

**[DTI ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 5, s.1993,
November 16, 1993]**

**ESTABLISHING A VOLUNTARY ACCREDITATION SYSTEM FOR
PROFESSIONAL TRADE FAIR/EXHIBITION ORGANIZERS, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Pursuant to section 3 (1), Title X, Book Iv of the Administrative Code of 1987 In Relation to Section 2 of Executive Order No. 913, Series of 1983, The Following Rules and Regulations are Hereby Prescribed and Promulgated for the Compliance, Guidance and Information of all Concerned:

Chapter I

Policy and Objectives; Definition of Terms

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy; Objectives. - The Department of Trade and Industry recognizes the vital role being played by international trade fairs/exhibitions in developing and enhancing not only export but also industry and investment. Thus, DTI shall promote and encourage international trade fairs/exhibitions. But at the same time DTI shall provide and exercise reasonable regulation and supervision over the International Trade Fair/Exhibition Industry whenever necessary and for limited periods of time as far as practicable, considering the DTI policies to ensure free competition and to deregulate. The regulation under this DAO is for the purpose of achieving the following objectives:

- a. To recognize PTF/EOs who/which are bona fide and in good standing, for purposes of availment of DTI assistance and services and protection of interests of exhibitors and buyers/visitors;
- b. To avoid the overlapping of international trade/fairs/exhibitions considering the limited market in the Philippines; and
- c. To curtail alleged acts and practices of some persons and entities in the Industry which tarnish the image of the industry and that of the country.

SECTION 2. Definition of terms. - For purposes of this DAO, the term:

- a. Trade Fair/Exhibition - means a specialized display of goods and/or services organized primarily for the purpose of introducing specific products to target markets in the Philippines or abroad. This is characterized by a gathering of "buyers" who view exhibits or see demonstrations by "sellers", which may not be open to the general public.
- b. Domestic Trade Fair/Exhibition - means a type of trade fair/exhibition that caters only to the general public, where admission is either free or for a fee. This type is not covered by this DAO.

c. International Trade Fair/Exhibition - means a type of trade fair/exhibition, covered by this DAO, which is characterized by either of the following conditions:

1. the number of foreign exhibitors (direct or indirect) must be at least 20% of the total number of exhibitors;
2. the net surface rented to foreign exhibitors (direct or indirect) must be not less than 20% of the total net surface rented to exhibitors; and, in addition to 1 or 2; or
3. the foreign buyers/visitors should number not less than 4% of the total number of buyers/visitors.

d. Exhibitor - means a person or firm, local or foreign, who/which has been accepted to participate in an international trade fair/exhibition either as a direct participant or through his/its agent/representative in the Philippines.

e. Buyer/Visitor - means a natural person, local or foreign, belonging to a particular industry who is engaged in the business of trade (bulk) buying, which is characterized by opening of domestic or international letter of credit (L/C) and not over-the-counter sales transactions.

f. Professional Trade Fair/Exhibition Organizer (PTF/EO) - means a private person or firm, who/which is engaged in the Philippines in the business of organizing, managing and promoting international trade fairs/exhibitions in the Philippines.

g. International Trade Fair/Exhibition Industry - means the totality of all the component sectors in the Philippines, other than the exhibitors, which provide services and facilities for international trade fairs/exhibitions, such as private lessors of venue, equipment, and facilities; booth contractors; construction firms; and forwarding companies.

h. DTI - means the Department of Trade and Industry.

i. ITG - means the Office of the Undersecretary for International Trade Group, DTI.

j. Accreditation - means the official recognition given by DTI, through ITG, to a PTF/EO after finding that it meets the requirements set by this DAO.

k. This DAO - means this Department Administrative Order.

Chapter II Accreditation

SECTION 3. Establishment of a Voluntary Accreditation System. - In pursuance of the above-mentioned objectives, there is hereby established a voluntary accreditation system for PTF/EOs whereby only duly accredited PTF/EOs shall be entitled to DTI's endorsement of the international trade fairs/exhibitions to be organized, managed, and promoted by them. This system however is a temporary arrangement only.

SECTION 4. Procedure, Documentary Requirements, and Criteria. - The procedure,