

**Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Engineering and Technology  
Laboratory Division**

February 23, 2016

**Draft Laboratory Division Publications Report**

**Title:** Accredited Testing Laboratories Program Roles and Responsibilities

**Short Title:** Accredited Test Lab Roles and Resp

**Reason:** Update procedures due to changes in Equipment Authorization Order

**Publication:** 974614 D01 Accredited Test Lab Roles and Resp v03r01

**Keyword/Subject:** Accredited Test Firm Roles

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**Question:**

What guidance does the FCC provide to accredited testing laboratories that are recognized by the FCC to test products subject to the Declaration of Conformity (DoC) and Certification procedures?

**Answer:**

The FCC provides guidance to accredited testing laboratories and an overview in the Accredited Testing Laboratory Program Roles and Responsibilities in document: 974614 D01 Accredited Test Lab Roles and Resp v03r01 attached below.

**Attachment List:**

974614 D01 Accredited Test Lab Roles and Resp v03r01

## **Attachment 974614 D01 Accredited Test Lab Roles and Resp v03r01**

### **Federal Communications Commission Office of Engineering and Technology Laboratory Division**

February 23, 2016

#### **ACCREDITED TESTING LABORATORY PROGRAM ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

##### **1. Introduction**

The requirements for the Commission's equipment authorization program are defined in the FCC regulations.<sup>1</sup> An Accredited Testing Laboratory is required to be used when testing products subject to the certification and Declaration of Conformity (DoC) approval procedures.<sup>2</sup>

Certification constitutes the most rigorous equipment authorization procedure, and is typically applied to RF equipment employing new technologies for which the testing methodologies are relatively complex or not well defined, or that otherwise are considered to have the highest potential for causing interference.<sup>3</sup> Examples of devices subject to certification include, but are not limited to: mobile phones, wireless local area networking equipment, land mobile radio transmitters, wireless medical telemetry transmitters, and cordless telephones. All certified equipment is listed in a Commission database that contains the application for certification, test report, and other supporting information.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See 47 C.F.R. Part 2 Subpart J.

<sup>2</sup> From July 13, 2015 the FCC rules no longer allow recognition of testing laboratories as "2.948 listed" for testing of equipment subject to certification under Parts 15 and 18 and will stop accepting requests to recognize new "2.948 listed test sites". "2.948 listed test sites" that are recognized prior to July 13, 2015 and have an expiration date after July 13, 2016 may remain recognized until July 13, 2016. "2.948 listed test sites" that are recognized prior to July 13, 2015 but expire prior to July 13, 2016 will expire on their expiration date but may request a renewal to remain recognized until July 13, 2016. FCC recognized "2.948 listed test sites" will be searchable on the FCC website until July 13, 2016. Testing completed by recognized "2.948 listed test sites" prior to July 13, 2016 will be accepted in applications for certification if uploaded to the FCC Equipment Authorization (EA) system before October 13, 2016. All testing performed on or after July 13, 2016 on applications for certification will be required to be based on testing performed by an accredited testing laboratory recognized by the FCC as accredited. A list of FCC recognized accredited testing laboratories is provided at: <https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/eas/reports/TestFirmSearch.cfm>.

<sup>3</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 2.907.

<sup>4</sup> The Commission's Equipment Authorization (EA) System can be accessed at <https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/eas/reports/GenericSearch.cfm>.

DoC is a self-approval process that requires the responsible party to use a recognized accredited testing laboratory to perform the measurements required to demonstrate compliance.<sup>5</sup> The responsible party also must include with the product a compliance information statement that identifies the product and a responsible party within the United States.<sup>6</sup> A wide variety of devices are currently subject to the DoC procedures, including personal computers and peripherals, consumer ISM equipment (such as microwave ovens), radio receivers, and TV interface devices.

Devices subject to certification or DoC procedures are required to be tested to show compliance with the FCC technical regulations by a recognized accredited testing laboratory.<sup>7</sup> Besides EMC and radio parameter testing, the FCC technical regulations may require additional testing which includes, but is not limited to, testing for Hearing Aid Compatibility (HAC) and RF exposure testing. The testing laboratory must be accredited by a Commission-recognized accreditation body, or an accreditation body recognized under the terms of a government-to-government [Mutual Recognition Agreement \(MRA\)](#). A list of FCC-recognized accredited testing laboratories is published on the [FCC Webpage](#).

## 2. Key Players

**Accreditation Body.** An Accreditation Body (AB) is an authoritative body that performs accreditation. Accreditation is a third-party attestation related to a conformity assessment body conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks.<sup>8</sup>

**Conformity Assessment Body.** A conformity assessment body (CAB) is a body that performs conformity assessment services.<sup>9</sup> Testing laboratories and certification bodies are considered to be conformity assessment bodies.

**Designating Authority.** A Designating Authority (DA) is a body responsible for determining that the testing laboratory is competent and capable of performing testing within the scope of the designation.<sup>10</sup>

**Testing laboratory.** The testing laboratory is responsible to make a determination of the applicable test procedures and to properly test to those requirements.

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<sup>5</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 2.906. The party responsible for compliance is defined in 47 C.F.R. § 2.909.

<sup>6</sup> See 47 C.F.R. §§ 2.1077, 15.19(a)(3), and 18.209(b). Only Part 15 and Part 18 equipment is currently covered by DoC. For example, Part 15 devices subject to the DoC rules must be labeled with the following statement: “This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.” See also 47 C.F.R. §§ 2.1075 and 2.946 (describing circumstances in which the responsible party must submit to the Commission records of the original design drawings and specifications, the procedures used for production inspection and testing, a report of RF emission measurements, the compliance information statement, and a sample of the device).

<sup>7</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 2.948(a).

<sup>8</sup> See ISO/IEC 17000 (2004), 2.6 and 5.6.

<sup>9</sup> See ISO/IEC 17000 (2004), 2.5.

<sup>10</sup> See ISO/IEC 17000 (2004), 7.3.

### 3. Accreditation Body Recognition Procedure

**Organizations accrediting domestic testing laboratories** must be approved by the Commission's Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) to perform accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025, "*General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories*" with respect to the FCC requirements, based on ISO/IEC 17011, *Conformity assessment — General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies*.

**Organizations accrediting testing laboratories in MRA-partner economies** are approved by the FCC recognized designating authority in the MRA-partner economy.<sup>11</sup>

**Procedure for the Recognition of Domestic Accreditation Bodies.** The Commission has established a minimum set of qualifying information that an accreditation body located in the United States, who desires to be recognized by the Commission as a laboratory accreditation body shall provide in support of its application.<sup>12</sup> An applicant must submit to the Chief of OET a request for such recognition, and provide the qualifying information described below. The Chief of OET will make a determination of recognition based on the information provided in support of an application. To demonstrate its credentials and qualifications to perform accreditation of laboratories that test equipment to Commission requirements, an applicant shall provide, at a minimum, evidence of:

- (a) Successful completion of an ISO/IEC 17011:2004, "Conformity assessment – General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies" peer review, such as being a signatory to an accreditation agreement that is acceptable to the Commission.<sup>13</sup>
- (b) Procedures to ensure the impartiality and objectivity of its activities as required by 4.3 of ISO/IEC 17011, Specifically "the accreditation body shall not offer or provide any service that affects its impartiality, such as those conformity assessment services that CABs perform, or consultancy."
- (c) Experience with the accreditation of electromagnetic compatibility (EMC), radio and telecom testing laboratories to ISO/IEC 17025:2005. This can be demonstrated by having OET staff participate in a witness audit of the accreditation body performing an assessment of an EMC/Radio/Telecom testing laboratory; or by having OET staff review the report(s) generated by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) laboratory accreditation evaluation program conducted to support the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) MRA for Conformity Assessment of Telecommunications Equipment. An applicant that offers other evidence has the burden of demonstrating that the information would enable OET to evaluate its experience with the accreditation of electromagnetic compatibility (EMC), radio and telecom testing laboratories to ISO/IEC 17025.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> In the APEC TEL MRA, the term "economy" is used to indicate the country which is party to the agreement.

<sup>12</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 2.949. The FCC, in consultation with the Office of United States Trade Representative, is reviewing potential requirements and procedures for recognizing foreign accrediting bodies in non-MRA countries or for allowing currently recognized accreditation bodies to accredit test firms in non-MRA countries. This guidance will be updated if such procedures are established.

<sup>13</sup> Examples of laboratory accreditation body arrangements include: International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) (<http://www.ilac.org/ilacarrangement.html>); the European cooperation for Accreditation (EA); the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC); the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC); and the National Cooperation for Laboratory Accreditation (NACLA) (<http://www.nacla.net/>).

<sup>14</sup> Domestic laboratory accreditation bodies that successfully complete the NIST evaluation program are listed by NIST as acceptable for use by domestic laboratories seeking to be designated to foreign MRA partner economies.

- (d) Accreditation personnel/assessors with specific technical experience on the Commission equipment authorization rules and requirements.
- (e) Procedures and policies developed for the accreditation of testing laboratories for FCC equipment authorization programs.

To ensure the continued integrity of the laboratory accreditation program, OET will periodically review the accreditation process and maintain close coordination with each of the organizations that it has recognized to perform accreditations. OET will pursue opportunities to observe peer review assessments and to observe and participate in the NIST witness assessments of these laboratory accreditation bodies. This will help ensure their continued acceptable performance and provide OET with information to assess periodically their qualifications to maintain their status as Commission-recognized laboratory accreditation bodies.

#### **4. Accredited Testing Laboratory Recognition Procedure**

The following procedure is used to permit a testing laboratory to be recognized by the FCC as an accredited testing laboratory and thus be deemed competent to test products subject to the certification and DoC procedures, as well as be allowed to test products to be authorized under the verification procedure.

- (a) The FCC or an FCC-recognized Designating Authority (DA) shall determine which accreditation bodies meet ISO/IEC 17011 and are qualified to accredit testing laboratories within their territory to perform testing to the FCC requirements.
- (b) The testing laboratory shall meet the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation with a scope covering the applicable FCC requirements and test procedures.
- (c) The FCC has developed the Accredited Testing Laboratory Technical Assessment Evaluation checklist to be used by the accreditation body to aid in the assessment of testing laboratories.<sup>15</sup>
- (d) Requests for designation should be submitted to the DA, in the laboratory's own country, requesting the CAB be designated to the FCC for recognition by the FCC as an accredited testing laboratory. Note that for CABs in the United States, the recognized accreditation body designates the CAB directly to the FCC, and the recognized accreditation body is considered the DA.
- (e) The DA reviews the accreditation information and makes a determination as to whether the CAB meets the requirements for designation.
- (f) Once the DA determines that the requirements have been met, it designates the CAB to the FCC by providing the information listed below for review and recognition by the FCC.
- (g) When reviewing a request to recognize a CAB the FCC will:
  - (1) Evaluate the information submitted regarding the CAB.
  - (2) Make a determination on whether to recognize the CAB.
  - (3) Notify the DA of the decision on request for recognition.
- (h) When reviewing a request to recognize a testing laboratory, FCC Staff will look for the following information:
  - (1) Procedure used by the DA to designate the CAB.

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<sup>15</sup> See [KDB Publication 853844](#).

- (2) Name, location, mailing, and contact information. The CAB shall be physically located in the country from which it is being designated.
- (3) Designation number and FCC Registration Number (FRN).
- (4) A statement as to whether the testing laboratory is available to perform measurement services for the public on a fee basis.
- (5) ISO/IEC 17025 Certificate of Accreditation. In cases where the accrediting body does not issue a certificate, equivalent information must be provided.
- (6) The FCC rule sections the accreditation applies to.
- (7) The scope of accreditation and the FCC related test procedures and requirements the accreditation applies to (see Table 1 in scope of accreditation section below).
- (8) The expiration date and period of the accreditation. The FCC rules require that a testing laboratory must be re-evaluated by the accreditation body at least every two years.
- (9) Completed Accredited Laboratory FCC Technical Assessment checklist. For the designation of a newly accredited testing laboratory, a completed checklist shall be provided. For a renewal of the designation of an accredited testing laboratory, a statement indicating continued compliance with a previously submitted checklist is acceptable.
- (10) Compliance with all provisions of this document, *i.e.*, Accredited Testing Laboratory Program Roles and Responsibilities.
  - (i) For a renewal of the recognition of an accredited testing laboratory, the FCC database expiration date shall be updated by the DA.
  - (j) The FCC-required information may only be submitted by the DA, and should not be submitted directly to the FCC from the CAB. The DA shall submit the information by completing fields on the designation web page and uploading any required attachments.

*Note: Information provided in support of the designation of an accredited testing laboratory is publicly available on the FCC webpage.*

## **5. Accreditation Requirements**

***External Resources for Testing/ Subcontracting.*** When an accredited testing laboratory uses external resources to perform testing, after July 12, 2016, it is required that such testing be performed by testing laboratories that have also been recognized by the Commission as an accredited testing laboratory with the appropriate scope of accreditation.

***Domestic Accreditation Bodies.*** Testing laboratories located in the United States, desiring ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation as an EMC/Radio accredited testing laboratory, should contact one of the following accreditation bodies.

### **A2LA**

American Association for Laboratory Accreditation  
 5202 Presidents Court  
 Suite 220  
 Frederick, MD 21703  
 Tel: 301-644-3217  
 Fax: 301-622-2974  
 Contact: Adam Gouker

[agouker@a2la.org](mailto:agouker@a2la.org)  
[www.a2la.org](http://www.a2la.org)

**ANAB**

ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (formerly ACLASS)  
500 Montgomery Street, Suite 625  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Contact: Roger Muse  
[rmuse@anab.org](mailto:rmuse@anab.org)  
[www.anab.org](http://www.anab.org)

**L-A-B**

Laboratory Accreditation Bureau  
11617 Coldwater Road  
Suite 101  
Fort Wayne, IN 46845  
Contact: Randy Long  
[RLong@L-A-B.com](mailto:RLong@L-A-B.com)  
[www.L-A-B.com](http://www.L-A-B.com)

**NVLAP**

National Voluntary Accreditation Program  
Standards Services Division  
National Institute of Standards and Technology  
100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2140  
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2140  
Contact: Brad Moore  
[nvlap@nist.gov](mailto:nvlap@nist.gov) or [Brad.Moore@nist.gov](mailto:Brad.Moore@nist.gov)  
<http://ts.nist.gov/standards/accreditation/index.cfm>

***Foreign Accredited Testing Laboratories.*** For testing laboratories located outside of the United States, first determine if there is a MRA that covers the location, and then contact the designating authority for the applicable country to determine how to become accredited. A list of test-firm designating authorities/test-firm accrediting bodies is available at: <https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/mra/reports/AccreditingBodyReport.cfm>. FCC-recognized designating authorities are only able to designate testing laboratories within their own economy. Information regarding MRAs and the designation procedures can be found on the [OET MRA webpage](#).

**6. Scope of Accreditation**

Guidance on the measurement procedures to be used for a given technical requirement may be found in the associated report and order, FCC public notice, FCC bulletin, [FCC measurement procedures webpage](#), or guidance documents found on the [OET Knowledge Database \(KDB\)](#).

For the test methods in Table 1 that identify a standard and/or a KDB publication, to be recognized for the scope the testing laboratory must be assessed to the standard and have a working knowledge of the version of the applicable KDB publication at the time of the assessment. The testing laboratory shall follow the applicable standard and guidance in KDB publications. If a KDB publication is updated after the assessment, the accredited testing laboratory may follow the updated guidance and does not generally need to be reassessed until their next scheduled assessment, unless the standard associated with the KDB

publication is changed or upon notification from the FCC. In general, to reflect new technology the KDB publications are updated more quickly than the standards.

When the FCC receives designations for test methods for scopes with associated KDB publications, the FCC will assume that the testing laboratory was assessed to the version of the KDB publication available at the time of the assessment, thus the accrediting body doesn't need to identify the KDB publication date to the FCC unless a different version of the publication was assessed.

At the time of publication of this guidance document the FCC is in the process of implementing the identification and management of accredited test laboratory scopes into the equipment authorization electronic filing system. Until that implementation is completed, accrediting bodies shall provide the FCC with a list of scopes, based on Table 1 below, which the testing laboratory was assessed to and is in compliance with.

A testing laboratory is not required to be assessed and recognized for all of the scopes identified in [Table 1](#) below but the FCC will not recognize partial scopes and in order for a scope to be recognized by the FCC an accredited testing laboratory must be capable of performing all testing covered within the scope. The FCC does allow an accredited testing laboratory to meet the full scope requirements using multiple testing locations of the same company at different locations within the same country.

***DoC and Certification Testing.*** A testing laboratory performing tests in support of the FCC's DoC and/or Certification requirements shall be accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 with a scope of accreditation covering the regulations and measurement procedures listed in Table 1.<sup>16</sup> The accredited testing laboratory shall have the applicable standards included in their scope of accreditation from the list in Table 1.

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<sup>16</sup> See the FCC equipment authorization web page for links to the referenced measurement procedures: <http://www.fcc.gov/oet/ea/eameasurements.html>.



**TABLE 1: Scope of Accreditation for testing performed in support of DoC and Certification**

Scope	Test Method(s)
<p><b>Part 15, Unintentional Radiators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CB Receiver</li> <li>• Superregenerative Receiver</li> <li>• All other receivers subject to part 15</li> <li>• TV interface device</li> <li>• Cable system terminal device</li> <li>• Class B personal computers and peripherals</li> <li>• CPU boards and internal power supplies used with Class B personal computers</li> <li>• Class B personal computers assembled using authorized CPU boards or power supplies</li> <li>• Scanning Receiver</li> <li>• Radar detector</li> <li>• Access Broadband over Power Line (Access BPL)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANSI C63.4-2014, <i>American National Standard for Methods of Measurement of Radio-Noise Emissions from Low-Voltage Electrical and Electronic Equipment in the Range of 9 kHz to 40 GHz</i><sup>17</sup></li> </ul>
<p><b>Part 18, Industrial, Scientific, and Medical Equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consumer ISM equipment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">FCC MP-5 (February 1986)</a>, <i>FCC Methods of Measurements of Radio Noise Emissions From Industrial, Scientific, and Medical Equipment</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Part 15 Intentional Radiators below 26.5 GHz – except Part 15D</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intentional Radiators</li> <li>• Unlicensed National Information Infrastructure U-NII without DFS)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANSI C63.10-2013, <i>American National Standard for Testing Unlicensed Wireless Devices</i><sup>18</sup></li> <li>• <a href="#">KDB Publication 789033</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Part 15 Intentional Radiators above 26.5 GHz – except Part 15D</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intentional Radiators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANSI C63.10-2013, <i>American National Standard for Testing Unlicensed Wireless Devices</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Part 15, Subpart D</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unlicensed Personal Communication Systems devices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANSI C63.17-2013, <i>American National Standard Methods of Measurement of the Electromagnetic and Operational Compatibility of Unlicensed Personal Communications Services (UPCS) Devices</i></li> </ul>

<sup>17</sup> FCC 14-208 allows the use of ANSI C63.4-2014 on or after July 13, 2015 and § 2.950 applies transition requirements that allow the currently accepted older versions of the standard to be used for a limited time.

<sup>18</sup> FCC 14-208 allows the use of ANSI C63.10-2013 on or after July 13, 2015 and § 2.950 applies transition requirements that allow the currently accepted older version of the standard to be used for a limited time.

<p><b>Part 15 Subpart E</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unlicensed National Information Infrastructure U-NII) Devices with Dynamic Frequency Selection (DFS)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">KDB Publication 905462</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Licensed Radio Service Equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial Mobile Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Part 22 (cellular)</li> <li>○ Part 24</li> <li>○ Part 25</li> <li>○ Part 27</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANSI/TIA-603-D (2010), <i>Land Mobile FM or PM Communications Equipment Measurement and Performance Standards</i></li> <li>• <a href="#">KDB Publication 971168</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Licensed Radio Service Equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Mobile Radio Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Part 22 (non-cellular)</li> <li>○ Part 90</li> <li>○ Part 95</li> <li>○ Part 97</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANSI/TIA-603-D (2010), <i>Land Mobile FM or PM Communications Equipment Measurement and Performance Standards</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Licensed Radio Service Equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part 96 Citizens Broadband Radio Service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANSI/TIA-603-D (2010), <i>Land Mobile FM or PM Communications Equipment Measurement and Performance Standards</i></li> <li>• <a href="#">KDB Publication 971168</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Licensed Radio Service Equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maritime and Aviation Radio Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Part 80</li> <li>○ Part 87</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANSI/TIA-603-D (2010), <i>Land Mobile FM or PM Communications Equipment Measurement and Performance Standards</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Licensed Radio Service Equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microwave Radio Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Part 27</li> <li>○ Part 74</li> <li>○ Part 101</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANSI/TIA-603-D (2010), <i>Land Mobile FM or PM Communications Equipment Measurement and Performance Standards</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Licensed Radio Service Equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broadcast Radio Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Part 73</li> <li>○ Part 74</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANSI/TIA-603-D (2010), <i>Land Mobile FM or PM Communications Equipment Measurement and Performance Standards</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>RF Exposure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devices subject to SAR requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IEEE Std 1528™-2013, <i>IEEE Recommended Practice for Determining the Peak Spatial-Average Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) in the Human Head from Wireless Communications Devices: Measurement Techniques</i></li> <li>• <a href="#">KDB Publication 865664</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">KDB Publication 447498</a></li> </ul>

<p><b>Part 20 Hearing Aid Compatibility (HAC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commercial mobile services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ANSI C63.19-2007, <i>American National Standard for Methods of Measurement of Compatibility Between Wireless Communication Devices and Hearing Aids</i></li> <li>ANSI C63.19-2011, <i>American National Standard for Methods of Measurement of Compatibility Between Wireless Communication Devices and Hearing Aids</i></li> <li><a href="#">KDB Publication 285076</a></li> </ul> <p>Note: Testing laboratories must be assessed and compliant with both versions of C63.19 to be recognized by the FCC for this scope.</p>
<p><b>Part 20 Signal Boosters</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">KDB Publication 935210</a></li> </ul>

## 7. Technical Assessment Evaluation

The FCC has developed the Accredited Test Laboratory Technical Assessment Evaluation checklist to be used by the accreditation body to aid in the assessment of testing laboratories.<sup>19</sup> For the designation of a newly accredited testing laboratory, a completed checklist shall be provided to the Commission by the accreditation body or the designating authority. For a renewal of the designation of an accredited testing laboratory, a statement indicating continued compliance with a previously submitted checklist is acceptable.

The checklist identifies specific items to be evaluated during the technical assessment of a testing laboratory, to determine the capability and competence of that laboratory to perform tests to show compliance with FCC regulatory requirements under the FCC Regulations contained in 47 CFR. The checklist is intended to serve as a guide, and it provides a minimum list of items to be included in the technical evaluation of the test laboratory as part of the complete ISO/IEC 17025 assessment. The checklist is not intended to replace good engineering judgment of the technical assessor(s) or a thorough evaluation of the facility. As such, other related items not shown on the checklist may be evaluated by the assessor(s). The accreditation body shall attest that all responses on this checklist are complete and accurate. The checklist provided to the FCC for each testing laboratory is publicly available.

## 8. Radiated Emissions Test Facility

**Antenna Calibration.** Testing laboratories performing radiated emission measurements and NSA measurements, as required by the FCC rules, are required to use antennas calibrated in accordance with ANSI C63.5-2006, *American National Standard Electromagnetic Compatibility-Radiated Emission Measurements in Electromagnetic Interference (EMI) Control-Calibration of Antennas (9 kHz to 40 GHz)*.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>19</sup> See [KDB Publication 853844](#).

<sup>20</sup> See [KDB Publication 822428](#). See also 4.5 of ANSI C63.4-2014 and 4.3 of ANSI C63.10-2013 for guidance on the types of measurement antennas for use in making radiated emission measurements. See also Tables 1, 2, and 3 of ANSI C63.4-2014 for a summary of the types of antennas that may be used when making exploratory measurements, final compliance measurements, and site validation measurements, respectively. Antennas used for radiated emission measurements shall be calibrated in accordance with ANSI C63.5-2006.

**Site Validation Requirements.** When using radiated emission test procedures that require the use of a validated test site (e.g., ANSI C63.4-2014 and ANSI C63.10-2013) the test site used shall meet the following site validation requirements:<sup>21</sup>

- Test facilities used to make radiated emission measurements from 30 MHz to 1 GHz are required to meet the site validation requirements in ANSI C63.4-2014.
- For radiated emissions 1 GHz to 40 GHz the test facility used can use either site validation option in 5.5 of ANSI C63.4-2014. On and after the transition date, July 13, 2018, the test facility is required to comply with the site validation requirements in CISPR 16-1-4:2010-04.

Validation of the acceptability criterion shall be confirmed no less than once every three years.

**Description of radiated emission test facility.** A description of the measurement facilities used by the testing laboratory are required to be maintained in accordance with § 2.948(b).

**Compliance Testing Experimental Radio Licenses.** A testing laboratory located in the United States or territory of the United States that performs testing at an open area test site is required to have a valid compliance testing experimental radio license, per Subpart G of Part 5 of the rules.<sup>22</sup>

## 9. Location of Accredited Testing Laboratory

For a testing laboratory that uses external resources, the test facility used for testing the device must be at a location assessed by the accreditation body as part of the ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation; and the facility must be recognized by the FCC as authorized accredited testing laboratory.<sup>23</sup>

It is not acceptable for a device that is required to be tested at an FCC recognized test laboratory to be tested at a non-recognized test laboratory and have an FCC recognized test laboratory simply review the test report, without performing all the testing at the recognized test facility, and then indicate that testing was performed at the FCC recognized test laboratory.

For each test performed, the test report shall specify the location that each test was performed, and the person(s) that performed each test.

## 10. Test Reports

Test reports for devices subject to Declaration of Conformity (DoC) and Certification shall be generated by the testing laboratory that tested that device. Testing is required to be performed by FCC recognized accredited testing laboratories.

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<sup>21</sup> See [KDB Publication 704992](#).

<sup>22</sup> Compliance Testing Licenses will not become available until the FCC Experimental Licensing Branch establishes a mechanism to apply for and obtain these licenses. When these become available, a public notification will be made and a transition period specified.

<sup>23</sup> The FCC will recognize accredited testing laboratories located in the U.S. and those countries where there is an operational government-to-government Telecom MRA. A list of recognized accredited testing laboratories is provided at: <https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/eas/reports/TestFirmSearch.cfm>. Also, see note 14

## 11. Transition Period for New Measurement Methods

The FCC rules provide for a transition period when new measurement standards are adopted, to allow time for an accredited testing laboratory to update their ISO/IEC 17025 scope of accreditation. Testing laboratories shall be assessed to the scopes identified in Table 1, and have their scopes updated in the FCC database prior to July 13, 2016.<sup>24</sup>

## 12. List of Accredited Testing Laboratories

To view a listing of accredited laboratories, choose "Accredited" at the Test Firm Type pull-down arrow at <https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/eas/reports/TestFirmSearch.cfm>. The information in this database is maintained by the applicable accreditation body or designating authority. Any corrections to this information will need to be made by them, and change requests should not be submitted directly to the FCC from the accredited testing laboratory.

## 13. References

- (a) ET Docket No. 09-161, *Recognition of Laboratory Accreditation Bodies, and ACLASS Application for Recognition*.
- (b) ET Docket No. 95-19, *Amendment of Parts 2 and 15 of the Commission's Rules to Deregulate the Equipment Authorization Requirements for Digital Devices*.
- (c) DA 09-2478, *Office of Engineering and Technology Clarifies Use of Recently Published ASC C63<sup>®</sup> Measurement Standards for Compliance Testing of Intentional and Unintentional Radiators under Part 15*.
- (d) ET Docket No. 13-44, *Amendment of Parts 0, 1, 2, and 15 of the Commission's Rules regarding Authorization of Radiofrequency Equipment* (Report and Order FCC 14-208).

## CHANGE NOTICE

**06/23/2015:** 974614 DO2 Accredited Test Lab Roles and Resp v03 replaces 974614 D01 Accredited Test Lab Roles and Resp v02. Changes to the document include the following:

- Updated address for A2LA
- Updated name and contact for ACLASS
- Updated to incorporate changes required by FCC 14-208
  - Scope of accreditation and test methods
  - 2.949 Recognition of Test Firm Accreditation Bodies
  - Site validation requirements
  - Accredited laboratory required for all DoC and Certified Devices
  - Compliance testing experimental radio license

**02/23/2016:** 974614 DO2 Accredited Test Lab Roles and Resp v03r01 replaces 974614 D01 Accredited Test Lab Roles and Resp v03. Changes to the document include the following:

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<sup>24</sup> See Equipment Authorization Report and Order (FCC 14-208). A one-year transition period ending July 13, 2016 is provided for use of ANSI C63.4-2014 and ANSI C63.10-2013. A three-year transition period ending July 13, 2018 is provided for use of CISPR 16-1-4:2010-04 to demonstrate compliance with the site validation requirements from 1 GHz to 40 GHz.

- Revised section 9 concerning recognition of multiple test facilities associated with an accredited testing laboratory.
- Combined scope Tables 1 and 2 and made editorial changes to scope of accreditation description in table.
- Revised section 6 to address partial scopes of accreditation.
- Added a separate scope for signal boosters.