



*Publication
Reference*

EA-3/01 S1 M: 2025

**Supplement 1 to EA-3/01
Rules on
the use of
EA MLA Mark**

PURPOSE

This document is a Supplement to EA-3/01 “EA Conditions for the use of Accreditation Symbols, Logos and other claims of accreditation and reference to the EA MLA Signatory status” which specifies the rules for use of EA MLA mark.

Authorship

This document has been prepared by the EA Horizontal Harmonization Committee.

Official language

The text may be translated into other languages as required. The English language version remains the definitive version.

Copyright

The copyright of this text is held by EA. The text may not be copied for resale.

Further information

For further information about this publication, contact your national member of EA or the EA Secretariat.

Please check our website for up-to-date information at <http://www.european-accreditation.org>

Category:	Members' procedural document - Mandatory
Date of endorsement:	22 nd May 2025
Date of implementation:	<i>Date at which the EA MLA mark will be registered as a collective mark of the European Union</i>
Transition period:	None

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION.....	4
2	SCOPE	4
3	DEFINITIONS.....	4
4	RULES FOR THE USE OF THE EA MLA MARK.....	5
4.1	GENERAL RULES.....	5
4.2	RULES FOR USE BY NABS.....	5
4.3	RULES FOR USE BY ACCREDITED CABS	6
5	SANCTIONS	6
	ANNEX (MANDATORY)	7
A1	THE EA MLA MARK.....	7
A2	SERVICES COVERED BY THE EA MLA MARK	7
A3	REPRODUCTION RULES	8
A4	EA GRAPHIC CHARTER.....	9

1 INTRODUCTION

EA, the European cooperation for Accreditation, is an Association registered under nr. 30166441 in the Chamber of Commerce of Utrecht in the Netherlands. EA is formally appointed by the European Commission in Regulation (EC) Nr. 765/2008 to develop and maintain a multilateral agreement of mutual recognition (MLA) based on a harmonized accreditation infrastructure.

EA decided to establish an EA MLA Mark as a tool to differentiate the accreditation and corresponding conformity assessment results covered by the EA multilateral agreement of mutual recognition (EA MLA). In order to achieve a correct differentiation and provide added value to the users, a set of dispositions and requirements need to be established and complied with by the users, namely the National Accreditation Bodies (NABs) and their corresponding accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs).

The EA members (NABs) which have signed the EA MLA may use the EA MLA mark in combination with their own marks. Consequently, these users shall meet the EA criteria for membership set out in EA-1/17 Supplement 1 (<https://european-accreditation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/ea-1-17-s1-a-ab-rev03-june-2014.pdf>) and the EA requirements for being an MLA signatory set out in EA-1/06 EA Multilateral agreement - Criteria for signing - Policy and procedures for development (<https://european-accreditation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/ea-1-06-A-AB.pdf>).

2 SCOPE

This document addresses the use of the EA MLA Mark.

3 DEFINITIONS

NAB: National Accreditation Body(ies) which is(are) member(s) of EA, authorized to use the MLA mark in compliance with the present rules.

CAB: Conformity Assessment Body(ies) which is(are) not member(s) of EA, authorized to use the MLA mark subject to being accredited by a NAB and in accordance with the present rules.

EA officers and representatives: EA shall be represented by any person designated in accordance with article 14 of the Articles of Association (<https://european-accreditation.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/AoA-25-Nov-2021.pdf>).

EA MLA: The EA Multilateral Agreement (EA MLA) is a multilateral arrangement of mutual recognition between EA members as established in the document EA-1/06, having the same purpose and consequences in this document as any bilateral agreement (BLA) signed with other EA members. Further references in this document to the EA MLA and EA MLA signatories are also applicable to any EA BLA and its signatories.

EA MLA Mark: the registered word/device mark for the purpose of identifying an EA MLA signatory and its accredited CABs, whose copyright is owned by EA.

4 RULES FOR THE USE OF THE EA MLA MARK

4.1 General rules

The EA MLA Mark, its reproduction rules, and the services covered by the EA MLA Mark are shown in Annex (mandatory).

The EA MLA Mark can be used by EA officers and representatives.

Besides, the use of the EA MLA Mark shall always be restricted to EA MLA signatories' NABs and their accredited CABs located in countries where the EA MLA Mark is registered. The registration details shall be available from the EA Secretariat and the list of countries covered by the registration shall be publicly available.

NABs that are signatories for at least one of the scopes of the EA MLA may use the EA MLA Mark in combination with their own mark. For such a use, the MLA Mark can only be used by the NAB in relation to an activity which is included within the MLA scope of the NAB.

Accredited CABs of a NAB that is signatory to the corresponding accreditation scopes of the EA MLA may use the EA MLA mark, in combination with the NAB's accreditation mark. For such a use the EA MLA Mark can only be used by the CAB in relation to an activity which is accredited and included within the MLA signatory scope of the NAB.

The rights to use the EA MLA Mark are non-transferable.

The EA Secretariat shall receive and record the requests from NABs to use the EA MLA Mark and upon confirmation of the signatory status will provide the corresponding digital files that are to be used for its use.

4.2 Rules for use by NABs

The right to use the EA MLA Mark by a NAB starts on the date that it becomes signatory to the EA MLA and ends on the day of its withdrawal as a signatory to the EA MLA. The right to use is suspended during suspension of MLA signatory status.

NABs are not required to use the EA MLA Mark in combination with their (NAB) mark but are encouraged to use it, especially in the accreditation information or in the NAB's website. NABs can also use the EA MLA Mark in their correspondence (postal or electronic), social media and other publicity.

The EA MLA Mark must be used in a manner that avoids confusion regarding who (NAB or EA) is issuing the document or claim. NABs shall under no circumstance use the EA MLA Mark other than in combination with their own marks.

4.3 Rules for use by accredited CABs

NABs are encouraged to allow their accredited CABs to use the EA MLA Mark in combination with the NAB's accreditation mark since the date that they become accredited by a NAB signatory to the EA MLA for that accreditation field. The right for a CAB to use the EA MLA Mark terminates on the day of withdrawal of its accreditation or when the NAB is withdrawn from the EA MLA for that accreditation scope.

The right for the CAB is suspended during suspension of accreditation or during suspension of the NAB signatory status.

NABs may allow CABs to use the EA MLA Mark in the documents (certificates or reports) that contain conformity assessment results covered by the scope of accreditation of a NAB that is signatory to the EA MLA for that accreditation field. NABs may also allow CABs to use it in correspondence (postal or electronic), social media and other publicity on the condition that it is not confusing for readers regarding the scope of their accreditation and remains within the NAB's signatory scope of the EA MLA. The use of the EA MLA Mark by the CAB requires that it also complies with the rules established by the NAB for the use of its corresponding accreditation mark.

NABs shall ensure that when the EA MLA Mark is used together or near the CAB mark, they should be displayed using equivalent dimensions, and in a manner that avoids confusion regarding who is issuing the document or attestation. CABs shall under no circumstance be permitted by NABs to use the EA MLA Mark alone.

NABs allowing their accredited CABs to use the EA MLA Mark shall establish and publish the dispositions that implement these rules in their entirety, including the legal or contractual arrangements needed for its enforcement, in compliance with national law and the requirements of this document.

5 SANCTIONS

EA shall sanction NABs for their misuse of the EA MLA Mark, as well as for CAB's misuses not being properly resolved by NABs:

- a first warning to the NAB will be formally issued by the EA Secretariat, followed by a suspension from the EA MLA if the NAB fails to solve the misuse within the timeframe given, which will be no longer than two months after the first warning; if the misuse is not solved within the given timeframe, a withdrawal from EA MLA will be applied; ultimately a withdrawal from the EA membership can be applied;

- in any case, EA is also entitled to apply the legal sanctions that are foreseen and provided under the registration of the MLA mark with the relevant jurisdictions;

EA is also entitled to apply the legal sanctions that are foreseen and provided under the registration of the EA MLA mark upon any misuse done by other bodies (including CABs) with the relevant jurisdictions.

ANNEX (MANDATORY)

A1 THE EA MLA MARK

The logo of the EA MLA Mark is as shown below:



The EA MLA Mark is registered as a collective mark of the European Union.

A2 SERVICES COVERED BY THE EA MLA MARK

The services covered by the EA MLA Mark are shown below:

Class 41: Education; providing of training; training of personnel in the field of accreditation and/or certification [auditors]; arranging and conducting of workshops [training] in the field of accreditation and/or certification; arranging and conducting of colloquiums in the field of accreditation and/or certification; arranging and conducting of seminars in the field of accreditation and/or certification; organization of exhibitions for cultural or educational purposes; publishing of documents relating to the development of cooperation between regional institutions in the field of accreditation; organisation of seminars for the cooperation between regional institutions in the field of accreditation; congresses for the cooperation between regional institutions in the field of accreditation; arranging of information meetings, trainings, seminars and congresses in the field of accreditation; publication and edition of information in the field of accreditation and/or certification.

Class 42: Accreditation services; certification services; calibration services [measuring]; inspection services; accreditation services of medical analysis laboratories; certification services of medical analysis laboratories; accreditation of laboratories, tests and analyses; accreditation services for inspection bodies; accreditation services of products certification bodies; accreditation services of services certification bodies; accreditation services of process certification bodies; accreditation services for management system certification bodies; accreditation services of personnel certification bodies; accreditation services of proficiency testing providers; accreditation services of reference materials producers; accreditation services of business technical qualification certification bodies; accreditation services of business qualification bodies; accreditation

services of verification bodies; accreditation services for validation bodies; peer-evaluation services between accreditation bodies; testing, authentication and quality control; materials testing; conducting technical project studies; technical researches; engineering work; quality control services for certification; testing services for the certification of quality or standards; standards development and maintenance for harmonizing accreditation processes and methods; conducting of quality control tests for standards certification; information services relating to standards accreditation services; technical research services relating to accreditation services; technical consultancy and providing of expertise; issuing certificates and/or quality stamps for the services, substances, materials, products, documentation and/or information documents being tested, in the monitoring of certified companies.

A3 REPRODUCTION RULES

The EA MLA Mark, including when it is used in combination with the NAB's mark or the NAB's accreditation mark must:

- a. Be used in its original, designed proportions, not rotated, distorted, compressed or stretched in any way;
- b. Not appear in a size or with a background that renders the words unreadable;
- c. Not be reproduced with a width under 15 mm.
- d. Not be hidden or superimposed in total or partially by any other image, text or graphical image;
- e. Be reproduced using the original graphical file of the EA MLA Mark given by the EA Secretariat.

The EA MLA mark shall be positioned such that the NAB's mark or accreditation mark may be either above, below or on either side of the EA MLA mark, but shall appear in close proximity to each other.

The typeface is custom-designed artwork. As a result, a "similar" typeface must not be substituted for the letters within the logo. Always use the complete logo as shown in this document for all logo application requirements.

The mark may be reproduced in black and white or in colour provided the approved colours are used:

		CMJN	Pantone	RGB	HTML	Black
BLUE		C90% M50% Y0% B10%	2935C	R0% G102 B169	#0066a9	B100%
YELLOW		C0% M35% Y100% B0%	130C	R249 G179 B0	#f9b000	B100%

To ensure high-quality reproduction, it is critical to use camera-ready artwork. Do not use photocopies of logos from other documents. Electronic or bromide versions of the artwork are available to users authorised by these rules from the EA Secretariat.

A4 EA GRAPHIC CHARTER

THE DIFFERENT LOGOTYPE VERSIONS

COLOUR LOGOTYPE

This version must be used in priority. The references of the blue and yellow are mentioned on the opposite page in CMYK and Pantone for printing, and in RGB and html for screen uses.

BLACK LOGOTYPE

This version should be preferably reserved for office uses, such as stamps for example or in general for documents which will be printed in black only

WHITE LOGOTYPE

This version has to be used on colour or dark backgrounds, when the colour version is not visible enough.

THE COLOUR VERSIONS

The references of the blue and yellow are mentioned on the opposite page in CMYK and Pantone for printing, and in RGB and html for screen uses.



	CMYK C: 90% M: 50% Y: 0% K: 10%	PANTONE ® 2935 C	RGB R: 0 G: 102 B: 169	HTML #0066A9	BLACK N: 100%
	CMYK C: 0% M: 30% Y: 100% K: 0%	PANTONE ® 130 C	RGB R: 249 G: 178 B: 0	HTML #F9C000	BLACK N: 100%

RULES FOR US

ZONE OF PROTECTION

This protected area is the space around the logotype, in which any graphic element (text, line or picture) must not appear. This zone is defined by the star of the logotype.

MINIMAL SIZE

To keep a good legibility of the logotype, it is forbidden to use it in a total width lower than 15 mm (0.59 inch).

FORBIDDEN USES

The logotype must be reproduced without any alteration. Its design, its typography and its colours must not be modified.

- > Any distortion is forbidden.
- > It is not allowed to use any other colours than those of the provided versions.
- > It is forbidden to modify the layout of whole.
- > The position of the full name cannot be modified.

