

	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Institute of Standards and Technology National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program	ISSUE DATE: March 14, 2023
	LAB BULLETIN	NUMBER: LB-149-2023
		LAP: Cryptographic and Security Testing (CST)
SUBJECT: Change in application of the requirement in NIST Handbook 150-17:2022 Annex B.3.5.2		

The purpose of this bulletin is to notify laboratories that a revision to the application of NIST Handbook 150-17:2022 Annex B.3.5.2, *Test report quality*, regarding the timeframe for maintaining an Extended Cost Recovery (ECR) point total of less than 12 has been identified, until such time as the next edition of the handbook is published to include clarification on the application of this requirement.

Background

Errors in the CST lab's (CSTL's) submission package or following an incorrect process can cause significant effort by CMVP to identify and work with the CSTL to discover and correct.

The current application of NIST Handbook 150-17:2022 Annex B.3.5.2 is to monitor the ECR point total in relation to the laboratory's previous two accreditation cycles.

Effective April 1, 2023, the ECR point total will now be monitored based on an ongoing two-year period.

NVLAP receives a monthly CMVP ECR report detailing all points assigned during a two-year period. Any necessary accreditation actions regarding a laboratory's cumulative points will be taken by NVLAP.

The change in this application of the requirement, and subsequent revision of NIST Handbook 150-17, Annex B.3.5.2, will better align the requirement with FIPS 140-2 and FIPS 140-3 CMVP Management Manuals.

Please review the applicable CMVP Management Manual for how the ECR points are levied and the CMVP recommendations to pre-empt a suspension.

Please retain this NVLAP Lab Bulletin with your copy of NIST Handbook 150-17:2022 for reference. Questions regarding the changes to the application of the NVLAP CST LAP requirements should be directed to Brad Moore, bradley.moore@nist.gov.