



*Joint ILAC-ISO Communiqué on the  
recognition of ISO/IEC 17025 during a Three-Year Transition*

Laboratories wishing to demonstrate their technical competence can do so via conformity with the international standard ISO/IEC 17025 ‘General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories’. Conformity with this standard also means that the laboratory generally operates a management system in accordance with the principles of ISO 9001.

In 2017, ISO published a revision to ISO/IEC 17025 (previously published in 2005) to ensure that requirements continue to meet the demands of the modern market place. As a consequence, it has been agreed that laboratories that demonstrate conformity through third-party accreditation will need to transition their processes to the new version within a defined timeframe. ILAC, in consultation with ISO, agreed that a three year period from the date of publication shall be allowed for this transition.

During this transition period, it is important to note that both ISO/IEC 17025:2005 and ISO/IEC 17025:2017 are equally valid and applicable. Formal accreditation to either standard granted by an accreditation body that is a signatory to the ILAC Arrangement should be recognised by the market place, and it is strongly recommended that specifiers equally recognise both versions until after the 3-year transition period has closed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Mats Malmqvist Nilsson'.

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ILAC Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. J. ...'.

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ISO/CASCO Chair