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Environmental management — Life cycle assessment — Critical review processes and reviewer competencies~~ — Additional requirements and guidelines to ISO 14044~~

Management environnemental — Analyse du cycle de vie — Processus de revue critique et compétences des ~~vérificateurs — Exigences et lignes directrices supplémentaires à la norme ISO 14044~~réviseurs

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Contents

Foreword iv
Introduction v
1 Scope 1
2 Normative references 1
3 Terms and definitions 2
4 Critical review process and tasks 3
4.1 Defining the scope of the critical review 3
4.2 Selecting, making agreements and replacing external reviewer(s) 4
4.2.1 Selecting reviewer(s) 4
4.2.2 Reviewer(s) agreement 4
4.2.3 Replacing reviewer(s) 5
4.3 Critical review process 5
4.3.1 General 5
4.3.2 Type of critical review 5
4.3.3 Critical review at the end of the LCA study 5
4.3.4 Concurrent critical review 6
4.4 Validity of critical review statement and report 6
4.5 Critical review report and critical review statement preparation 6
4.6 Revision of an existing critical review 7
4.7 Critical review tasks 8
4.7.1 Chairperson of a critical review panel 8
4.7.2 Reviewer 8
5 Reviewer(s) competencies 9
Annex A (informative) Template for critical review report 10
Annex B (informative) Example of self-declaration of reviewer independence and competencies 11
Bibliography 12

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 207, *Environmental management*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Life cycle assessment,* in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/SS S26, *Environmental management,* in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

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This first edition cancels and replaces ISO/TS 14071:2014, which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

— additional specifications on the review process;

— corrections of inconsistencies.

~~— transformation of the TS into a standard~~

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Introduction

For life cycle assessment (LCA), critical review is the conformity assessment approach in accordance with 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 interested parties. For the mandatory case of 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 a key feature for the acceptance of the study by interested parties. 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 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 such as carbon ~~foot printing~~footprinting or upcoming labelling initiatives, this document specifies the established critical review practice in a more comprehensive way, by providing additional requirements and guidance for conducting a critical review and ensuring the relevant competencies.

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