SUBJECT: NVLAP scope expansion deadline established for ACVT – September 30, 2021

The purpose of this bulletin is to notify all laboratories currently accredited in the CST LAP that the Automated Cryptographic Validation Test System (ACVTS) is now operational and laboratories are required to provide the laboratory submission package by September 30, 2021 for continued accreditation.

Background

The Automated Cryptographic Validation Test System (ACVTS), i.e., NIST CAVP algorithm validation testing using the Automated Cryptographic Validation Protocol (ACVP), is operational now and ACVTS will be the only means of obtaining algorithm validations.

All algorithm-specific test suites are bundled into the CAVP’s Automated Cryptographic Validation Testing System (ACVTS) validation testing tool. The CAVP’s ACVTS validation testing tool is provided by NIST/ITL to those laboratories obtaining accreditation in the NVLAP CST LAP.

Notice

The use of the CAVP/CAVS tool has ended, and the algorithm testing (ACVT) is a prerequisite to module testing. A laboratory conducting ACVT testing and obtaining algorithm validations shall be accredited for the ACVT method.

To request the ACVT expansion, please provide NVLAP with the following information by: direct email to NVLAP (nvlap@nist.gov), the accreditation program manager Brad Moore (bradley.moore@nist.gov), or uploading the information within the “Scope Changes” in the NVLAP Interactive Web System (NIWS) Lab Portal.

Lab Submission Package:

1) Lab’s ACVT testing procedures;
2) Specific staff training records and list of lab staff who have been qualified to perform ACVT testing;
3) The laboratory shall verify that it can properly perform methods before introducing them by ensuring that it can achieve the required performance. Records of the verification shall be retained. (ISO 17025:2017, 7.2.1.5 and NIST HB 150-17, G.3.4.1) (See “Accessing ACVTS Prod” on https://csrc.nist.gov/Projects/cryptographic-algorithm-validation-program/how-to-access-acvts)
4) Provide the lab developed plan to manage the NIST issued key used to access the ACVP server and for maintaining the test harness in a configuration management system (NIST HB 150-17, G.3.4.1)

The deadline to submit the Lab Submission Package to NVLAP is September 30, 2021. Laboratories who are not accredited for ACVT, or have not submitted the required information by the deadline, will be evaluated for adverse accreditation action in the CST LAP.

Questions should be directed to the NVLAP program manager, Brad Moore.