



Accreditation Quality Policy

The Mission of the Center for Offshore Safety (COS) is to promote continual improvement in safety and offshore operational integrity in the offshore oil and gas industry. COS' Audit Service Provider (ASP) Accreditation Program supports this Mission. The program identifies ASP that have demonstrated the capability to conduct Safety and Environmental Management System (SEMS) audits of offshore oil and gas operations that conform to the requirements of API Recommended Practice 75 *Recommended Practice for Development of a Safety and Environmental Management Program for Offshore Operations and Facilities*, COS requirements, and 30 CFR 250 Subpart S. The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) formally recognized COS as an Accreditation Body in accordance with its regulations.

The policy of COS is to conduct its Accreditation Program in compliance with all applicable requirements and regulations, the highest level of integrity, and to give confidence in our accreditation of ASP.

Everyone within the Center for Offshore Safety (COS) is fully committed to promoting policies and procedures that demonstrate the overriding importance of quality and impartiality to its accreditation activities, and to compliance with the requirements of ISO 17011¹. COS personnel, and others performing accreditation duties on its behalf, are committed to upholding the principle of impartiality by making decisions that are based on objective criteria while maintaining the highest level of confidence in the assessment of SEMS Audit Service Providers. This commitment is supported by processes grounded in the highest level of integrity that manage conflicts of interest, ensure personnel competence, maintain confidentiality of information, retain appropriate records, protect the value of accreditation and the mark, and promote openness and collaboration with stakeholders. This includes opportunities for feedback of concerns and issues that are appropriately addressed and resolved in accordance with a prescribed process. These policies are communicated to and understood by all personnel involved in the accreditation program, including COS personnel and others performing accreditation duties on its behalf.

¹ ISO 17011 *Conformity Assessment – General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies*



Accreditation Quality Policy and Objectives

Objectives

- Conform with the requirements of COS' Accreditation Management System Manual, 30 CFR 250.1922 and ISO 17011.
- Only accredit ASP that have demonstrated the capability to meet the requirements of COS and 30 CFR 250 Subpart S.
- Promote openness and transparency of the COS accreditation process, welcoming input from all stakeholders.
- Promote confidence in COS accreditations and in the SEMS audit results provided by accredited ASP.
- Identify improvement opportunities for the accreditation program through regular audits and management reviews, and to implement those opportunities that will continue to ensure that COS' accreditation activities meet the needs of stakeholders and maintain confidence in the accreditations.

C. R. Williams II

Charlie R. Williams
Executive Director
Center for Offshore Safety

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Date