



July 1, 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR NVLAP Laboratories and Assessors

From: Dana Leaman
Chief, NVLAP

Subject: Release of NIST Handbook 150:2016

The 2016 edition of NIST Handbook 150, *NVLAP Procedures and General Requirements*, which supersedes and replaces the 2006 edition, has been published. This edition of the handbook will only be published in an electronic format and is effective upon publication taking into account exceptions for the implementation plans outlined for Annex A and Annex E. To download your copy, please visit the NVLAP web site at <https://www.nist.gov/nvlap/nvlap-handbooks-and-lab-bulletins>.

In addition to a number of editorial revisions, the following changes have been made with respect to the previous edition of the handbook:

- Incorporation of previously issued NVLAP Policy Guides and updated definitions and references.
- Revision to the requirements of Annex A, *Referencing NVLAP Accreditation* – **Please note that the revision of Annex A has resulted in a change in the NVLAP symbol for laboratory use.** An implementation plan for use of the revised NVLAP symbol has been issued under *Policy Guide-12-2016*. This policy guide will be provided to all accredited laboratories in a separate email correspondence with the corresponding artwork related to the revision.
- Addition of a new Annex E, *Use of the Accredited Laboratory Combined ILAC MRA Mark* – Use of the Accredited Laboratory Combined ILAC MRA Mark is optional for NVLAP accredited laboratories. If an accredited laboratory wishes to use the combined mark, the requirements for use are defined in Annex E. Please review the additional details on the implementation plan for these requirements and the additional steps that must be completed to obtain permission to use the combined mark as outlined in *Policy Guide-13-2016*.
- Removal of the managerial and technical requirements of ISO/IEC 17025, which were previously contained in NIST Handbook 150 clauses 4 and 5, respectively. Per the new clause 4.1.2 of the handbook, each applicant and accredited laboratory shall have an official copy of ISO/IEC 17025 and agrees to comply with these requirements of the handbook under the Conditions for Accreditation (Annex C).

Please contact your Program Manager if you have any questions about the revision to the Handbook.