

1 PROFILE OF NEPAL CERTIFICATION MARKS SCHEME

The industrial policy, 2010 clearly recognized the need of wholesome improvement in the industrial production and productivity. The quantitative growth along with the quality product became the main focus. For this, a strong need of standardization and quality control activities was felt.

A national standard body (NSB), the first organization for the development of national standard, was established in 1976. It was renamed as Nepal Bureau of Standards in 1981 (2036), a full-fledged government organization that was later merged with Department of Weights & Measures in 1988 and become Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology. It is under of Ministry of Industry.

In pursuance of the National Policy and provisions of the Nepal Standards (Certification Marks) Act 1980, NBSM established Inspection and Certification Section as one of its key functions to award licenses to industry to apply NS Mark on those products which conform to national standards. The citizen's charter of this department has got the provision for issue of the certificate within three months after the received of the complete set of application

This section has competent and trained technical manpower. They carry out inspection and certification work for product/process/services. The Director General is responsible for grant and operation of the certification marks scheme with the support of other officers. The key personnel of this section know their specific responsibilities for the quality of the product or service and the limits of authority for the action they take. This section is mainly responsible:

- To carry out all inspection and certification activities as guided by operating procedures and instruction in this manual,
- To do all the necessary works in order to renewal of the license etc,
- To carry out lot certification and pre-shipment inspection services as per the trading partner's terms and conditions on request in those situations where product is not covered by NS-Marking Scheme,
- To monitoring the NS Mark awarded products,
- To take necessary actions on nonconforming products.

The new version of this manual is published and implemented to address the requirement of ISO/IEC 17065: General requirements for Certification Bodies for Products, process and

services. The manual is prepared based upon the clauses of the standard. The inputs are also taken from the previous experience achieved from the implementation of Product Certification based upon ISO 17065. The procedures are referred in this manual.

NBSM does not provide any kind of consultancy services for preparing, advising, development, implementation, and participation on any matter relating to product certification for any organization.

This Manual demonstrates how the Nepal Standards (Certification Marks) Act 1980 meets the operational requirements of certification bodies as specified by ISO/IEC 17065 as well as those specified by International Accreditation Forum(IAF) of the major accreditation bodies world-wide. Also, for extension of scope of accreditation, the procedure laid down by the accreditation body shall be followed.