

# PJLA Update Notification

## **Update Notification # 14**

**Update Notification Release Date:** October 17, 2011

**Form/Procedure/Policy:** PJLA Policies: PL-1 –Proficiency Testing, PL-2-Traceability Policy, PL-3 Measurement Uncertainty Policy, PL-4 Calibration Scopes of Accreditation Policy

---

PJLA Applicant/Accredited Organizations

PJLA has recently updated all of our technical policies. A summary of the changes have been listed below in regards to each policy. Please note that although a short summary of these changes have been provided, all organizations should download and review the latest revisions. These can be found on our website at [www.pjlab.com](http://www.pjlab.com) under the PJLA document section.

**All organizations shall comply with these requirements as of December 1, 2011. Failure to comply with these changes will result in a nonconformance during your next assessment.**

### **Proficiency Testing Requirements (PL-1)- Summary of changes**

- Removed reference to laboratory where possible and changed to organization since PJLA will be accrediting reference material producers and field sampling and measurement organizations in the near future. The term organization will start to be utilized in all PJLA documents when necessary (**Section-All**)
- Added a statement that includes a reference to program specific proficiency testing requirements when they are more stringent than the current PJLA policy (**Section 1.0**)
- Added specifics in regards to the process for the development of a 4-year PT plan (**Section 3.2**)
- Removed references to Guide 43 and replaced then with 17043:2010 (**Section-All**)
- Added a statement in regards to allowing organization's to participate in PT(s) that have analysis or particular program specific reference material or standards (**Section-6.2.2**)
- Added a statement that expands other means of analyzing data through "Z" scores, repeat measurements or other graphical techniques (**Section 6.3.3**)
- Added a reference of acceptable interlaboratory comparison through collaboration in the characterization of a reference material by a competent reference material provider (**Section 6.3.5**)

### **Traceability Requirements (PL-2)-Summary of changes**

- Removed reference to laboratory where possible and changed to organization since PJLA will be accrediting reference material producers and field sampling and measurement organizations in the near future. The term organization will start to be utilized in all PJLA documents when necessary (**Section-All**)
- Added a note that this document only applies to accredited calibrations or tests (**Section-1.1**)
- Added specifics to the ability to show traceability through an unbroken chain to the SI. Note-this information was already included; however more detail and some editorial changes were made. (**Section- 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 4.2, 4.3**)
- Added a reference in regards to the submission of a LF-123 form when organization's utilize a non-accredited source (**Section-3.0**)
- Added details for testing laboratories in regards to the requirements for procedures detailing reference standards storage and traceability and reference to such traceability on test reports (**Section-4.2**)

### **Measurement Uncertainty Requirements (PL-3)-Summary of changes**

- Removed references to laboratory where possible and changed to organization since PJLA will be accrediting reference material producers and field sampling and measurement organizations in the near future. The term organization will start to be utilized in all PJLA documents when necessary (**Section-All**)
- Removed all references to BMC and replaced with CMC (**Section-All**)
- Added a note that this document only applies to accredited calibrations or tests (**Section-1.0**)
- Added reference to ILAC P14:2010 ILAC Policy for Uncertainty in Calibration (**Section-3.0**)
  - Mandatory requirements for reporting uncertainty
  - Recommended practices for reporting uncertainty on calibration reports
  - Recommended statements to be used when reporting a result or reporting a statement of compliance on calibration reports
  - Requirements for laboratory's responsibility for maintaining appropriate uncertainties and CMCs.

### **Calibration Scopes of Accreditation (PL-4)-Summary of changes**

- Removed references to laboratory where possible and changed to organization since PJLA will be accrediting reference material producers and field sampling and measurement organizations in the near future. The term organization will start to be utilized in all PJLA documents when necessary (**Section-All**)
- Removed all references to BMC and replaced with CMC (**Section-All**)
- Added a note that this document only applies to accredited calibrations or tests (**Section-1.0**)
- Removed any allowance for a range to start at zero (**Section 3.3.1**)

- Added a requirement to ensure that the low end of the range should not be less than 3 times the CMC (**Section 3.3.1**)
- Added examples of appropriate Relative Uncertainty Statements (**Section 3.4.2**)
- Removed the reference to “Remarks” on the certificate of accreditation and replaced this with “Calibration Equipment and Reference Standards Used (**Section Appendix A**)
- Updated examples of ranges and CMC(s) to adhere to the updated policy (**Section-Appendix A**)
- Updated footnote 1 in order to define Calibration and Measurement Capability (CMC) (**Section-Appendix A**)

If you have any questions in regards to this notification, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Thank you.