

I. Introduction

The prime idea of establishing the Institute of Standards & Industrial Research of Iran (ISIRI) emerged upon the approval of “The Law of Weights and Measures” in 1925. ISIRI is administrated according to the laws and regulations approved by the Supreme Council of Standards. It is also the national accreditation authority. In line with the government’s general policies and plans, ISIRI has the responsibility for providing specialized, technical, scientific, and experimental services on areas pertaining to standards to industry, businesses, the service sector, and other economic sectors, as well as the responsibility for accrediting consultants, auditors, assessors, and quality management systems.

II. The role, structure and scope of the organization

Commodities that are certified and marked with the ISIRI standard mark do not need to get any additional certification. This measure has been implemented by ISIRI with the objective of reducing internal barriers to trade.

One of the ISIRI’s duties and responsibilities is quality control of export goods that are subject to compulsory standards for the prevention of the export of low-quality goods in order to ensure a competitive position in regard to similar foreign goods so as to maintain access to international markets.

The related standards are developed and published and can be accessed by any exporter or stakeholder.

Conformity assessment is conducted on exported goods, specially those that are subject to compulsory standards. These services are provided by ISIRI or inspection bodies which are accredited by ISIRI.

III. The existing relationship between NSBs and TPOs

There is a relationship between these organizations in the following areas:

- ❖ Participating in sessions to choose better exporters annually
- ❖ Providing a list of the imported goods to TPO, that do not comply with the applicable standards
- ❖ Investigating and finding a solution for some commodities such as saffron pistachio
- ❖ Identifying the best markets for the export of Iranian goods and to select goods to be exported
- ❖ Participating in “export quality management working group” organized by the TPO

IV. The potential future relationship between NSBs and TPOs

This question will be answered after the meeting.

V. Conclusion

In a world that rapidly turns into a single global marketplace, competitiveness has become a decisive factor in the international market. Standards and quality are strategic necessities to attain success in this competitive world. We need to teach this to our exporters and importers as a first priority.

Nezhat Montazeri
ISIRI