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Upcoming Changes for Sealing Requirements for Measuring Devices with Remote Configuration Capability

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In 1998 the Liquid-Measuring Devices (LMD) Code and the Mass Flow Meters (MFM) Code of NIST Handbook 44 were modified to include a new requirement for the sealing of devices with remote configuration capability. This new, nonretroactive requirement takes effect as of January 1, 2005.

Currently the LMD and MFM Codes specify two different categories and methods of sealing for devices with remote configuration capability. For a Category 2 device the hardware to remotely change metrological parameters is controlled by physical hardware. For a Category 3 device access to remotely configure the device is unlimited or controlled through a software switch.

Under the new requirement LMDs and MFMs with remote configuration capability must meet the sealing requirements for Category 3 devices. Category 3 devices must be sealed with an event logger type of audit trail which electronically records information about changes to metrological features. A Category 3 device must also make available a printed copy of the audit trail information through the device or another on-site device.

The new requirement is “nonretroactive” with an effective date of January 1, 2005. This means that it applies to:

- devices manufactured within a state after the effective date;
- both new and used devices brought into a State after the effective date; and
- devices used in noncommercial applications which are placed into commercial use after the effective date.

If you have any questions regarding the new requirements, please contact Juana Williams at (301) 975-3989.