



Fisheries and Oceans - Canadian General Standards Board Collaboration on Catch Monitoring

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Overview

- **Background**
 - DFO National Catch Monitoring Programs
 - Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB)
- **CGSB's Qualification and Standards (step 1)**
- **Designation (step 2)**
- **Benefits**
- **Cost-Effect**
- **Next steps: Modernization**



DFO Catch Monitoring Programs

- **Electronic logbooks (e-logs)**
 - DFO has undertaken significant work to develop an electronic solution for the collection, transmission and warehousing of fisheries logbook data
 - E-log pilots in several fisheries have confirmed the effectiveness of this program
 - DFO is advancing an initiative to expand the current pilots into a consistent National program
- **Vessel monitoring system (VMS)**
 - Satellite based, near real time, positional tracking system used to monitor the location of vessels and movement
 - The program has numerous applications, including enforcement, safety, security, science and fisheries management



DFO Catch Monitoring Programs

- **Dockside monitoring (DMP)**
 - Provides accurate, timely, third party verification of fish landings
 - DFO's primary source of verified landing information in many fisheries
- **At-sea observer programs (ASOP)**
 - Places designated, private-sector, impartial observers aboard fishing vessels to:
 - Monitor/verify fishing activities;
 - Collect scientific/fishing data; and
 - Monitor industry compliance with fishing regulations and license conditions



Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB)

- In business since 1934, and is Canada's only federal government standards organization (part of Public Works and Government Services Canada)
- CGSB offers standardization products and services, including standards development, product evaluation, certification and quality assessment.
- Accredited by the [Standards Council of Canada](#), and charter participant in the National Standards System of Canada.
- Responsible for approximately 350 standards and specifications, as well as conformity assessment programs with over 500 customers world-wide.



Qualification Program for DMP and ASOP (Step 1)

- **Objectives of the CGSB Qualification Program:**
 - Ensure that each organization has a quality management system in place that ensures the accuracy of the reported quota numbers and provides verification of harvesting activities and scientific catch information
 - Ensure organizations have adequate quality management practices in place to ensure the viability of the company
- **Organizations gain admission to the program by demonstrating that:**
 - Documented quality management systems meet the requirements of the *Quality Management System Standard*
 - The organization complies with its established Quality Management System (QMS)
- **4 phases of the program:**
 - Application
 - QMS Documentation Review
 - On-Site Audit and Qualification Decision
 - Maintenance of Qualification (ongoing)
- **Appeal Process**
 - CGSB decisions against a qualified organization may be appealed
- **Complaint Mechanism (performance of qualified organizations)**
 - Investigates complaints – organizations are given opportunity to institute corrective action to avoid suspension or de-listing
 - Assign costs – organizations at fault must pay for investigation, if no evidence of fault found, complainant is responsible for the cost



Quality Management System - Standard Elements

- Each Organization's QMS needs to include written procedures and objective evidence covering:
 - **Documentation** – established procedures and forms, version and records management (collected, maintained, retrievable and protected)
 - **Management responsibility** – policies, authorities
 - **Training** - qualified and properly trained staff
 - **Production** – established procedures, defined tasks and duties, information management systems and practices, reporting standards
 - **Inspection** – quality control, accountability
 - **Internal audit** – comprehensive self evaluation, identify “non-conformaty”
 - **Improvement** –performance/non-conformity redress process



Designation (Step 2)

- Organizations and individuals seeking designation as observers (DMP and ASOP), must comply with the *Fisheries Act* and the *Fishery (General) Regulations (FGR)*, and make application and become qualified according to the CGSB Qualification Program Manual and the DMP and ASOP Policy and Procedures
- The organizations that meet the standard are listed on a qualification list, available to DFO and the general public (<http://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/ongc-cgsb/programme-program/certification/prog/quai-dockside-eng.html>)
- Qualification services provided by CGSB allow DFO to ensure that DMP and ASOP companies have quality management systems in place prior to entering the designation process
- Through a program of scheduled audits carried out by the CGSB, DFO is assured that the sources of supply of services conform to the recognized standard
- Companies listed by CGSB undergo on-site audits once every 3 years, and desk-audits are done each year where an on-site audit is not conducted



Benefits of working with CGSB

- **Experience:** delivering certification and qualification services since 1979
- **Credibility:** Canada's only federal government certification organization, ensures adherence to the government's principles of openness, fairness and transparency
- **Recognition:** CGSB is accredited as a Certification Organization by the *Standards Council of Canada* and is a recognized name in certification and qualification
- **Proof of Quality:** demonstrates to stakeholders that programs are reliable, apply consistent levels of service and have effective quality management systems in place
- **Exposure:** Web site is available to and used by public and private sector buyers, ensuring exposure of products, services and their suppliers to a wide range of potential customers
- **Cost:** highly competitive fees for its services
- **International Experience/Exposure** – knowledge transfer and harmonization with international practices



Cost-Effect

- More confidence in catch monitoring tools allows for lower coverage rates or use of fewer tools
- Strong catch monitoring facilitates market access – domestic (e.g. MSC) and International (EU, US)
- Effective/Efficient catch monitoring tools creates cost savings in process



NEXT STEPS: Modernization

- CGSB and DFO are working together to develop a DFO standard for e-log software, to be completed in 2015-2016
- The CGSB process will include formation of a technical committee that will bring together DFO, software, and fishing industry to develop the standard
- A public consultation period will allow input from a wider audience
- An accompanying qualification process for e-log software, developed by CGSB
- Options are currently being considered for future VMS Service Provider and Unit Standards – consider technical updates and E-logs Linkage
- Review/Refresh Standards for other National Catch Monitoring Programs - C&P to assess need for revised/modernized standards