

DECEMBER 2025

IAS AccreditCom®

2025 End-of-Year Issue for Our Middle East Customers

NEWSLETTER



Message from IAS President.

Dear Valued Customers and Partners,

As we conclude an extraordinary year, I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to our customers, assessors, and stakeholders throughout the Middle East. The International Accreditation Service (IAS) remains deeply committed to serving the region with the highest level of responsiveness, technical expertise, and customer care.

At IAS, we understand that every organization we serve plays a vital role in advancing safety, quality, and confidence in products and services. Our mission continues to be centered on supporting you with a breadth of accreditation programs, training opportunities, and technical resources that are unparalleled in the industry.

As many of you know, IAS offers 24 accreditation programs. In addition to the standard programs for testing laboratories, inspection agencies and certification bodies, we have also worked with industries to create new accreditation programs. We are also proud that our services extend beyond traditional accreditation — through initiatives such as our comprehensive **training programs** and the **International Journal of Conformity Assessment (IJCA)**, the only professional publication dedicated to the field of conformity assessment. The most recent issue of the IJCA focuses on **Artificial Intelligence and its growing role in accreditation and conformity assessment** and is available **free of charge** on the IAS website — I encourage all our partners to explore this valuable resource.

As we reflect on 2025, we celebrate both milestones and continued collaboration. This year marked the **50th Anniversary of IAS**, a momentous occasion recognizing five decades of leadership, innovation, and global impact. Our ongoing engagement in the Middle East — including customer meetings in **Bahrain** and **Kuwait**, and our participation as an **exhibitor and sponsor at the 7th Oman International Conference on Food Safety and Quality (April 21–23, 2025)** — demonstrates our dedication to strengthening relationships and providing locally relevant support.

As we look ahead, IAS will continue to expand our services, invest in technical capacity, and remain an accessible and trusted partner to accreditation bodies, regulators, and organizations across the region.

Thank you for your continued confidence in IAS. We look forward to achieving even greater success together in the year ahead.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raj Nathan'.

Raj Nathan
President, IAS
December 2025



INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION SERVICE®
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

IAS Celebrates 50 Years of Excellence with Gala and Dinner Event

IAS held its 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala and Dinner on Thursday, September 25, 2025, at the Embassy Suites in Brea, California. Technical experts from 15 countries attended this milestone event which honored IAS's legacy of trust, integrity, and leadership in accreditation services around the world.

Since 1975, IAS has become a globally recognized accreditation body, serving government agencies, commercial businesses, and public entities across a wide range of sectors. The 50th Anniversary Gala brought together key stakeholders, accreditation professionals, industry partners, and honored guests to celebrate five decades of service and progress.

The evening included a formal dinner, commemorative program, keynote remarks, and reflections on IAS's evolution and impact across the accreditation landscape. A commemorative publication documenting the 50-year legacy of the organization was released as well as a commemorative video highlighting IAS's legacy.

"This milestone is not just a celebration of our past, but a reaffirmation of our commitment to excellence in the years to come. We were honored to celebrate our dedicated staff, valued clients, and partners who have helped shape IAS into the respected organization it is today."

— Raj Nathan, IAS President

- [Watch the IAS Anniversary Video.](#)
- [Read the IAS 50th Anniversary Book.](#)
- [Download a copy of the Commemorative Poster.](#)



(L-R) Raj Nathan, IAS President, and Sergio T. Ascunce, Chair of IAS Board, present the 50th Anniversary Commemorative Publication during the Gala Celebration.



Sam Palmer, Past Chairman of the IAS Board, congratulating IAS and reflecting on its history.



IAS 50th Anniversary Gala and Dinner at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Brea.

IAS Customer Meets in Bahrain and Kuwait

On Tuesday, 18 February 2025, the International Accreditation Service (IAS) hosted a special event for customers from the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia at the Ramada by Wyndham Manama Seef in Bahrain. In the past, IAS has held customer meetings in Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Qatar. A second event was held on 20 February at the Courtyard by Marriott in Kuwait City. Members of the IAS leadership team, including Greg West, Senior Vice President; Dimitrios Katsieris, Vice President; Karthik Easwar, Manager; Praful Yelve, Manager; Bandu L.H., Manager; and Duncan Millar, Manager, traveled from the United States, Canada, Greece, India, and Sri Lanka to host the attendees. IAS assessors from the region were also in attendance to support the meeting. "This was a great opportunity for the IAS leadership to meet with our customers and learn about their companies and experiences with IAS," said Greg West, Senior Vice President of IAS. "It was also a valuable networking occasion that was beneficial for customers to meet each other in person." The event showcased the latest updates to IAS's accreditation programs and underscored the organization's steadfast commitment to quality, international standards, and global collaboration.

Special guest, Cheryl Collins, from the U.S. Embassy in Bahrain, gave a presentation highlighting the critical role of international cooperation in driving quality and innovation within the accreditation sector. In Kuwait, Senior Commercial Officer Darrel Ching and Rasha Al-Muhtaseb, Commercial Specialist from U.S. Embassy Kuwait attended the event, with Mr. Ching providing opening remarks.

Key presentations at each event included:

Update and Overview of IAS Programs:

Experts provided comprehensive updates on the latest changes and enhancements in IAS accreditation programs, offering clear insights into the evolving landscape of global accreditation.

Unlocking Insights:

This session delved into in-depth discussions on assessments, findings, and scope extensions, providing attendees with actionable insights and practical strategies to navigate challenges and opportunities in the field.

A Unified Vision: ILAC, IAF, and Global Accreditation Cooperation Inc. :

Speakers explored the collaborative framework between these international accreditation bodies, emphasizing the importance of a harmonized approach to maintain high standards and facilitate cross-border recognition.

Risk Management Techniques:

In an ever-changing global environment, the discussion on risk management techniques proved to be a highlight, equipping participants with essential tools to mitigate risks and ensure operational excellence.

The events also featured a special segment dedicated to the recognition of IAS customers – celebrating their contributions and reinforcing the strong community that underpins the organization's success.

Networking and collaboration

Beyond the informative presentations, the events provided ample opportunities for networking. During coffee breaks and a carefully arranged luncheon, industry leaders and IAS staff mingled, exchanged ideas, and built valuable connections. This interactive environment not only fostered professional growth but also reinforced the shared vision of advancing global accreditation practices.

Looking ahead

The successful events marked a significant milestone for IAS. By engaging with key stakeholders from Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, IAS reinforced its leadership in the accreditation industry and its commitment to fostering international collaboration and excellence. As the global landscape continues to evolve, such events play a crucial role in shaping the future of quality assurance and accreditation worldwide.

For more insights into IAS's initiatives and upcoming events, interested parties are encouraged to visit the [IAS website](http://www.iasonline.org).

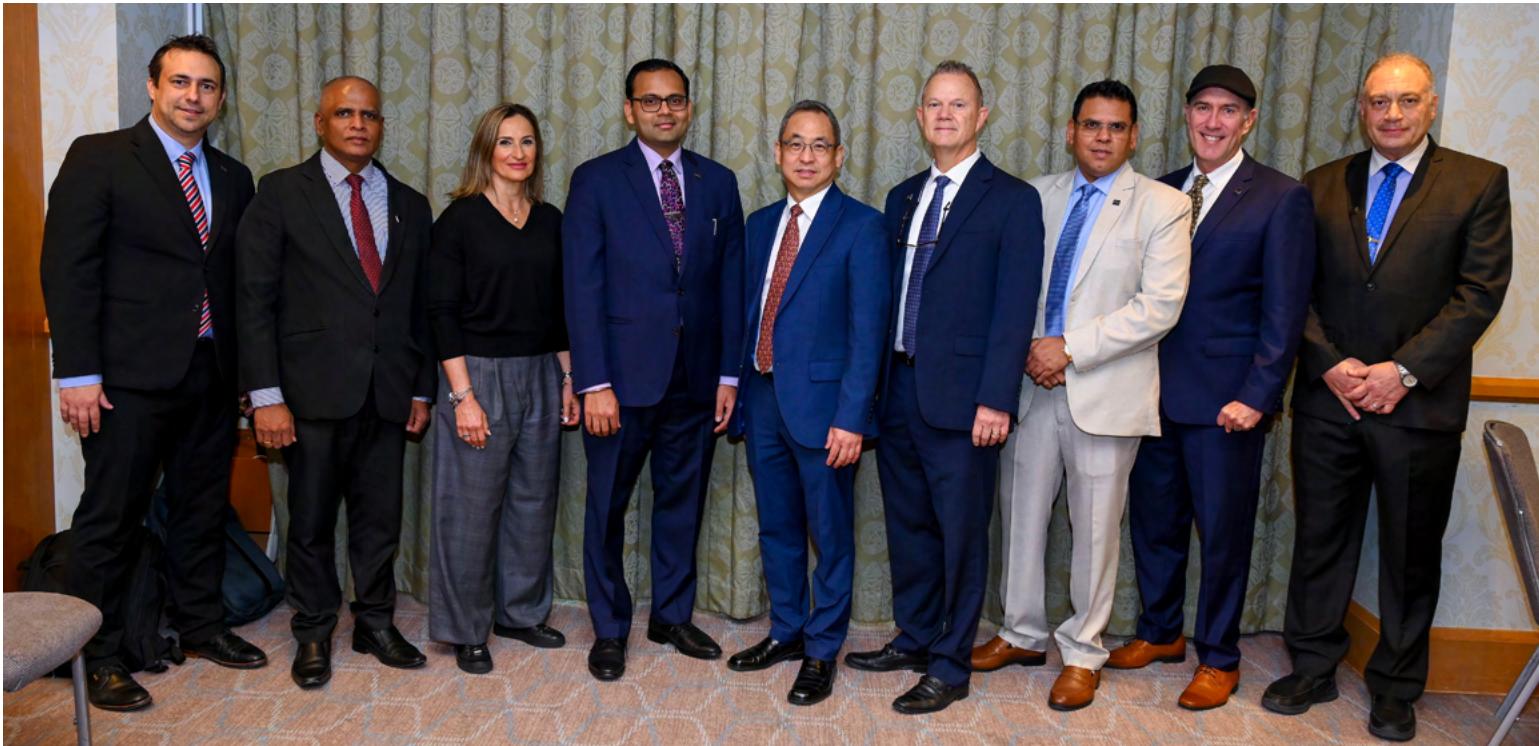
IAS Customer Meet in Kuwait City



Darrel Ching, Senior Commercial Officer of the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait, provided the opening remarks.



L.H. Bandu, IAS Accreditation Program Manager and guests.



IAS team members with U.S. Embassy representatives.



Greg West, Senior Vice President of IAS, provided an overview of IAS.



Karthik Easwar, Vice President of IAS presented different perspective on risk management.



Prafulla Yelve, IAS Accreditation Manager – Asia & Gulf region, presented frequent findings from assessments of calibration laboratories.

IAS representatives and customers visiting during the breaks



IAS Customer Meet in Kuwait



Customers from the State of Kuwait, with the IAS representatives.



IAS Customer Meet in Bahrain



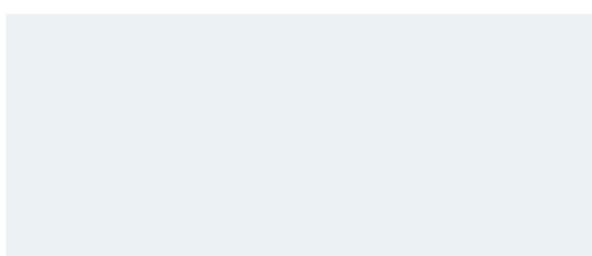
Customers from the Kingdoms of Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, with the IAS representatives at the event in Bahrain.



Cheryl Collins, Economic & Commercial Officer of the U.S. Embassy in Bahrain addressed the audience with the opening remarks.



IAS Vice President Dimitrios Katsieris, talked about requirements for testing laboratory accreditation.



Special Meetings in Oman

Greg West, Praful Yelve, and Duncan Millar, traveled to Oman to meet with customers and honorary members of the government of Oman last February.

These meetings provided opportunities to share and learn from each other about the mutually beneficial services offered by the organizations.

"While assessors from IAS are in Oman throughout the year to do assessments, this visit provided an opportunity for members of the IAS management to reconnect with existing and new friends in the country," said Greg West, IAS Senior Vice President.

IAS has been active in Oman for many years, providing accreditation services across a range of programs. We look forward to continuing our support for customers and partners in the Sultanate of Oman.



IAS representatives meeting with Dr. Hussein Samh Al Masroori, Director General, Food Safety and Quality Center, Oman Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Water Resources.



The IAS team met with Imad Khamis Al Shukaili, Director General of Standards and Metrology at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion.



IAS Participates in the 7th Oman International Conference on Food Safety and Quality

IAS was honored to attend, exhibit, and sponsor the 7th Oman International Conference on Food Safety and Quality, held from April 21–23, 2025. The event brought together industry leaders, regulators, and academics to discuss advancements in food safety management systems and quality assurance. IAS's participation underscores our commitment to supporting accredited organizations that safeguard food safety across the region.



Expanding Knowledge Through the International Journal of Conformity Assessment (IJCA)

The IJCA continues to serve as a valuable technical and educational resource for professionals involved in testing, inspection, and certification. The **latest issue**, focused on **Artificial Intelligence**, explores how AI technologies are transforming conformity assessment activities. The issue is available **for free** on the [IAS website](http://www.iasonline.org) – an excellent opportunity for our Middle East partners to stay at the forefront of global industry discussions.

[Read the IJCA here.](#)



IAS Moves into a New Office

IAS staff have moved into a new office in Brea, California – located within the building that previously housed the IAS headquarters.

"This new office space has given us the opportunity to expand our office to accommodate growth. It has also enabled us to update the environment to reflect the IAS brand and modernize the space with better IT and furnishings to support productivity"
—Raj Nathan, IAS President



IAS's new address is:
3060 Saturn Street, Suite 101
Brea, California 92821

Let Us Know What You Think

IAS is committed to continually improving our services and values your feedback. We use your input to enhance the support we provide to customers and stakeholders. Visit the [Contact Us](#) page of the IAS website to share your comments.

The International Accreditation Service (IAS) is a nonprofit accreditation body and a signatory member of the Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC), the International Accreditation Forum (IAF), and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC). IAS is also a member of the [ICC Family of Solutions](#).

Need Answers? Get in Touch with IAS.

iasinfo@iasonline.org
www.iasonline.org

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Looking Ahead to 2026

IAS is committed to deepening our engagement in the Middle East through enhanced customer support, regional training opportunities, and new accreditation programs tailored to your needs. We look forward to continuing our partnership and helping you achieve excellence in conformity assessment and quality assurance.



Thank you
for your trust and collaboration.

From all of us at IAS, we wish you a safe, successful, and prosperous New Year!

