

IATF Transfer Requirements for clients certified to ISO/TS 16949 or IATF 16949 by Vinçotte NV

FOREWORD

The contract between the former IATF-recognized certification body Vinçotte NV and the IATF (International Automotive Task Force) was terminated effective 1st May 2018.

The IATF is aware of the inconveniences this contract termination will have on the certified clients. Therefore a set of requirements and special waivers were approved to minimize the impact and assist clients that intend to maintain an IATF-recognized IATF 16949 certification by an IATF-recognized certification body.

As of the contract termination date, clients will no longer be able to receive IATF-recognized IATF 16949 audits or IATF 16949 certificates from Vinçotte NV. Clients with existing valid ISO/TS 16949 or IATF 16949 certificates will have their certificates cancelled (or expire) according to the dates listed in 1 a) and 1 b) below.

All clients are required to immediately start transfer activities to another IATF-recognized certification body. The initial step to transfer requires the clients to establish a legally enforceable contract with another IATF-recognized certification body. Clients shall ensure a legally enforceable contract is established no later than 14 September 2018. The list of IATF-recognized certification bodies can be found under:

www.iatfglobaloversight.org/certification-bodies/under-contract/

1. Certificate Validity of Vinçotte NV issued certificates against ISO/TS or IATF 16949

- a) All **ISO/TS 16949 certificates** issued by Vinçotte NV that are valid as of 1st May 2018, will remain **valid until 14 September 2018** regardless of the current certificate expiration date and regardless of the last performed audit. A new certificate will not be issued however this official communication together with the IATF Database entry will be the evidence needed in order to allow a transfer to a another IATF-recognized certification body.
- b) All **IATF 16949 certificates** issued by Vinçotte NV that are valid as of 1st May 2018, will remain **valid until 30 April 2019** regardless of the current certificate expiration date and regardless of the last performed audit. A new certificate will not be issued however this official IATF communication together with the IATF Database entry will be the evidence needed in order to allow a transfer to another IATF-recognized certification body. After 30 April 2019 all IATF 16949 certificates issued by Vinçotte NV will be cancelled automatically.

2. Clients who had an IATF 16949 transition audit but have not been issued an IATF 16949 certificate by Vinçotte NV

If an IATF 16949 transition audit was already conducted by Vinçotte NV however no new IATF 16949 certificate was issued as of 1st May 2018, then the client has still a valid ISO/TS 16949 certificate valid until 14 September 2018 (see 1 a) above) which permits the client to transfer to another IATF-recognized certification body as per the requirements under section 3 below.

3. Transfer requirements for clients holding a valid ISO/TS 16949 certificate issued by Vinçotte NV

a) Every Vinçotte NV client who still has a valid ISO/TS 16949 certificate (see 1 a) and 2 above) is permitted to conduct a combined transfer and transition audit to another IATF-recognized certification body until 14 September 2018.

If a transfer audit is not conducted before 14 September 2018, the client is required to start over again with a full initial certification audit, including a stage 1 readiness review.

b) For the combined transfer and transition audit, the new IATF-recognized certification body is required to apply the normal transfer requirements of the IATF Rules 5th Edition, section 7.0 with the following exceptions:

- the requirements of 7.1.1 c) and d) do not apply in this special situation
- the requirements under 7.1.1 f) and g) do not apply in this special situation. However, if the ISO/TS 16949 certificate is currently in a suspension status and the suspension is initiated due to the IATF Rules 5th Edition, clauses 8.1 a), b) or c) the new certification body shall conduct at least one onsite special audit to verify the effective implementation of the identified corrective actions.

c) The audit days for this combined transfer and transition audit shall be equivalent of a recertification audit (see table 5.2 of the IATF Rules 5th Edition)

d) The new certification body shall enter the combined transfer and transition audit as a transfer audit in the IATF Database and issue an IATF 16949 certificate according to the requirements in the IATF Rules 5th Edition, section 5.13.

4. Transfer Requirements for clients holding a valid IATF 16949 certificate issued by Vinçotte NV

- a) Every Vinçotte NV client who has a valid IATF 16949 certificate (see 1 b) above) is permitted to conduct a transfer audit to another IATF-recognized certification body until 30 April 2019.

If a transfer audit is not conducted before 30 April 2019, the client is required to start over again with an initial certification audit, including a stage 1 readiness review.

- b) For the transfer audit, the new IATF-recognized certification body is required to apply the normal transfer requirements of the IATF Rules 5th Edition, section 7.0 with the following exceptions:
- the requirements of 7.1.1 c) and d) do not apply in this special situation
 - the requirements under 7.1.1 f) and g) do not apply in this special situation. However, if the ISO/TS 16949 certificate is currently in a suspension status and the suspension is initiated due to the IATF Rules 5th Edition, clauses 8.1 a), b) or c) the new certification body shall conduct at least one onsite special audit to verify the effective implementation of the identified corrective actions.
- c) The audit days for the transfer audit shall be equivalent of a recertification audit (see table 5.2 of the IATF Rules 5th Edition)
- d) The new certification body shall enter the audit as a transfer audit in the IATF Database and issue an IATF 16949 certificate according to the requirements in the IATF Rules 5th Edition, section 5.13.

5. Clients who had an IATF 16949 initial audit but have not been issued an IATF 16949 certificate by Vinçotte NV

- a) If an initial audit was conducted by Vinçotte NV however no IATF 16949 certificate was issued as of 1st May 2018, then the client is permitted to transfer to another IATF-recognized certification body.
- b) The new certification body shall conduct a full initial certification audit, including a stage 1 readiness review and another stage 2 audit. The audit days can be equivalent of a recertification audit (see table 5.2 of the IATF Rules 5th Edition)
- c) The new certification body shall enter the audit as a stage 2 audit in the IATF Database and issue an IATF 16949 certificate according to the requirements in the IATF Rules 5th Edition, section 5.13.

If you have questions regarding these requirements and special waivers, please contact the new IATF-recognized certification body or VDA QMC.

Please use this official communication in order to provide evidence to your customer(s) or other stakeholders concerning the validity of your certificate and the special transfer requirements.