Jordanian Accreditation System
نظام الاعتماد الأردني
Accreditation Unit

POLICY FOR USING TESTING STANDARDS/METHODS IN THE SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION

Purpose

This policy has been prepared to highlight ISO/IEC 17025:2005 clause 5.4 requirements regarding identifying the testing standards, or the method developed and used by laboratories and will be covered under the scope of accreditation.

Scope:

This document is intended for all AU accredited and enrolled calibration and testing laboratories.

Authorship

This publication has been written by the Technical Committee, and approved by the Accreditation Director.

Official language

The text may be translated into other languages as required. The English language version remains the definitive version.

Copyright

Further information

For further information about this publication, kindly contact AU.
This document is also available at our web site where you can check updates directly.

Contents

1. Introduction

This document provides guidance and requirements for the application of ISO/IEC 17025:2005, General Requirements for the competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories, regarding the use of testing standards/methods in the scope of accreditation. Other requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2005 refer to the standard herein after, must be taken into account.

2. Testing Standards

According to the international standard ISO/IEC 17025:2005 clause 5.4.2 "*The laboratory shall ensure that it uses the latest valid edition of a standard unless it is not appropriate or not possible to do so"*, such as:

2.1 If a withdrawn standard is still required by clients and it is still valid technically, then:

- AU will include it in the scope of accreditation of the applicant with a clear identification of its status as "withdrawn". And the lab shall clarify this in the test report issued to the client, or
- The lab may include it as an in-house method that details the basic test requirements, but it shall be validated.
- The lab is encouraged to include the new edition of the standard also in the scope of accreditation.

2.2 If the new standard requires resources that the lab can't afford,

- The lab can be accredited on the old standard if it is still valid technically.
- **Also apply the points in 2.1.**

2.3 If the time required to adopt the new standard by the lab is insufficient, the lab should make sure to use the latest valid edition of the standard by the next surveillance if it does not have harmful impact on the health and safety of human beings.

3. Internal Testing Methods

3.1 The laboratory shall validate lab-designed/developed methods by examination and provision of objective evidence [ISO/IEC 17025:2005 clause 5.4.5] and this validation shall be approved by AU technical assessor and according to AU related policies.

3.2 Documentation of lab-designed/developed methods shall be uniquely identified. Such identification shall include the title of the document, the number and date of issue and revision identification, page numbering, the issuing authority and reference documents.