

	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Institute of Standards and Technology National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program	ISSUE DATE: February 7, 2007
	LAB BULLETIN	NUMBER: LB-23-2007 LAP: Asbestos TEM
SUBJECT: Release of NIST Handbook 150-13, 2006 Edition		

NIST Handbook 150-13, which presents the technical requirements and guidance for the accreditation of laboratories under the NVLAP Airborne Asbestos Analysis Program, has been revised. The new edition incorporates changes resulting from the release of NIST Handbook 150:2006, *NVLAP Procedures and General Requirements*, and was revised with the participation of technical experts in the field of airborne asbestos analysis. The following main changes have been made with respect to the previous edition:

- references to applicable standards and guidance documents have been updated;
- Lab Bulletin LB-7-2002, previously issued for clarification, has been incorporated into this edition of the handbook;
- on-site assessment checklists and the test method selection list are no longer included in order that they may be provided as separate documents, which may be updated at different intervals than the handbook;
- the body of the handbook has been restructured to conform with internationally accepted rules for the structure and drafting of standards, where appropriate, to promote ease of use and understanding;
- Annex A (normative) and Annex B (informative) have been added.

The 2006 edition of NIST Handbook 150-13 supersedes and replaces the 1995 edition. It is available for downloading (Adobe PDF format) from the NVLAP web site at: <http://ts.nist.gov/Standards/Accreditation/upload/NIST-HB-150-13-2006.pdf>. If you do not have Internet access, please contact NVLAP and specify whether you would like a paper copy of the handbook mailed to you or an Adobe PDF version e-mailed to you.

This is also a reminder of the NVLAP transition to the accreditation requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2005, as contained in NIST Handbook 150: 2006. All on-site assessments are conducted against the accreditation requirements as published in NIST Handbook 150:2006 and the corresponding NIST Handbook 150 Checklist. Accredited laboratories have 30 days after an on-site assessment to resolve nonconformities to the new requirements.

Questions concerning the revised handbook or requirements for accreditation should be directed to Thomas R. Davis at 301-975-6499, or <thomas.davis@nist.gov> or Hazel M. Richmond at 301-975-3024, or <hazel.richmond@nist.gov>.