

	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Institute of Standards and Technology National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program	ISSUE DATE: October 14, 2016
	ASSESSOR BULLETIN	NUMBER: AB-20-2016 LAP: Calibration
SUBJECT: New NIST Handbook 150-2 and Associated Checklists		

The purpose of this bulletin is to announce the 2016 version of NIST Handbook 150-2, *NVLAP Calibration Laboratories*, which is effective as of the date of this bulletin. A new version of the Handbook 150-2 Checklist is also published for use in assessing the conformance of NVLAP-accredited calibration laboratories to the requirements of this revised handbook.

Historically, the NVLAP Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Program (LAP) had a series of handbooks with each focused on a technical calibration field. These documents contained guidance and other information. In this 2016 format, Handbook 150-2 is a single document. It is a requirements document with LAP-wide requirements (those applying to all accredited calibration laboratories, regardless of technical field) covered in the body of the document. Requirements conveyed in Lab Bulletins 37, 63, and 65, which had been issued since the prior Handbook 150-2 documents were published, are now covered directly in this 2016 revision. These lab bulletins had covered requirements for: uncertainty in calibration (from ILAC P14:12/2013); proficiency testing; and assessment of laboratories with field locations. NIST Handbook 150-2: 2016 supersedes these lab bulletins.

Requirements which are specific to a technical field, such as dimensional or time and frequency, are given in the annexes of NIST Handbook 150-2 which each focus on a specific area. Each annex covers those requirements which apply to its subject technical area. Currently, Handbook 150-2:2016 has three annexes covering: optional accreditation to ANSI/NCSL Z540-1-1994, Part I; requirements for laboratories performing dimensional calibrations; and requirements for laboratories performing time and frequency calibrations. Separate checklists have been developed for each of these annexes. As additional annexes are completed, checklists will be developed for use in assessing those technical areas as well. An available annex checklist must be completed during the assessment for each technical area in which a laboratory has CMCs on its scope or proposed scope of accreditation.

The 2016 version of NIST Handbook 150-2 is available for download from the Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Program page on the NVLAP website [here](#). Checklists may be found [here](#) on the On-site Assessment Checklist page.