

	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Institute of Standards and Technology National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program	ISSUE DATE: March 5, 2009
	LAB BULLETIN	NUMBER: LB-38-2009
		LAP: Energy Efficient Lighting Products
SUBJECT: Changes to Energy Efficient Lighting Products LAP		

This bulletin announces four changes in the NVLAP Energy Efficient Lighting Products (EEL) Program:

- 1) the EEL Test Method Selection List has been revised and expanded;
- 2) several changes to NIST Handbook 150-1 have been made and are published in this bulletin;
- 3) the Program-Specific Checklist for NIST Handbook 150-1 has been revised;
- 4) Solid State Lighting (SSL) test methods have been added to the EEL Program.

The associated revised and new requirements and guidance documents have been posted to the NVLAP web site at (<http://www.nist.gov/nvlap>).

1) Revised EEL Test Method Selection List

NIST Handbook 150-1:2008, 5.10.1.2, requires that test reports clearly reference the test method and edition (year of publication) applied to the product or system tested. Therefore, NVLAP has revised the EEL Test Method Selection List to show the year of publication for every test method. The revised list is now available on the "Print NVLAP Application Forms" web page.

For laboratories currently accredited in the EEL Program, the process to accomplish the transition from the previous Test Method Selection List to the revised Test Method Selection List is as follows. A laboratory may complete and submit the revised Test Method Selection List along with a copy of the title page for each test method for which it is seeking an updated scope of accreditation. NVLAP will revise the laboratory's current scope of accreditation if the test method is a dated version of a test method for which the laboratory is already accredited. By sending the title page, the laboratory is affirming that the selected method is the one it has been employing for NVLAP-accredited testing. During the next on-site assessment, the laboratory will be assessed for this test method. A laboratory is not obligated to update its scope of accreditation until the next on-site assessment when only dated versions will be offered. Therefore, until that time, a laboratory may retain its current scope of accreditation.

A laboratory seeking initial accreditation in the EEL Program will be required to use only the revised Test Method Selection List and follow the process for accreditation as specified in NIST Handbook 150.

The revised Test Method Selection List also includes methods for NVLAP's new Solid State Lighting (SSL) field of accreditation. The SSL methods require an on-site assessment before they may be added to a laboratory's scope of accreditation.

2) Changes to NIST Handbook 150-1

The following requirements have been amended. This bulletin should be inserted into NIST Handbook 150-1 (EEL Program-Specific Handbook) until the next edition of the handbook is released, at which time the requirement changes will be incorporated into the handbook.

- a) Reference section 1.4 has been modified by deleting: “CIE Publication No. 13.2, *Method of Measuring and Specifying Color Rendering of Light Sources*, Commission Internationale de l’Eclairage.”
- b) Paragraph 4.2.6 has been deleted.
- c) The following sentence was added to the end of 3.4.7: “These procedures shall include comparing the laboratory’s proficiency testing results with those from NIST and/or other NVLAP-accredited laboratories.”
- d) Paragraph 5.6.2 was changed to read: “To account for the effect on traceability of calibration of M&TE, the laboratory shall determine equipment calibration (and verification and maintenance) intervals based on the equipment’s frequency of use and environment in which it is used, and also in accordance with standard test methods, manufacturer’s recommendations, or as recommended in the EEL Program-Specific Checklist, whichever results in a shorter time between calibrations. Extension of the time interval between calibrations is acceptable if the laboratory can provide justification for increasing the interval. Ultimately the laboratory shall be responsible for the determination and documentation of the calibration frequency (and frequency of verification and maintenance).”

3) Revised Program-Specific Checklist for NIST Handbook 150-1

The Program-Specific Checklist for NIST Handbook 150-1 has been revised to reflect the changes in NIST Handbook 150-1 as described in 2) above.

4) Addition of Solid State Lighting Test Methods

NVLAP has added test methods for solid state lighting products and LED sources as part of the EEL accreditation program. Technical requirements and guidance for the accreditation of laboratories that test solid state lighting products and LED sources have been published in a new handbook, NIST Handbook 150-1A, *Energy Efficient Lighting Products – Solid State Lighting*, and its corresponding checklist. In addition, SSL test methods are now listed on the EEL Test Method Selection List. Initial accreditation to SSL test methods, or adding these methods to a current EEL scope of accreditation, requires an on-site assessment.

NVLAP will begin accepting applications for SSL test methods beginning March 5, 2009.

Laboratories currently accredited by NVLAP may request an on-site assessment by submitting a completed Program-Specific Application (EEL Test Method Selection List) and payment of the assessment fee. Laboratories should contact NVLAP for the fee estimate.

Laboratories not accredited by NVLAP must go through the complete application process as specified in NIST Handbook 150.

Questions concerning the EEL requirements for accreditation should be directed to Jon Crickenberger at 301-975-5305, or <jon.crickenberger@nist.gov>.