Information about traceability

In the assessment and accreditation procedures of the conformity assessment bodies (CABs), NAH applies the policy and the principles stated in the document ILAC P10 ILAC Policy on Traceability of Measurement Results.

1. Laboratories

Calibration and testing laboratories shall prove their traceability of calibration and testing measurement results to international system of units (SI) by measuring standards and standard equipment described in points 4. - 5.

In case of medical laboratories NAH applies point of 5.6.3 (f) of standard ISO 15189:2007 if traceability is provided by the supplier or manufacturer. NAH controls at witness or at double checking of correction the existence of documentation of statements regarding reagents, procedures or the examination.

2. Inspection and product certification bodies

When the testing and calibrating measurement results are used in the accredited inspection procedures or certification of products, the inspection and certification bodies must prove the traceability of these results described in points 4. - 5.

3. Management system certification bodies

When accredited management system certification bodies conduct the audit of management system of their clients, shall be evaluated compliance of traceability of testing and calibration measurement results. Particularly, when the laboratory part of the organization of the client or it connects to other activity (e.g. measurement in manufacturing process, in or out checking, supervision of condition of work and environment). The traceability must be proved as described in points 4. - 5.

4. Traceability of measuring equipment

The equipments and standards that must be calibrated shall be calibrated by the following institutions (listed in points 4.1. - 4.3.), if service of institution is suitable for the intended need (i.e, the scope specifically covers the appropriate calibration).

4.1. The Hungarian Trade Licensing Office which is a signatory to CIPM MRA. The calibration and measurement capacity (CMC) is available at Hungarian Trade Licensing Office: www.mkeh.gov.hu or at www.bipm.org.

Foreign national metrology institute (NMI) whose service is covered by the CIPM MRA. Services covered by the CIPM MRA can be viewed in Appendix C of the BIPM KCDB which includes the range and uncertainty for each listed service at www.bipm.org.

4.2. An accredited calibration laboratory accredited by NAH or foreign accreditation body that is a signatory to EA MLA or ILAC Arrangement.

The calibration and measurement capacity of the accredited calibration laboratories accredited by NAH can be found in the annex of the resolution, or on the NAH website.

4.3. *a)* An NMI whose service is not covered by the CIPM MRA.
b) A calibration laboratory whose service is not covered by the EA MLA or ILAC Arrangement. This may be the case of not-accredited calibration made by manufacturer or internal calibration. In these cases the traceability should be checked particularly.

4.4. In cases of point *a)* and *b)* of 4.3. the NAH follows the next policy to ensure that those services meet the relevant criteria for metrological traceability in ISO/IEC 17025:2005.

The calibration laboratory must verify its suitability if the measurement capacity, traceability and measurement uncertainty is appropriate:

- calibration is performed in accordance with documented and validated method for calibration of relevant measuring equipment;
- suitable working standards and equipment for subsidiary measurement having a significant effect on accuracy of the result of test/calibration:
  - proved traceability,
  - program and procedure for calibration of these equipments,
  - calibration intervals according to document ILAC-G24;
- calibration results contain the data of the measurement uncertainty results and the uncertainty budget report is documented and validated;
- documentation for traceability of measurements;
- documentation for competence of staff;
- documentation for assuring the quality of calibration results;
- documentation for accommodation and environmental conditions;
- audits of the calibration laboratory.

The choice of route *a)* or *b)* is unlikely to be made on purely economic grounds, and is more likely to be a last resort if other routes are unavailable.

If the traceability is not proved, the result of calibration shall not be accepted.

5. Traceability of special calibrations

In case when the traceability to SI units is technically not possible, the laboratory, the user of its services and other interested parties may agree to accept traceability assured by the implementation of certified reference materials supplied by certified/accredited producers or by application of special methods and/or consensus standards.

This route can only be applied in the case in which the laboratory has demonstrated that the policy listed in points 4.1. – 4.3. cannot reasonably be met. It is the responsibility of the laboratory to choose a way to provide the appropriate evidence for traceability. This evidence shall be documented and the documentation will be evaluated by NAH.