



NBP Guidance on Converting from Certified to Gold Recognized Management Programs

The following is intended to explain that process and to describe the resulting benefits that the NBP will continue to offer when such a choice is made.

NBP guidance has been changed to reflect the structure of a new “recognition” program and to also allow presently certified programs to choose to reduce their annual third-party audits to once every 5 years and convert to the Gold Recognized level. We believe that this “alternative path” is a very valuable option and a better fit for some organizations. To remain in good standing at the Gold level, the applicant must conduct annual internal audits and submit them for review to the NBP. This should be done on a mutually agreed upon schedule.

Upon a written request from a certified organization (applicant), including the proposed effective date and a promise to conduct and submit annual internal audits, the NBP will be pleased to grant that new recognition.

The NBP will also provide the following benefits to the Gold recognition participants:

- NBP will continue to provide similar recognition items to Gold Level members as we do to our Certified members. They will receive a flag, pins, stickers and formal permission to use the revised Gold logo;
- NBP will request that applicant discontinue using the Certified materials after the replacements have been delivered;
- Finally, the NBP will recognize all Gold, Silver and Bronze level programs on our website. Beyond recognition items, the applicant will continue to enjoy any and all benefits of the NBP program under this new recognition program. This includes all mailings, program updates, announcements and activities that the NBP program currently or in the future may support. This also includes staff technical assistance.

The NBP and WEF value the commitment and participation of our organizations at both the Certified and recognized levels and we are pleased that you have chosen to remain active in this program.