

SLAB POLICY ON TRANSITION TO ISO/IEC 17025: 2017

SLAB accredited and applicant testing and calibration laboratories are required to comply with the requirements of this policy commencing 25th of December 2017. The new ISO/IEC 17025:2017 (General Requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories) standard was published on the 30th November 2017 and will replace ISO/IEC 17025:2005. The agreed transition period is 3 years from the date of publication. This means that all SLAB accredited testing and calibration laboratories will need to have successfully transferred to the new standard within 3 years from the publication date (2017-11-30).

It is important that laboratories **purchase a copy of the new edition**, and understand the changes that have been made, at the earliest opportunity.

As per the SLAB policy on transition, accreditation granted as per ISO/IEC 17025: 2005 would not be valid after 30th November 2020.

In addition, the following are also applicable for this transition.

1. SLAB is ready to accept applications as per new standard ISO/IEC 17025:2017 after 28th of February 2018.
2. SLAB is ready to carry out assessments against ISO/IEC 17025:2017 after 30th March 2018.
2. SLAB does not accept new applications against ISO/IEC 17025:2005 after 25th August 2018.
3. All assessments of new applicants (pre-assessments/initial assessments) and SLAB accredited testing and calibration laboratories (surveillance assessments/re-assessments) will be conducted in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017 from 1st January 2019 onwards as per their assessment schedules. Laboratories have option to request assessment as per ISO/IEC 17025:2017 before 1st of January 2019.
4. Testing and Calibration laboratories whose applications were accepted as per ISO/IEC 17025: 2005 and pending as on 25th August 2018 will be granted accreditation as per ISO/IEC 17025:2005 up to 31st December 2018.

Any Application pending on 25th August 2018 shall have to demonstrate compliance to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 to be accredited after 1st January 2019.

Accreditation will not be granted as per ISO/IEC 17025:2005 after 1st January 2019.

5. Testing and calibration laboratories granted accreditation as per ISO/IEC 17025:2005 before 1st of January 2019 shall undergo surveillance assessment to demonstrate their compliance to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 as per their normal assessment schedules and complete the process of surveillance assessment on or before 30th November 2020.

SLAB accredited Testing and Calibration Laboratories shall demonstrate full implementation of ISO/IEC 17025: 2017 by 30th November 2020.

The accreditation of any Testing and Calibration Laboratory which fails to demonstrate compliance to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 by 30th June 2020 shall be placed under temporally suspension for a maximum of 03 months. Failure to comply with ISO/IEC 17025: 2017 by 30th November 2020 would result in withdrawal of accreditation.

SRI LANKA ACCREDITATION BOARD FOR CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT				
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