

	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Institute of Standards and Technology National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program	ISSUE DATE: March 2, 2020
	LAB BULLETIN	NUMBER: LB-118-2020
		LAP: Asbestos Fiber Analysis
SUBJECT: Update to NVLAP accreditation documents for laboratories accredited to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 under the ILAC MRA		

The purpose of this bulletin is to notify laboratories in the Asbestos Fiber Analysis program of NVLAP’s decision to update the NVLAP accreditation documents to include the NVLAP Combined ILAC MRA Mark for those laboratories currently accredited to ISO/IEC 17025:2017. This Combined ILAC MRA Mark will be included on the scope of accreditation and certificate of accreditation issued by NVLAP.

Please note that the issuance of the accreditation documents containing the NVLAP Combined ILAC MRA Mark does not provide accredited laboratories with the approval to use the Combined ILAC MRA Mark with the NVLAP symbol when referencing their accreditation.

Any laboratory that wishes to use the NVLAP Combined ILAC MRA Mark when referencing its accreditation must submit an application to NVLAP based on the requirements set forth in NIST Handbook 150 Annex E. The application can be found on the NVLAP website at <https://www.nist.gov/nvlap/referencing-nvlap-accreditation-and-use-ilac-combined-mark>.

Background

NVLAP has a policy governing the protection and use of its accreditation symbol in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011, *Conformity assessment – General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies*, clause 8.2.1.b(6). NVLAP has published the requirements for referencing NVLAP accreditation in NIST Handbook 150, *NVLAP Procedures and General Requirements*, section 1.8 and [Annex A](#), and [Annex E](#).

NVLAP must also comply with the requirements found in the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) in order to be a signatory. This set of requirements is published in ILAC-P8, regarding the use of accreditation symbols and for claims of accreditation status by accredited laboratories, and ILAC-R7, regarding the use of the ILAC MRA Mark.

Pursuant to recent requests, NVLAP has determined that the accreditation documents will be reissued to include the Combined ILAC MRA Mark for those laboratory accreditation programs under the ILAC MRA.

Notice

NVLAP has initiated the publishing of the revised accreditation documents to include the Combined ILAC MRA Mark for all programs which are covered under the ILAC MRA.

For those laboratories currently accredited to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 in the above-mentioned programs, the accreditation documents will be revised and made available on the NVLAP directory by March 31, 2020. The scope of accreditation will contain a revision date which reflects the date in which the updated document was created and published.

Hard copies of the accreditation documents will follow shortly thereafter.

If you have any questions, please contact your program manager.