

	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Institute of Standards and Technology National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program	ISSUE DATE: January 20, 2012
	LAB BULLETIN	NUMBER: LB-64-2012
		LAP: Electromagnetic Compatibility & Tele- communications (ECT)
SUBJECT: Explanation of ANSI C63.5-2006 Regarding Standard Antenna Calibration Sites		

The purpose of this Lab Bulletin is to provide NVLAP ECT laboratories with additional information about the explanation issued by the ANSI C63® Committee regarding the required antenna calibration site as indicated within ANSI C63.5:2006.

The ANSI Accredited Standards Committee C63® posts on the C63® website the explanations and interpretations that it processes through its operating procedures. An explanation of ANSI C63.5-2006, which was posted in July 2010 regarding the use of semi-anechoic chambers, may be viewed at:

<http://www.c63.org/documents/misc/interpretations/C63.5_Explanation_Use_of_OATS_only_Jul2010.pdf>.

The explanation states that an Open Area Test Site (OATS) still remains the standard test site and that semi-anechoic chambers do not meet the requirements listed in ANSI C63.5:2006, Annex H requirements H.2.4 and H.2.5.

In addition, the FCC has confirmed that a review of the standard indicates that the OATS should be used for antenna calibration and that it is FCC's policy that the standard be followed.

This information is being provided to ensure that when ECT test labs are requesting calibration of the antennas used in the performance of testing to ANSI C63.4:2003 and 2009, they are requiring that these calibrations be performed according to the requirements.

This bulletin has been posted to the NVLAP Program-Specific Handbooks and Lab Bulletins page of the NVLAP website: <http://www.nist.gov/nvlap>. Questions concerning the requirements for accreditation should be directed to Beth Hackett, phone: 301-975-6113, e-mail: bethany.hackett@nist.gov; or Brad Moore, phone: 301-975-5740, e-mail: brad.moore@nist.gov.