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Management environnemental — Analyse du cycle de vie — Processus de revue critique et compétences des vérificateurs: Exigences et lignes directrices supplémentaires à l'ISO 14044:2006

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The committee responsible for this document is Technical Committee ISO/TC 207, *Environmental management*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Life cycle assessment*.

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Introduction

For life cycle assessment, critical review is the conformity assessment approach according to ISO 14040 and ISO 14044. These standards contain the overarching requirements for critical review in concise form.

Based on these requirements, a common critical review practice emerged that satisfied stakeholders. For the mandatory case of life cycle assessment (LCA) studies intended to be used in comparative assertions intended to be disclosed to the public, the performance of a critical review is established as key feature for the acceptance of the study by stakeholders. However, even in the broad range of applications of LCA, for which a critical review is not mandatory, the commissioners of the LCA study often decide today to perform a voluntary critical review to improve the robustness of their studies and to increase credibility.

It is one of the key features of critical review that it does not relate to an accreditation scheme, but ensures quality by making the individual reviewer personally responsible for the work and by giving priority to the content rather than the form.

Because of the increasing use of LCA itself, as well as the broader application in tools like carbon footprinting or upcoming labelling initiatives, it is the intention of this document the established critical review practice in a more comprehensive way by providing additional requirements and guidelines for conducting a critical review and the competencies required.

This document might be applicable to other standards that require independent review of LCA-based procedures and information (e.g. ISO 14045, ISO 14046, ISO 14025, ISO 14067), but might need to be adapted to the specific fields of application. Other reference standards can be included in the critical review process.

This document does not apply to critical reviews performed prior to its publication.

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