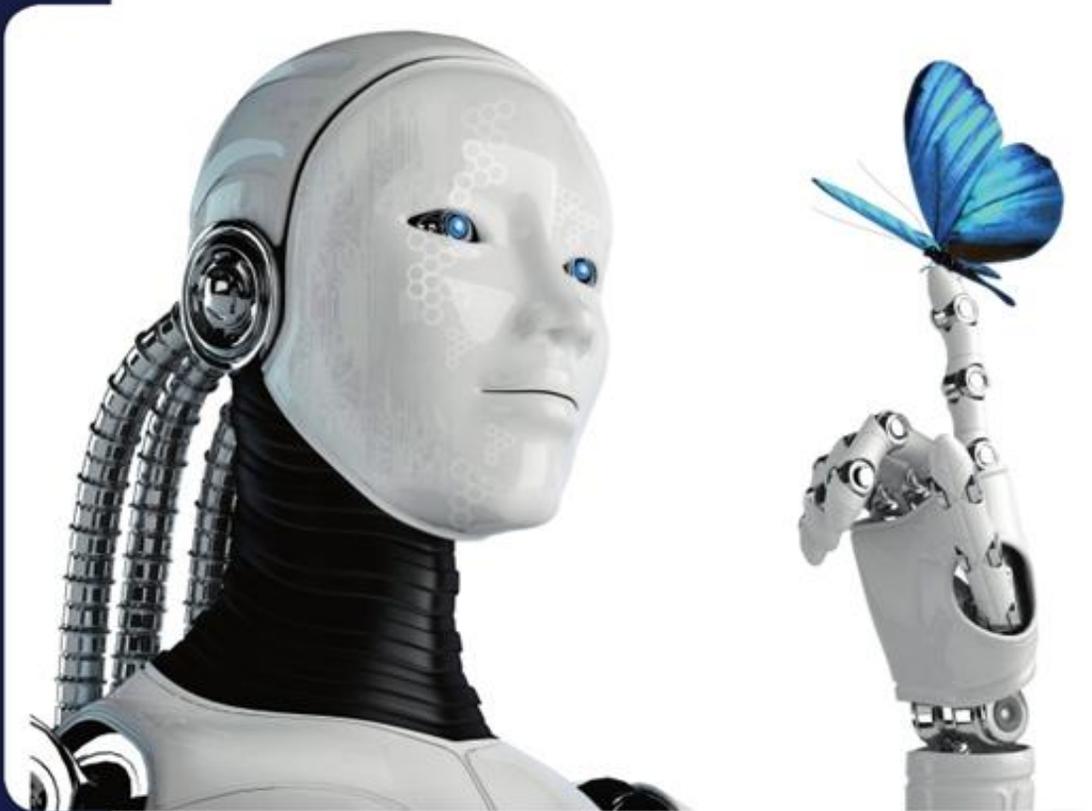# Newsletter
March, 2026

ICR

Hot Issue

1. **Introduction of new testing equipments**

2. **Selecting an ISO Certification Body**

3. **Revision of the ATEX 2014/34/EU**

   GUIDELINES - 6th Edition

Introduction of new testing equipment

■ Purchase of Ethernet fiber optic & CANoe

ICR Mobility Center has added Ethernet fiber optic & CANoe to support **automotive EMC test.** With this new equipment, we will do our best to provide high-quality testing services to ensure customer satisfaction.

■ Details of the test equipments

❖ Ethernet fiber optic

1) Manufacturer: MK messtechnik.GmbH

2) Quantity: 1 channel

3) Specification

 - Ethernet up to 1000 Mbit/s
 - chipset: Marvell 88Q2112

❖ CANoe

1) Manufacturer: Vector Informatik.GmbH

2) Quantity: 1 set

3) Specification

 - CAN FD up to 8 Mbit/s
 - LIN up to 330 kbit/s
 - Channels: 4 EA
   (LIN: CH1, 2, CAN: CH3, 4)

☎ **Inquiries**
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Selecting an ISO Certification Body

■ Understanding ISO Certification

Organizations preparing for ISO certification often ask,

"Which certification body should we choose?"

ISO certification is more than obtaining a certificate. It aligns an organization's management system with **internationally recognized standards and demonstrates credibility to external stakeholders.**

Certification bodies should be selected based on **international recognition, technical expertise, and post-certification management capability**—not cost alone.

❖ Management System Standardization

Establishes an effective system aligned with international standards.

❖ Business Expansion

Supports tenders, exports, and supplier registration with global corporations.

❖ Audit Quality

Competent audits enhance risk identification and improvement.

❖ Sustainable Operation

Ongoing surveillance and recertification ensure long-term system stability.

Selecting an ISO Certification Body

◼ **ISO Certification Body Selection – Key Criteria**

❖ **1. International Recognition and Accreditation Scope**

> The core value of ISO certification lies in **international credibility**. Organizations must verify whether the certification body is accredited by a recognized **Accreditation Body**.

It is particularly important to verify the following points.

The relevant ISO standard is included within the accreditation scope	**The accreditation status remains valid**	**The certificate is recognized by overseas stakeholders**

These factors directly affect **the reliability and ongoing validity of the certification.** Certificates issued by non-accredited bodies may not be accepted for tenders, exports, or supplier registration with major corporations.

Selecting an ISO Certification Body

■ **ISO Certification Body Selection – Key Criteria**

❖ **2. Industry Expertise and Audit Competence**

> In ISO audits, the competence of auditors who **understand industry characteristics, operational risks, and business processes** is critical.

Audit focus areas differ by industry:

Manufacturing	IT	Medical Devices
Process control and quality consistency	**Information security and service reliability**	**Regulatory compliance and statutory requirements**

Limited expertise may result in superficial findings, whereas experienced auditors provide meaningful improvement recommendations.
Organizations should verify the **availability of industry-qualified auditors.**

Selecting an ISO Certification Body

■ **Certification Body Selection – Key Criteria**

❖ **3. Post-Certification and Future Audit Management System**

> **ISO certification is not a one-time procedure. It requires Annual surveillance audits & Recertification audits every three years.**

Key considerations include:

✓ **Is audit scheduling managed systematically?**

✓ **Is continuity maintained despite changes in contact personnel?**

✓ **Is support provided when standards are revised?**

A stable post-certification management system reduces organizational burden and maintains certification credibility.

Selecting an ISO Certification Body

■ **Certification Body Selection – Key Criteria**

   ❖ **4. Cost Structure and Transparency of Communication**

> **Certification fees are determined by organizational size, number of employees, and audit duration. More important than the amount itself is transparency in cost calculation and communication.**

Organizations should confirm:

Whether quotations are clearly itemized	**Whether potential additional costs are explained in advance**	**Whether audit procedures and schedules are clearly communicated**

Transparency reflects the credibility of the certification body and builds trust throughout the certification process.

Selecting an ISO Certification Body

▣ Checklist for Selecting an ISO Certification Body

Before selecting a certification body, review the following:

☑ **Is the body internationally accredited?**

☑ **Does it have sufficient experience in our industry?**

☑ **Are auditors professionally qualified with practical understanding?**

☑ **Is the surveillance and recertification system stable?**

☑ **Are cost calculation and procedures transparent?**

☑ **Is communication prompt and professional?**

A certification body that meets these criteria can be considered a reliable long-term partner.

Prepare for
ISO certification with ICR

■ ISO Certification – A Strategic Decision

Selecting a certification body is the first and most critical step in preparing for ISO certification.

> ICR is an **internationally accredited certification body** providing structured and reliable certification services across diverse industries, supported by **qualified auditors.**

Industry-specialized auditor assignment	Transparent cost structure and procedures	Stable surveillance and recertification management	Tailored certification support based on organizational needs

For inquiries regarding ISO certification, please contact the **ICR System Certification Center**.

☎ **Inquiries**
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Revision of the ATEX 2014/34/EU GUIDELINES 6th Edition

◾ Publication of the ATEX 2014/34/EU Guidelines – 6th Edition

In January 2026, the European Commission published the 6th edition of the ATEX Guidelines. This revision did not alter the text of the directive itself but updated the guidelines to reflect the latest technological developments, amendments to other legislation and standards, and the trend toward digital documentation.

ATEX 2014/34/EU GUIDELINES

GUIDE TO APPLICATION OF THE DIRECTIVE 2014/34/EU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL OF 26 FEBRUARY 2014 ON THE HARMONISATION OF THE LAW OF THE MEMBER STATES RELATING TO EQUIPMENT AND PROTECTIVE SYSTEMS INTENDED FOR USE IN POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES

6th EDITION – January 2026

◾ §33 – Clarification of Directive Application Exceptions for Spare parts

Spare parts used to replace defective or worn components for product maintenance are, in principle, not subject to ATEX Directive compliance. However, if the spare part itself qualifies as independent equipment or a component as defined in the Directive, then all obligations of the Directive must be fulfilled.

Revision of the ATEX 2014/34/EU GUIDELINES 6th Edition

◼ §38 – Examples of Equipment not Covered by Directive 2014/34/EU

Simple mechanical products without their own ignition source are generally not covered by the ATEX Directive. For example, basic tools or manual valves do not contain ignition sources and therefore fall outside the scope of ATEX. A household battery-powered pump is likewise not considered an ATEX product, but requirements from other legislation, such as the General Product Safety Regulation (GPSR), still apply.

◼ §38 – §74, §151 - Relaxation of Paper Documentation Obligation

The previous requirement to provide the EU Declaration of Conformity (EU DoC) and certain documents exclusively in paper form has been removed. These documents can now be supplied digitally, for example via an internet address or QR code. Safety instructions must still be provided in paper form as a rule, but the EU DoC and conformity documentation may be delivered electronically.

◼ §253 – Electrical Trace Heating Detailed Classification

The manufacturer's obligations for the design and installation of electric trace heating systems have been clearly divided into two types:

❖ **Type A)** Systems in which the temperature classification is determined by the structure of the heating system (e.g., self-regulating). These are considered equipment even before installation.

Revision of the ATEX 2014/34/EU GUIDELINES 6th Edition

❖ **Type B)** Systems in which the temperature classification depends on the design and installation method on site (e.g., fixed-resistance). For these, the Declaration of Conformity (DoC) is issued only after on-site installation and commissioning are completed.

◼ Updating of Reference Information

In the 6th edition of the ATEX Guidelines, all reference information has been comprehensively updated, including harmonized standards, related legislation, and website links. The location references for ExNBG explanatory materials have been revised, and citations to other legislation such as the EN IEC 60079 series, EMC, LVD, Machinery Regulation (MR), PED, and RED, as well as ATEX website links, have been brought up to their current versions.

◼ ATEX Certification is Available in ICR!

ICR Polska is registered as a European Notified Body (NB) and has issued CE certificates across multiple fields, not only explosion protection.

At **ICR**, the entire **process—from ATEX and CE testing/evaluation to certificate issuance—can be handled in a one-stop manner.**

For any inquiries regarding ATEX, IECEx, or explosion-proof certification and testing, please feel free to contact the ICR Explosion Protection Certification Team.

☎ **Inquiries**

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