause 6.1 & 6.2); electronic form acceptance [clause 7.1 e)]; Recognised Resellers (local agent) - AP-F003 [clause 7.1 f)]; AP-D003 addition [clause 7.2 c)]; conflict of interest & confidentiality & VS-D001(Clause 7.3 c) NOTE); closing meeting ARA summary and current types of ARAs in use [clause 7.4 e)]; 'Certificate of Recognition' by its certification title, indicated Audit Coordinators involvement and that certification expiry dates may be <24 months if extra surveillance required [clause 7.7 b) & d)] Minor editorial changes and updated document format in line with CSIRO branding
18	16-02-2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor editorial changes; Update APAS EO details
17	15-05-2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated: references to waterproofing products; inclusion of 'Certification Body' definition; updated 'Member' definition in line with AP-D001 (clause 3.1); clause 6 to include reference to ISO 9001; removed clause number from Appendix A; general format update
16	15-02-2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated contact information, references to other APAS documents, document links, timeframe for receipt of an audit report post-audit and requirements of PT relating to labs with ISO 17025 accreditation (in line with APAS document AP-D114)
15	03-08-2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update of clause 7.3 regarding the requirements of the audit process and responsibilities for RMUs that produce / receive products in a Toll / Contract Manufacturing capacity, to reflect APAS Document AP-D174
14	11-06-2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated APAS website details within document; further defined clause 1 b) Scope; replaced OH&S reference with WHS in clauses 3.2 and 6 a) v.); general formatting changes
13	04-02-2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addition of clause 9.4 (timeframe between RMU status acquisition and the certification of product approvals) and general format changes
12	22-10-2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addition of Appendix A Document History and removal of the Editorial Note previously used in document versions; minor formatting changes; updated clause 11 to reflect other APAS documents
11	25-09-2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name change from <i>How Paint Manufacturers Participate in APAS®</i> to <i>Rules Governing How Product Manufacturers Participate in APAS®</i>; document brought in line with requirements of AS/NZS ISO/IEC 17065; updated document to the current format; incorporation of definitions and acronyms; minor editorial changes; addition of "People + Product = Protection" to Footer
10	03-05-2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergone a major revision in line with ISO 17065 requirements
9	10-05-2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corrected references in section 7
8	06-01-2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New document format & incorporates changes to section 7 as agreed at APAS66
7	08-11-2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarified Recognition requirements in clause 1 & corrects contact fax number
6	06-06-2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflects the new Scheme Ownership by CSIRO
5	30-09-1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed duplication of auditing QMS between APAS, NATA and ISO9000 auditors; references to Quality Manuals etc deleted; Product Approval references moved to AP-D192; improved explanation of how APAS operates