	<b>DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE</b> National Institute of Standards and Technology National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program	<b>ISSUE DATE:</b> 2012-08-20
	<b>POLICY GUIDE</b>	<b>NUMBER:</b> PG-10-2012
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Amendments to NIST Handbook 150:2006, Annex A		

The purpose of this Policy Guide is to publish revisions to the requirements for referencing NVLAP accreditation as found in NIST Handbook 150, Annex A, A.1 and A.2. Policy Guides augment NIST Handbook 150 in between its formal revisions and are included in a laboratory's management system documentation.

Effective immediately, NIST Handbook 150, Annex A, is amended and expanded as follows:

### **A.1 Conditions for referencing the NVLAP term, logo, and symbol**

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- a) An applicant laboratory that has not yet achieved accreditation may make reference to its applicant status. If the NVLAP Lab Code is used, it shall be accompanied by a statement accurately reflecting the laboratory's status. An applicant laboratory shall not use the NVLAP logo or symbol.

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- m) When opinions and interpretations are covered by the NVLAP scope of accreditation, they may be included on a report endorsed with the NVLAP symbol only when the requirements of 5.10.5 are met; i.e., opinions and interpretations shall be clearly marked.

Where such statements of opinion and interpretation are outside the scope of accreditation, the report shall display the following disclaimer close to the NVLAP symbol or to the expression of opinion: "The opinions/interpretations expressed in this report are outside the scope of this laboratory's accreditation."

### **A.2 Joint ISO-ILAC-IAF Communiqué**

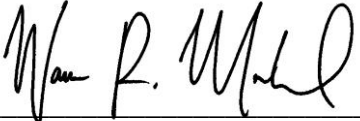
The Joint ISO-ILAC-IAF Communiqué on the Management System Requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2005 was originally signed on June 18, 2005. The Communiqué was revised in January 2009 to refer to ISO 9001:2008 rather than ISO 9001:2000. It was produced to relieve the confusion caused by the perception that accredited laboratories do not operate a recognized quality management system. The text of the updated Communiqué follows:

“A laboratory's fulfillment of the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2005 means the laboratory meets both the technical competence requirements and management system requirements that are necessary for it to consistently deliver technically valid test results and calibrations. The management system requirements in ISO/IEC 17025:2005 (Section 4) are written in language relevant to laboratory operations and meet the principles of ISO 9001:2008 *Quality Management Systems — Requirements* and are aligned with its pertinent requirements.”

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Please retain this Policy Guide with your copy of NIST Handbook 150 for future reference.

Questions concerning these revisions should be directed to the NVLAP Program Manager assigned to your program. For a listing of NVLAP program staff, visit our website at <http://www.nist.gov/nvlap>.

Approved by:   
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