



26 August 2009

Re: Important notification regarding ISO 9001 registration status changes

Dear Client,

It is our pleasure to inform you that we have obtained test level accreditation for ISO 17025, General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories, through ACLASS as of 17 Mar 2009. The scope of the ISO 17025 standard was written to incorporate all of the ISO 9001 requirements that are relevant to the scope of testing and calibration services, as well as specifying the requirements for technical competence. Therefore, ISO 17025 is a more applicable standard for the assessment of competency, accuracy, and traceability for testing and calibration laboratories, such as Nelson Laboratories. Because we have obtained accreditation to the ISO 17025 standard, we have chosen not to continue our certification for ISO 9001 using a third party registrar. Since the requirements of ISO 17025 encompass the requirements of ISO 9001, we will still operate in accordance with the ISO 9001 standard.

For your information, the ISO 17025 standard is comprised of the following 5 elements:

1. Scope
2. Normative References
3. Terms and Definitions
4. Management Requirements
5. Technical Requirements

Elements 4 and 5 contain the actual accreditation requirements which include:

Management Requirements

- Organization
- Quality system
- Document control
- Review of requests, tenders and contracts
- Subcontracting of tests and calibrations
- Purchasing services and supplies
- Service to client
- Complaints
- Control of nonconforming testing and/or calibration work
- Corrective action
- Preventive action
- Control of records
- Internal audits
- Management reviews



Technical Requirements

- General
- Personnel - Accommodation and environmental conditions
- Test and calibration methods and method validation
- Equipment
- Measurement traceability
- Sampling
- Handling of test and calibration items
- Assuring the quality of test and calibration results
- Reporting the results

Information regarding ACLASS credentials can be found at www.aiclasscorp.com.

Additional Links Include:

Certificate of Accreditation: <http://anab.jadianonline.com/eqm/client/docs/B4AEA0D4-A170-4A9A-B776-8A4CDD047DE8/NelsonLabsCertificate-TestAA09.pdf>

Scope Document: <http://anab.jadianonline.com/eqm/client/docs/B4AEA0D4-A170-4A9A-B776-8A4CDD047DE8/NelsonLabsScopeAA09.pdf>

Informative Article: http://www.nelsonlabs.com/docs/iso17025_or_9001_for_supplier_qualification.pdf

It is important to us that any questions or concerns you may have regarding this change are able to be addressed. It is our goal to ensure you are fully comfortable with understanding the differences between the standards and why ISO 17025 is more appropriate for the services you allow us to provide.

You may also contact me directly with any questions you have. We thank you for your continued partnership in testing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sherri Robbins", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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About Nelson Labs: Nelson Laboratories is a leading provider of full, life-cycle microbiology testing services. We are known for exceptional quality, but we look beyond the testing process and partner with you to achieve your long-term business goals. It's what we call *The Science of Success*TM. It's transparency in the testing process. It's approachable experts that guide you through ever-changing compliance requirements. It's helping you mitigate risk, be first to market, and succeed with your customers. Learn more at www.nelsonlabs.com.