

PS2: 20

Micoteca da Universidade do Minho (MUM): implementation of a quality management system based on ISO 9001:2008

Marta Filipa Simões¹, Anabela Martins², Nicolina Dias³, Cledir Santos¹, Nelson Lima¹

¹IBB - Institute for Biotechnology and Bioengineering, University of Minho, Braga, Portugal;

²GESQAF-Consultoria, Auditoria e Formação, Braga, Portugal; ³CITS, Centro de Investigação de Tecnologias da Saúde, Paredes, Portugal

Micoteca da Universidade do Minho (MUM) is a filamentous fungi culture collection established in May 1996, hosted by the Biological Engineering Centre, which is a centre of excellence integrated in the Institute for Biotechnology and Bioengineering (IBB). The mission of MUM is to provide the highest quality services to our customers, collecting, maintaining and supplying fungal strains and their associated information for teaching and research in biotechnology and life sciences. MUM intends to be a centre of knowledge, information and training in mycology, operating at a global level and under national and international regulations. In order to keep its high standards MUM has implemented a Quality Management System (QMS) based on the normative reference ISO 9001:2008. MUM has defined three processes, those being: Material Reception Process, Material Preservation Process and Material Supply Process; and has also developed a documental base for all the QMS including proceedings, standard operating procedures, forms, as well as quality objectives and goals for a continuous improvement. The implementation of the QMS occurred for almost 1 year during which 3 main steps were developed. The first step was the planning of the QMS, followed by the design of the system and documental development and the third step was the implementation of the QMS with the achievement of the certification in May 2011. From this date on MUM has kept on performing QMS revision and pursuing a continuous improvement. MUM QMS team attained all the necessary conditions for the Certification of the implemented QMS and MUM has obtained the certificate of ISO 9001:2008 for the Deposit, Preservation and Supply of Filamentous Fungi from the independent assessment agency (Portuguese Association for Certification - APCER with the International Certification Network - IQNet). Of the 590 culture collections from 68 countries registered in the WFFC, MUM is the 1st Portuguese and the 23rd culture collection in the world to obtain this important qualification. The new certificate will enhance further the reputation of MUM as a culture collection that pursues the goals of excellence and leadership implicit in these new and exacting standards. Additionally, MUM will become an even more relevant partner of the GBRCN and EMbaRC projects.