



Annexure-II

New Delhi

04.09.2006

NOTE ON ACCREDITATION BY NABL AS PER ISO – 17025

ISO / IEC 17025 : 2005 - Second edition is an International standard which prescribes the “General requirements for competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories”. This international standard is developed by International Organization of Standards – (ISO) which is world wide body responsible for development , preparation and revision of various standards.

Accreditation to ISO /IEC 17025 : 2005 for Testing and Calibration laboratories in India is granted by NABL which is an autonomous body known as “**National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories**”. NABL is established by Government of India and headed by it’s Director who is equivalent to Secretary rank in Govt. of India hierarchy. It works under Dept of Science and Technology , Ministry of Science and Technology. **NABL Head Office is located at New Mehrauli Road, B-4/B-5/B-6 Apartments,Hotel Qutab, New Delhi-110016.** It has it’s dedicated web site (www.nabl-india.org) which provide complete information about NABL activities and list of accredited laboratories in field of Testing and Calibrations.

NABL is member to “APLAC” (Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation) and as per the agreement between APLAC member countries, Test / calibration data generated from NABL accredited laboratories are accepted by APLAC member countries for various purposes including regulatory requirements.

Accreditation process to ISO / IEC 17025 : 2005 standard requirements needs the testing laboratory to fulfill Management Requirements and Technical requirements .

Requirements under “ Technical “ Section addresses core technical requirements in calibration and Testing procedure: for example, Personnel training, Environment conditions , Test methods and Validations, , Equipment selection, Calibration , Measurement uncertainty Reference standards and their traceability , Sampling , Handling of test items , Assuring the quality of test results, Reporting of results

Management requirements are aimed at designing a system to implement Technical requirements in systematic manner and establishing mechanism to monitor whether all planned arrangements are being implemented and followed. Key areas addressed in this sections are : Defining Management system , Quality policy, Documents control, Review of analysis / calibration requests, Subcontracting of test and Calibrations, Purchasing services and supplies, Complaints handling, Control of Non-conforming testing, Improvements, Corrective actions , Preventive actions, Control of records , Internal audit and Management review.

Process of accreditation to ISO /IEC -17025 : 2005 in India is :

1. Laboratory is required to prepare Quality Manual to demonstrate as to how the requirements given in ISO / IEC 17025 : 2005 standards are to be complied with.



2. Quality manual also identifies the scope of testing to be covered for accreditation with details of testing parameters, range for the parameter in which testing is to be performed, test method and accuracy claimed .
3. Laboratory to implement the system requirements as per the Quality Manual.
4. After implementing the requirements of ISO /IEC 17025 : 2005, laboratory files the application with NABL along with the Quality Manual .
5. NABL review the application and identify panel of auditors who in turn review Quality Manual of laboratory for compliance to ISO /IEC 17025 : 2005 requirements.
6. NABL notify findings of review to laboratory, any discrepancy observed in review to be set right / complied by laboratory.
7. Pre-assessment conducted by NABL and laboratory to submit compliance to pre-assessment findings.
8. On satisfactory closure of PA (Panel of Auditors) findings, Final Assessment is conducted by NABL auditors.
9. Final assessment findings are to be satisfactorily closed by the laboratory.
10. NABL auditors to send report of audit with recommendation to NABL.
11. A review committee at NABL assesses the findings and recommendation of NABL auditors and gives decision whether to grant accreditation to laboratory.
12. After accreditation of laboratory, periodic assessments are done by NABL at the annual frequency to ensure that the systems are being complied with.

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