
IQN Path competition law policy statement for EQA providers

Version: V1.2

Written by: Jacqueline Hall

Date drafted: 26/09/15

Date of ratification by IQN Path Executive Board (issue date): 02/10/15

Pages: 2



Introduction

IQN Path subscribes to the principle that pre-competitive discussions in External Quality Assessment (EQA) and Proficiency Testing (PT) and the development and recommendations of technical standards, which set a good standard for quality practises, are encouraged. Laboratories have the right to select participation in different EQA/PT schemes.

IQN Path has therefore adopted the following policy statement.

Membership and Competition Law Compliance

Membership to the association is conditional on members following principles listed below:

- Members agree that price co-ordination is prohibited.
- Members agree not to be involved in the allocation of particular customers to particular members or the imposition of quotas on services or geographic areas.
- Members failing to comply with the competition law policy statement can have their membership revoked.

Note: The above does not include summary or statistical information and data collected on an industry wide scale such as general overview of a sector and trends, as long as it is not possible to identify individual members.

Awareness

All members shall be made aware of the position on competition law policy when becoming a member.

The competition law policy shall also be publicly available and displayed on the association's website.