



General Information

As of: August 2026

ACCEPTANCE & VALUE

We are pleased to see a steady increase in the acceptance of certification in accordance with ISO/IEC 17024 among authorities and courts as well. Equal treatment of experts certified in accordance with ISO/IEC 17024 and their publicly appointed colleagues has by now become largely standard practice.

This most recently became clear in connection with last summer's flood disaster, where, at the urging of some chambers, expert reports for compensation payments were initially to be reserved for ÖbuV colleagues (öffentlich bestellte und vereidigte Sachverständige – publicly appointed and sworn experts). A ministerial decree of 14 June 2021 now states, in extract:

This corresponds to our long-standing view, which has also been confirmed by several courts.

Ministerium für Heimat, Kommunales,
Bau und Gleichstellung
des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen



... Expert reports for damage pursuant to Nos. 4.3.3 and 6.3.3 a) of the Förderrichtlinie Wiederaufbau NRW (NRW Reconstruction Funding Guideline) must be provided by independent experts or an insurance company. These do not necessarily have to be publicly appointed or sworn. What matters is that the expert is suitably qualified to assess damage. The same applies to suitably qualified or certified persons (e.g. ISO 17024). (translation)

A decision of the Regional Court (Landgericht, LG) Hechingen states that a certification, if carried out according to the ISO 17024 standard, constitutes proof of expertise comparable to public appointment and is to be treated as equivalent to it (LG Hechingen, order of 19 July 2017, file no. 1 OH 19/15). The Higher Regional Court (Oberlandesgericht, OLG) Stuttgart dismissed the applicant's appeal and upheld the decision of the LG Hechingen. The OLG Düsseldorf also ruled accordingly in its judgment of 4 December 2012, file no. I-23 U 181/11.

DAkKS accreditation of certification bodies

In this context, it must be pointed out once again:

The designation DIN EN ISO/IEC 17024 refers to the German implementation of the international standard ISO/IEC 17024, which is the origin of the German implementation. In this respect, an expert certified in accordance with ISO 17024 by an internationally operating certification body is, as a matter of course, on an equal footing with an expert certified in accordance with the national standard. A (national) accreditation of the certification body, e.g. by the DAkKS, is expressly NOT REQUIRED according to the judgment of the OLG Köln (judgment of 30 September 2015 – 26 U 9/15) for lack of a legal basis.

INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED – throughout the EU and far beyond

ISO 17024 certification is recognised as a personal certification and as a qualified professional qualification in a total of 165 member states of the International Organization for Standardization. In each case it is equivalent to the respective national standards, such as ÖNORM 17024 in Austria, NBN EN ISO/IEC 17024 in Belgium and ILNAS-EN ISO/IEC 17024 in Luxembourg, and many more.

The legal basis and source for the equivalence of certificates of the Dutch RvA and the German DAkkS is founded on European law and the agreements of the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA).

Here are the official, verifiable sources for this legal equivalence:

1. The European legal basis: Regulation (EC) No 765/2008

The fundamental legal basis is [EU Regulation \(EC\) No 765/2008](#). [1]

- Article 11 (principle of mutual recognition): This article obliges all EU Member States to recognise the equivalence of the accreditations carried out by the national accreditation bodies (such as RvA and DAkkS) and of the certificates issued by the certified bodies.
- The logic behind it: since each country may designate only one single national accreditation body (Germany = DAkkS, Netherlands = RvA), these authorities are placed on an equal legal footing

Who is EA and what does EA do?

EA, the European co-operation for Accreditation, is a non-profit association registered in the Netherlands. It is formally appointed by the European Commission in Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 to develop and maintain a multilateral mutual recognition arrangement, the EA MLA, based on a harmonised accreditation infrastructure.

The EA MLA exists to enable fair trade, to ensure product and service quality and to remove technical barriers to trade.

EA currently has 50 members. The EA members are national accreditation bodies in Europe that are officially recognised by their national governments to assess and verify, against international standards, organisations that carry out conformity assessment activities such as certification, verification, inspection, testing and calibration.

Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 and the standards of the ISO/IEC 17000 series lay down the framework to be used by EA and its national accreditation bodies.

For further information, please visit the pages "[About EA](#)" and "[Mutual recognition](#)".

EXAMINATION REGULATIONS – COMPLIANCE WITH RULES

Certified experts in accordance with ISO/IEC 17024 are thus heading into the future in a stronger position. However, this also makes it necessary that, even more than before, correct and complete compliance with all rules of ISO/IEC 17024 must be an indispensable obligation. This is precisely why we have tightened our Examination Regulations and procedural rules. We must be able at all times to demonstrate beyond doubt, for each and every colleague, that they all fully meet the high requirements of certification in accordance with ISO/IEC 17024.

The current and therefore valid Examination Regulations can be viewed in the download area of www.certcouncil.eu.