

Dear CB SA8000 Program Manager,

Welcome to SAAS “Accreditation Issues Update” of May 31, 2024. This official SAAS notification serves to keep you abreast of ongoing significant SA8000 Accreditation Program (and other) issues. Information contained in prior updates remains relevant (particularly the most recent update of February 2024), but we are going to keep things brief this month.

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1. APSCA Update

SAI continues to support APSCA goals and the organization’s auditor certification program. As you will have seen from SAI’s broadcast notification this week (attached again here) SAI policy on APSCA has changed. Further details will be provided by both SAI and SAAS in due course – including, later this year, through a revision to CB auditor and staff Competency Requirements specified in SAI/SAAS Procedure 201B. At this time, however, conformity with the current Procedure 201B (including auditor training and development requirements) remains unchanged.

CB representatives and auditors with specific interests and concerns regarding the introduction of SAI’s revised APSCA policy should reach out directly to SAI on this matter, as directed in the original email, (not to SAAS management or auditors, who are unable to assist at this time).

As always, SAI and SAAS expect accredited SA8000 CBs that are already APSCA signatories to meet APSCA’s scheme requirements, including the requirements for the use of CSCA auditors (APSCA scheme requirement Q4/2023).

2. Ethical Performance

Program Managers are reminded that SAAS requires SA8000 certification programs be managed ethically, accurately, transparently, and in accordance with SAAS Procedure 201A: SA8000 Advisory 2023-1 (which can be found in the [SAAS Document Library](#)).

Additionally, as part of each accredited Certification Body’s annual performance review, SAAS assesses operational integrity and ethical behavior – please reference KPI #10: For Business Ethics & Business Integrity. The five parameters (two of which are **zero tolerance issues***) include:

1. No corruption or bribery (in any form)*
2. Non-availability or falsification of records needed to demonstrate conformity*
3. No misrepresentation of Accredited SA8000 Certification
4. Preservation of information integrity (communications and authorities)
5. CB Staff Ethical Business Awareness

We thank you all for your continuing support of the SA8000 program.