SUBJECT: Change to the minimum number of vendor product test report submissions as a measure of the laboratory’s ongoing proficiency.

Background
Test report submissions are used by the validation authority as a measure to determine the laboratory’s ongoing proficiency.

Purpose
The purpose of this bulletin is to announce a change to the minimum number of test report submissions as a measure of the laboratory’s ongoing proficiency. This bulletin becomes part of the NIST Handbook 150-17:2022 CST testing criteria, until such time as the next edition of the handbook is published.

Notice
The change to the current requirement, found in NIST Handbook 150-17:2022, Section B.3.5.3.b, is that laboratories shall submit a minimum of two (2) test reports annually (every 12 calendar months) to the validation authority to demonstrate continued testing proficiency.

There remains no requirement for a test report submission during the first year of accreditation.

Implementation of Changes
This change is effective upon publication of this bulletin.

Please retain this NVLAP lab bulletin with your copy of NIST Handbook 150-22:2022 for future reference.

An accredited laboratory shall continue to maintain an Extended Cost Recovery (ECR) point total of less than 12 points on an ongoing two-year period (reference Lab Bulletin LB-149-2023).

Questions regarding the changes to the NVLAP CST LAP requirements should be directed to Brad Moore, bradley.moore@nist.gov.