

cofrac



ANNUAL REPORT
2019

Une histoire de confiance
A matter of trust

Accreditation and Cofrac



3,646

total accredited entities as at 31/12 including **84** abroad



3,496

assessments conducted in total



181

employees



+1,800

assessors and technical experts



+90

countries that recognise French accreditation



Accreditation is a voluntary or regulatory approach, consisting in assessing and recognising the technical competence and impartiality of conformity assessment bodies, which verify that products, services, systems, facilities and staff meet the specified requirements.

It is intended for testing and calibration laboratories, verification bodies, proficiency testing providers and reference material producers, biomedical laboratories and inspection, certification or qualification bodies. By contributing to the continuous improvement of controls and the quality of the products and services released to market, accreditation boosts market confidence while constituting a differentiating asset for the entities that use it.

The French Accreditation Committee, Cofrac, is a non-profit organisation created in 1994. It is the national accreditation organisation, manifesting recognition of accreditation as an activity of public authority and general interest. In order to maintain independence, all related interests are represented on the decision-making bodies.

Thanks to the expertise of 181 employees and a network of more than 1,800 assessors and technical experts, Cofrac continues to develop and constantly reinforce its teams to guarantee the best possible service for its customers. Organised around four divisions - Certifications, Inspection, Laboratories and Healthcare - Cofrac is dealing with a continuous growth in accreditation requests.



Our commitments

Independence in regard to any commercial initiative

Impartiality of decisions, as all the accreditation stakeholders are represented on our decision-making bodies

Transparency of methods and processes, accessible to everyone on our website

Confidentiality of employees, assessors and technical experts, and of the members of our bodies



Contents

Message from the Chairman	p.4
Cofrac's Board of Administrators	p.5
Message from the General Director	p.6
Highlights of our activities and developments	p.8
Cofrac's assessors	p.13
Members of the association	p.14
Division committees	p.16
Financial results	p.18



Message from the Chairman



Joël KARECKI

Chairman of Cofrac

A satisfactory result despite a complicated year-end

After several years of growth or stability, Cofrac revenue, amounting to €33.2 million, plateaued out in 2019, with a 4% drop compared to 2018. This nonetheless yielded a positive net income of €327k, compared to €976k in 2018.

The Cofrac business model, based on a significant outsourcing of its assessor resources, along with efforts deployed internally, has demonstrated a strong capacity for reacting and adapting in the context of a substantive drop in activity.

The annual results, indeed, show revenue considerably below the budgetary forecasts (-31%), resulting mainly from a steep decline in activity for the Healthcare division (-9%). This decline results in part from a less sustained demand for accreditation than forecast, despite the regulatory deadline for accreditation of November 2020 for biomedical laboratories, but above all from the impact of the industrial action of the biomedical unions which have called for an "audits freeze" as a sign of protest in the framework of the health insurance negotiations, generating a pronounced slowdown in activity toward the end of the year.

The other Cofrac accreditation divisions closed the period with revenue in line with their forecasts, despite once again a slight contraction in the number of accredited bodies, resulting from the consolidation of certain accreditation bodies. It may be noted, however, that activity remains dynamic in the field of certification, with revenue increasing by 12%, underpinned by the launch of several eagerly anticipated accreditation standards.

A sustained technical activity

2019, which was the 25th anniversary year of Cofrac, remained notwithstanding a very busy year across a range of activities, thanks to the tireless commitment of the Cofrac staff.

In terms of governance, we should underline the adoption by the Board of Administrators of the strategic objectives for the next 5 years, accompanied by tracking indicators.

The digital revolution continues apace, with the extension to all divisions of the tools for monitoring the assessments of accredited bodies, and even more significantly the launch of the vast project with a two-year timeframe for overhauling all Cofrac's digital systems, to enable in the short-term the total digitalisation of the documents supporting accreditation, for the Cofrac staff, the assessors and the accredited bodies alike. From summer 2019, the first digitalised tools were made available to the Cofrac staff in the form of a pilot scheme. This needless to say involves considerable human and financial investment for the organisation.

Lastly, taking account of the number of accredited bodies concerned, it would be remiss not to mention the excellent progress made in the transition toward the new version of the standard NF EN ISO/IEC 17025:2017. This clearly represents a particularly emblematic technical initiative.



Cofrac's Board of Administrators

Chairman	Joël KARECKI
Vice-Chairman	Jacques LEVET
Treasurer	Stéphane TORREZ

Accredited bodies

Gilles BERNARDEAU	RESEAU CTI
Laurent CROGUENNEC	FEDERATION HEXAGONE
François GRÉMY	COPREC
Thomas GRENON	LNE
Franck LEBEUGLE	AFNOR CERTIFICATION
Stéphane TORREZ	EUROLAB
Raymond ZINS	LABAC

Professional groups of entities using accreditation

Kathia BARRO	FHF
Anthony BOURDON	GIFAS
Laurent CACHEUX	CNA (National Purchasing Council)
Dominique CHEVILLARD	FNTP
Jacques LEVET	FIEEC
Cédric PAULIN	CPME

Public interest representatives

Viviane APIED	French Ministry of the Environment
Jacques BESLIN	ALLDC (Leo Lagrange Consumer Association)
	Robin des Bois Association
Jacky BONNEMAIS	French Ministry of Economy and Finances /
Eric CUZIAT	DGCCRF
	French Ministry of Agriculture
Michel GUILLOU	French Ministry of Health
Céline PERRUCHON	CNAFC (National Association of Catholic Families)
Nicolas REVENU	

Qualified individual

Joël KARECKI

Government commissioner

Rémi STÉFANINI

French Ministry of Economy and Finances / DGE
- SQUALPI

Members in advisory capacity

Maguelonne CHAMBON	LNE - Scientific Metrology
Sylvie DONNE	General Auditor for Economy and Finance
Isabelle RIMBERT	AFNOR - Standardisation



Message from the General Director

Activity

On 31 December 2019, Cofrac had 3,646 accredited entities compared to 3,689 a year earlier. This represents a 1.2% drop on the previous year's total. Cofrac activities with regard to Good Experimental Practices (GEP) and Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) marked a somewhat sharper drop, by around 3.8%, with 151 cases managed by the end of 2019.

The fall-off in the total number of accredited entities was less pronounced in 2019, and is mainly due to the consolidation of bodies in the biomedical field, with the Healthcare division registering an almost 6% reduction in the number of accredited laboratories. First observed several years ago in legal metrology, this same phenomenon of the consolidation of bodies seems to have finally levelled out in the Inspection division.

The number of accredited entities is, however, on the rise for the Laboratories and Certifications divisions. While this increase is slight (+0.5%) for the former, it is far more pronounced for the latter: after an almost 8% hike in 2018, the Certifications division once again saw the number of its accredited bodies grow by 3.4% in 2019. This increase in the number of certification bodies is due essentially to the implementation of new regulations at national and European level (hosting of health data, hyperbaric work environments, CE assessment for PPE, etc.).

Over the course of the past year, Cofrac once again strove to address to the best of its ability the expectations of accredited bodies. For example, new simplified accreditation request forms have been put online, which are easier to understand for the uninitiated. Cofrac has also made available on its website self-assessment tools to guide bodies in preparing their procedures. Although optional, these tools allow bodies to visualise their progress in taking account of the essential requirements for the accreditation standard concerning them.

2019 also saw work continue on reinforcing the impartiality mechanism in force at Cofrac. This culminated in the publication of a doctrine and implementation of complementary actions vis-à-vis our assessors, staff and the members of our bodies.

New strategic orientations for the period 2019-2023 were enacted. Constituting the Cofrac roadmap, these orientations, backed by annual monitoring indicators, are designed to support its developments, particularly in terms of relations with the accredited bodies, and to reinforce the robustness of the national accreditation system.

Information systems and digitalisation

2019 was marked by the implementation of the digital roadmap. As part of the strategic orientations, the work on digitalisation constitutes an issue of particular structural significance for Cofrac.

This work crystallised in autumn 2019 in the provision for all the teams of a new Employee space to facilitate the tracking of ongoing actions. This space will be enhanced subsequently with new features. At the same time, work has been undertaken to make available to our customers a dedicated space enabling them to keep track daily of their accreditation file. This space will be rolled out in summer 2020.

Our assessors' tools have, for their part, undergone major optimisation. The distance training modules made available to them are now accessible directly from the Cofrac & Co gateway, with no additional identification required.

2019 also provided the opportunity for Cofrac to finalise deployment in all the divisions of e-folio, the paperless app for assessment reports. Since mid-November, e-folio has been used for all assessments conducted in the framework of accreditation. The soundings taken from interested parties with regard to this app have proven to be very positive. Almost 93% of the bodies consider e-folio to constitute genuine progress. This figure climbs to 98% for the assessors.



Dominique GOMBERT

General Director of Cofrac



-1.2%

in the number of accredited entities



1

new simplified accreditation request form



1

new self-assessment tool for guiding bodies in preparing their accreditation procedures



1

Employee space launched as part of the digital transformation project, prefiguring the upcoming Customer and Assessor spaces

Concerning the Flexi+ app, its deployment has continued to be rolled out for the accredited laboratories. At the end of 2019, more than 26% of accredited laboratories with flexible scope were managing on a daily basis their detailed accreditation scope and publishing it on cofrac.fr. Developments have also continued for the Certifications and Healthcare divisions with a view to deployment in the second half of 2020.

Communication actions and events

Cofrac participated actively in the International Metrology Congress which took place in September in Paris, maintaining a stand as well as organising and participating in a roundtable devoted to the initial feedback from the application of standard NF EN ISO/IEC 17025:2017.

On 15 October, Cofrac organised an event to celebrate its 25th anniversary. This brought together, around the teams, the members of the Board of Administrators, Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Division Committees and Accreditation Commissions, former members of Cofrac staff still involved as assessors, retired members of the association, representatives of the public authorities, as well as current and former Cofrac Chairs and General Directors. After an initial "retrospective" part devoted to the early years of Cofrac, this event provided above all a means for more clearly determining the expectations of the various accreditation stakeholders. And for laying down some markers for the future...

In November the biennial forums for the Certifications and Laboratories divisions took place, and proved a great success with their respective audiences. The topics addressed were particularly appreciated, and the prospects offered by digital transformation generated a great deal of interest among attendees. The 10th Accreditation and Laboratories forum itself brought together no fewer than 450 people.

2019 was also marked by the publication of a special edition of the Compétences magazine, dedicated to accreditation in the agrifood sector. This offered the opportunity to reflect on the added value provided by accreditation in this field, giving the accredited bodies and specifiers ample opportunity to express themselves, and showcasing the work conducted by the division teams. This special edition will surely give rise to others.

International

Following on from the publication of standard ISO/IEC 17029 (Conformity assessment -- General principles and requirements for validation and verification bodies), after 3 years of work in which Cofrac actively participated, Cofrac organised 2 training sessions for our peer organisations on this standard.

Cofrac is also continuing to monitor the revision of standard ISO 14065, for verification and validation in the environmental field.

Lastly, Cofrac participated in peer assessments organised by EA with several of its counterpart organisations. In the framework of international collaboration, Cofrac also received a Japanese delegation to share its experience on accreditation in ETV (environmental technology verification).



4

Cofrac divisions using the e-folio tool



1

participation in the International Metrology Congress



1

event to celebrate Cofrac's 25th anniversary



2

forums: Accreditation and Certifications / Accreditation and Laboratories



1

special edition of the Compétences magazine on accreditation in agrifood



2

training sessions organised on standard ISO/IEC 17029 for our counterpart organisations



Laboratories



1,910 total accredited entities as at 31/12
including **77** abroad

490 in the Biology-Agrifood pole
405 in the Chemicals-Environment pole
553 in the Physics-Mechanics pole
462 in the Building-Electricity pole



54
initial accreditations



622
accreditation extensions



1,287
assessments carried out



151
GEP/GLP files



Highlights

For the Laboratories division, the year was marked particularly by the continued deployment of the transition plan toward standard NF EN ISO/IEC 17025:2017, comprising in particular:

- creation of a cross-disciplinary guide LAB GTA 86 for providing laboratories with additional recommendations for the implementation of the requirements of the new version of the standard, and thus enabling harmonisation of practices;
- revision of the document LAB REF 02 "Requirements for laboratory accreditation according to standard NF EN ISO/IEC 17025:2017" so that it is consistent with this guide and with the new Cofrac policy on the traceability of measurements (GEN REF 10);
- updating the division's documents;
- analysing and exploiting finding sheets and clarification requests issued during transition assessments;
- regular review of the mailbox dedicated to questions from our internal or external assessors on the new standard NF EN ISO/IEC 17025.

In this regard, the division also mobilised to ensure a follow-up for:

- the implementation of transition assessments according to the provisional planning;
- decisions made for these assessments;
- qualification of the technical assessors on the new standard (finalisation of training provisions) and resources for specialist quality assessors in association with the Assessors service.

The division also took part in a cross-disciplinary working party to develop self-assessment tools designed for accreditation candidates on conformity with the requirements of standards. It worked with the Assessors and Quality and International Affairs services on creating the document GEN REF 10 "Traceability of measurement results - Cofrac policy and assessment rules" and on producing the draft guide GEN GTA 01 on the traceability of measurement results.

The 10th Accreditation and Laboratories forum took place on 28 November 2019. It was in large part devoted to the feedback gleaned from transition with, in particular, the trends of the initial findings recorded over a period of 6 months, as well as to the new management app for detailed scopes, FLEXI+, for laboratories accredited for flexible scope, and to the presentation of Cofrac's digital transformation project and certain developments in the accreditation process.

At the end of the year, the Laboratories division committee renewed its six Accreditation Commissions for an 18-month mandate.



Laboratories



Biology - Agrifood Pole

The Pole continued its deployment of the transition plan from the ISO 34 Guide to the new NF EN ISO 17034 standard concerning Reference Material Producers (RMP): finalising the revision of the division's internal documents; conducting all the transition assessments and an additional internal audit with a view to the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA) assessment of 2020. It also took part in an EA workshop on RMPs on 13 and 14 November 2019, and published the revision of several technical accreditation guides associated with the new version of standard NF EN ISO/IEC 17025.



Chemicals - Environment Pole

The Pole delivered the first accreditations to laboratories on a new biological index: sampling fish by electric fishing in the framework of the fish populations monitoring networks. It also published a revision of document LAB REF 27 relating to the inspection of occupational exposure to chemical agents in the air at workplaces, a new information document LAB INF 77 presenting the nomenclature and expression of the lines of accreditation scope in this field, and LAB INF 45 relating to the radiological characterisations of equipment, materials, products, residues or waste likely to contain radioactive substances of natural origin.



Developments

- Optical and physical analyses of diamonds, pearls and coloured beads by gemology laboratories.
- Radiological characterisation of waste with high natural radioactivity, which is waste generated from the use and processing of raw materials naturally rich in natural radionuclides.
Tests on wireless telecommunication terminals to assess
- interoperability with the 2G, 3G, 4G and MMS networks.



Building - Electricity Pole

The Pole finalised the revision of several documents: the technical accreditation guides LAB GTA 07 on measurement traceability in the field of electromagnetic compatibility, radiofrequency and electromagnetic field measurements tests on site, and LAB GTA 10 relating to the metrology of electrical, magnetic and temporal magnitudes, as well as document LAB INF 44 "Nomenclature and expression of the lines of accreditation scope for fields linked to asbestos (air and materials)" following the release of the new regulations scheme. The Pole continued its collaboration with the Direction Générale du Travail (Directorate general for labour) and the Direction Générale de la Santé (Directorate general for health) via a working party on the improvement of data quality in the field of asbestos and the establishment of the accreditation regulations scheme associated with research on asbestos in materials.



Physics - Mechanics Pole

The Pole delivered its first accreditations in the fields of tribology and vascular endoprosthetics (stents), and on a method for calibrating weighing instruments up to 6 tonnes. It conducted the first assessments in the fields of gemology and three-dimensional measurements with articulated arms. The Pole also published document LAB REF 37 on the conditions of accreditation for bodies responsible for the individual monitoring of workers' exposure to ionising radiation, in collaboration with the Direction Générale du Travail. It continued its exchanges with the ASN (French Nuclear Safety Authority) on the accreditation of bodies conducting tests on pressurised nuclear equipment.



International

Participation in the International Metrology Congress (CIM 2019) which took place from 24 to 26 September 2019 at Paris Porte de Versailles. Aside from its presence on the Cofrac stand, the section took part in the roundtable devoted to the "New ISO/IEC 17025: initial feedback" and, in particular, on the application of the 2017 version.



Healthcare



801

total accredited entities as at 31/12

Including **772** as per standard NF EN ISO 15189 and **289** hospitals representing **4,314** sites



8

initial accreditations



485

accreditation extensions



772

assessments carried out



746

accredited biomedical laboratories



Projects

- Publication of a document for assessing biomedical laboratories involved in the individual monitoring of workers' exposure to ionising radiation.
- Publication of a document for examinations involving high-throughput sequencing (NGS).
- Optimisation of the accreditation procedure for microbiology and genetics.
- Continued reflections on the assessment of the IT systems.
- Provision of self-assessment tools based on the requirements of accreditation standards ISO 15189, ISO 22870 and ISO/IEC 17025. Continuing the work on developing a medical imaging accreditation scheme on a voluntary basis.



International

The division is active at European level and participates in the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA) Healthcare working party. It conducted a survey in spring 2019 with 34 national accreditation bodies that are members of this working party on the state of progress of the accreditation procedures of biomedical laboratories in Europe.

Highlights

It was a story of contrasting activity in 2019. The biomedical laboratories (BML) undertook in the first half-year to extend their accreditation scope with a view toward the deadline of 1st November 2020, imposing accreditation on all activities. Despite the number of requests received being higher than in 2018 at the same period, the extent of these requests nonetheless proved below expectations in terms of achieving the ultimate objective. The second half-year was marked by a significant drop in extension requests, and disruption to the planning of assessments on account of the reiterated calls from representative unions and major networks of BML for an "audits freeze", as a sign of protest in the framework of the health insurance negotiations.

Cofrac was involved in regular exchanges with the Direction Générale de la Santé, the Agences Régionales de Santé (Regional Health Agencies) and the representatives of professional associations, whether regarding the progress of accreditation procedures, the actions undertaken, or difficulties encountered linked to a patently inadequate number of technical assessors, particularly for the more specialised examinations.

The consolidation of the BML continued apace, translating into fewer assessments carried out but over a broader perimeter in terms of sites and sub-families. This observation merits consideration, since practically all the extension assessments (91%) were coupled with periodic assessments.

The development of accreditation for medical point-of-care testing (POCT) made progress, with 76 BML accredited, including 43 in hospitals, compared to 31 the previous year, and for anatomy and cytopathology testing, with 31 accredited structures compared to 27 in 2018.

For the laboratories accredited according to ISO/IEC 17025, the first 16 assessments of transition to version 2017 of the standard took place, and gave rise to no particular difficulties.

The division also continued to pursue its process optimisation actions with, in particular: clarification of the applicable requirements for accreditation in clinical biology and in anatomy and cytopathology (revision of document SH REF 02); revision of the accreditation regulations and, in particular, the sampling of sites and sub-families over an accreditation cycle, for more flexible intervals between two assessments of the same sub-family for each site; simplifying the modes of expression and assessment of the flexible scopes; and calling in experts working remotely to supplement the on-site assessment (high-throughput sequencing technology).

The decision-making process gained in efficiency, with a more than 9% increase in the number of assessment reports processed by correspondence procedure, and a 20% improvement in the decision-making timescale.

The two division bodies, the Division Committee and the Accreditation Commission, were renewed. These bodies now have competences in medical imaging, in addition to their competences in clinical biology, forensic biology and anatomy and cytopathology.

Lastly, the division has developed its mode of organisation by creating a new accreditation unit called "Paris area & Island territories".



Inspection



752

total accredited entities as at 31/12 including **2** abroad



26

initial accreditations



132

accreditation extensions



761

assessments carried out



Developments

- Periodic inspection of the safety management system of mechanical lifts and moving walkways in mountain zones.
- Assessment of conformity with the national rules for rolling stock used for implementing construction and maintenance work on railway infrastructures.
- Periodic checks of doors and gates.
- Inspection of products by supervision of electromagnetic compatibility and photometric texts in the framework of vehicle type approval.
- Detecting asbestos in building constructions.
- Periodic inspection of in-service fairground attractions and rides.



International

Participation in the work of the Inspection Committee of European co-operation for Accreditation (EA) and of International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), including the revision of document ILAC P15, relating to the application of standard ISO/IEC 17020.

Participation in an accreditation body audit organised by EA and in an IAF/ILAC workshop on the application of standard ISO/IEC 17011.

Hosting of a Japanese delegation for sharing feedback on accreditation in the field of ETV (environmental technology verification).



Highlights

Initially observed in 2017, the decline in the number of accredited inspection bodies continued, but in less sustained fashion than in the previous year. This can be put down to the withdrawals of voluntary accreditation, a consequence of the consolidation of bodies in the field of legal metrology, but also in the field of plant & animal health, where different bodies merged following the implementation of the territorial reform reducing the number of French regions to 13. Nevertheless, the number of accreditation extensions and assessments continued to grow, particularly on account of the increase in the number of members of these bodies, organised into networks.

2019 was marked by the deployment of the e-folio paperless app for assessment reports with all bodies accredited by the division, thereby saving time and increasing efficiency for the various stakeholders concerned.

The new accreditation regulation INS REF 05 came into application on 1st January for all the division's activities, including legal metrology. This results from the work on the harmonisation and revision of the rules for calculating periods and quantifying assessments.

Among the other work conducted over the year, the division invested itself in combating fraud within bodies. A work calendar aimed at providing the Inspection division with a technical accreditation guide was defined to propose to bodies a method for identifying the risks of compromised integrity that may lead to fraud. The results of this work could ultimately concern all activities subject to accreditation by Cofrac.

For increased efficiency, the division has also proceeded with the merger of the division's two Accreditation Commissions, and taken this opportunity to renew a third of its members.



Certifications



183

total accredited entities as at 31/12
including **5** abroad



10

initial accreditations



63

accreditation extensions



676

assessments carried out



Highlights

The division underwent a slight growth in activity in 2019, with a 3.4% increase in the number of accredited entities, including 51% for ISO/IEC 17065 alone, in the certification of products, services and processes. The number of assessments is higher than the previous year on account of the increased number of activity observations. This is due in particular to the wholesale application of international rules for the accreditation of certification bodies and management systems.

As in 2018, the 2019 figures serve to confirm that the implementation of new regulations, at national or European level, constitutes a growth factor for the accreditation activity and for the certification bodies. The initial accreditations delivered in 2019 were mainly for the regulated fields (CE assessment for personal protective equipment, hyperbaric work environments, hosting of health data).

The division was heavily solicited to study the possibility of developing accreditation mechanisms for framing new certification activities. These solicitations covered all fields and came from various stakeholders: public authorities, professional unions or certifying bodies themselves.

2019 was marked at the end of the year by the launch of the e-folio paperless app for assessment reports aimed at assessors and assessment bodies, following significant work on preparing the tools.

The 9th Accreditation and Certifications forum, which took place on 4 November 2019, brought together some 90 people and tackled the latest news in accreditation, innovations in terms of tools and schemes, and feedback from the field.

For greater efficiency, the division has further developed its organisation by creating 2 poles: SPVA (Services, Products, Verification and Agrifood) and MPQP (Management, Products, Qualification and Persons).

The Certifications division committee was renewed with a three-year mandate.

As every year, the division was audited by the French national aerospace prescriber, GIFAS, in the framework of its annual monitoring. The result of this audit was very positive, praising the efficiency of the accreditation system.



Developments

- Certification of the training of armed agents for private security activities.
- Certification of measurement instruments (OIML rules).
- Certification of professional training service providers (DGEFP).
- Verification of greenhouse gas emissions in aviation according to the international CORSIA system (DGAC).
- CE assessment of rail interoperability systems (European Union Agency for Railways).
- Certification of training for property diagnosticians (DHUP).
- Certification of management systems for private security operations as per ISO 18788.



International

Bearing in mind the international character of a certain number of mechanisms, the division is highly involved, particularly in terms of cooperation with Cofrac's counterpart organisations, in the harmonisation work conducted by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and European co-operation for Accreditation (EA).

Participation in standardisation activities concerning:

- ISO/IEC 17029 (Conformity assessment -- General principles and requirements for validation and verification bodies), a standard published after three years of work, for which the division organised two training sessions for EA counterpart organisations;
- ISO 14065 (verification and validation of environmental information), in work on its revision.

Participation also in two accreditation body assessments.

Cooperative actions with contracting clients, in particular with DG AGRI for the revision of organic farming regulations in order to guarantee a pragmatic definition of operator inspection requirements.

Active participation in the biannual meetings of the EA and IAF Certification Committees.



Cofrac's assessors



+ 1,800

assessors and technical experts



Initial qualifications

35

quality assessors (42 in 2018)

114

technical assessors (138 in 2018)



Qualification renewals

113

quality assessors (86 in 2018)

197

technical assessors (182 in 2018)



Qualification extensions

4

quality assessors (5 in 2018)

97

technical assessors (85 in 2018)



Monitoring

106

quality assessors (92 in 2018)

The recruitment of new assessors continued actively in 2019 to meet the needs for resources associated with the installation of new accreditation mechanisms and to compensate for staff departures. The year was also marked by a significant number of training courses on many standards. Although these concerned every division, some deserve to be underlined.

In the Laboratories division, technical assessors-lead assessors attended one of five classroom training sessions on the 2017 version of standard NF EN ISO/IEC 17025. More than 200 assessors were concerned. GEP training was also dispensed.

In the Certifications division, internal and external specialist quality assessors were trained on the standards NF EN ISO/IEC 17065 and 17021-1.

Harmonisation meetings also took place in many fields, such as healthcare for all qualified assessors, or other fields linked to the certification, inspection or laboratory activities.

Remote training and the harmonisation of assessment practices were reinforced with the implementation of new modules aimed at assessors.

The work carried out by Cofrac to define a single metrological policy for all accredited activities culminated in the publication of the document GEN REF 10 Traceability of measurement results - Cofrac policy and assessment rules. Established on the basis of feedback from the various divisions concerning the management of metrological traceability links, in phase with the international document ILAC P10 ILAC Policy on the Traceability of Measurements Results, the document formalises the rules of assessment according to the link paths used by accredited bodies. Assessors have been specifically approved for assessing metrological traceability control in the event of use of path 3.

The e-folio paperless app for assessment reports was successfully deployed in all the divisions. It is now used for all assessments conducted in the framework of accreditation.

As part of digital transformation, access to applications has been streamlined, and the "Moodle" remote training platform is now accessible, like e-folio, from the Cofrac & Co extranet gateway.



Members of the association

Active members

Accredited bodies or their groupings

01 CONTROLE
 28LBM DES HUEP - AP-HP
 AB CERTIFICATION
 ACDEF
 ACRITEC
 AFNOR CERTIFICATION
 AIR LIQUIDE FRANCE INDUSTRIE
 ALLIANCE CONTROLE VERIFICATION
 ANSES
 ANSM
 APAVE
 APHM LBM - POLE BIOLOGIE MEDICALE
 APROLAB
 ASEFA
 ASQUAL
 ASSOCIATION DES CONTROLEURS DE FRANCE
 BC-LAB
 BIOESTEREL
 BIZLINE SAS
 BUREAU ALPES CONTROLES
 BUREAU VERITAS CERTIFICATION FRANCE
 BUREAU VERITAS EXPLOITATION
 BUREAU VERITAS LABORATOIRES
 BUREAU VERITAS SERVICES SAS
 CABINET FONTAN
 CEFRI
 CENTRE DE PATHOLOGIE EMILE GALLE
 CENTRE HOSP MEM. France/United States
 CENTRE HOSPITALIER DE BETHUNE
 CERIB
 CERQUAL SAS
 CETIAT
 CETIM
 CH VALENCIENNES
 CHU DE NICE - HOPITAL PASTEUR 1
 CHU de Nîmes
 CHU DIJON BOURGOGNE
 CNPP CERT
 COFREND
 CONFARMA FRANCE SAS
 CONTROL UNION INSPECTIONS FRANCE
 COORDINATION DES OEUVRES SOCIALES ET MEDICALES
 COPREC
 CREPIM
 CRITT MDTS
 CSTB
 CTC
 CTIF

DEKRA CERTIFICATION SAS
 DEKRA INDUSTRIAL SAS
 DIAGNOVIE
 DNV GL - BUSINESS ASSURANCE FRANCE
 DTSB-SFJF
 DYOMEDEA - NEOLAB
 ECOCERT SA
 EFECTIS France
 ETABLISSEMENT FRANCAIS DU SANG
 EUROFINS LABAZUR RHONE ALPES
 EUROLAB France
 EUROVENT CERTITA CERTIFICATION
 EXALAB
 FCBA
 FEDERATION HEXAGONE
 GDS FRANCE
 GEN BIO
 GIE ICV - VVS
 GINGER CEBTP
 GLOBAL CERTIFICATION
 GMED SAS
 GNIS SOC
 GRID SOLUTIONS SAS
 GROUPE DE PREVENTION
 GRTGAZ
 HOSPICES CIVILS DE LYON
 I.CERT
 INSTITUT DE SOUDURE INDUSTRIE
 INTERTEK CERTIFICATION France
 IRSTEA
 ISQ
 ITERG
 LABORATOIRE BIOCENTRE
 LABORATOIRE BIOCOME
 LABORATOIRE BIOSUD
 LABORATOIRE CERBA
 LABORATOIRE LXBIO
 LABORATOIRE VIALLE
 LABORATOIRES DE PROXIMITE ASSOCIES
 Laboratoires MAYMAT
 LABOSUD
 LABOSUD GARONNE
 LABOSUD PROVENCE BIOLOGIE
 LBM BARRAND
 LBM BIOFRANCE
 LBM CAB
 LBM EIMER
 LBM FIEVEZ IGOUT
 LBM FORTEBIO
 LCIE

LCPP
 LNE
 LRQA FRANCE SAS
 LSTI SAS
 MAZARS SAS
 MIRION TECHNOLOGIES (CANBERRA) SAS
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Qualified individuals

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Thierry GUILARD

Alain THIBAUT
Pascal LEMOINE

Independent consultant
Retired



Financial results in €K

Balance sheet

Assets	Balance 31/12/18	Balance 31/12/19	Liabilities	Balance 31/12/18	Balance 31/12/19
Gross fixed assets	10,675	12,613	Social funds	7,336	8,312
Depreciation	-6,455	-7,335	Year's results	976	327
Net fixed assets	4,220	5,278	Provisions for risks and charges	152	145
Accounts receivable and related accounts	7,146	7,367	Loans and financial liabilities	45	-
Provisions for receivables	-174	-134	Provisions for financial risks	-	-
Accounts receivable	6,972	7,234	Debts to suppliers and related accounts	5,844	6,063
Other receivables	1,105	1,250	Social security, tax and other liabilities	4,769	4,082
Marketable securities	1,735	1,846	Prepaid expenses	54	15
Liquid assets	4,386	2,484	Conversion differences	-	-
Prepaid expenses	758	852			
Conversion differences	-	-			
TOTAL	19,176	18,944	Total	19,176	18,944

Income statement

Expenses	Year 2018	Year 2019	Products	Year 2018	Year 2019
Staff expenses (incl. company restaurant, continuing training, payroll taxes, CICE tax deduction)	12,173	12,310	Charges	9,321	9,519
Remuneration of assessors	12,525	11,728	Accreditation (audits, preliminary studies, review of corrective actions)	21,685	20,576
Mission expenses	3,470	3,371	Other (mission expenses, developments, etc.)	3,330	3,008
Operating costs	4,384	4,714	Contributions	119	125
CET (CVAE and CFE)	295	199	Subtotal	34,456	33,228
Subtotal	32,846	32,322	Agreements with ministries	273	218
Depreciation expenses	823	942	Writeback to provisions for depreciation of receivables	23	55
Provisions for depreciation of accounts receivable	90	14	Writeback to provisions for risks and charges and transfer of operating expenses	285	226
Provisions for risks and operating costs	30	-	Writeback to provisions for financial risks and charges	10	6
Provisions for financial risks	6	-	Writeback to provisions for exceptional risks and charges		
Provisions for exceptional expenses			Financial income	43	45
Payment losses	20	45	Extraordinary income	56	40
Financial expenses	3	1	Total	35,146	33,819
Exceptional expenses					
Corporate taxes	352	166			
Profit for the year	976	327			
Total	35,146	33,819			

NB: figures to be submitted to the annual general meeting for approval.



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