

International Recognition of Calibration Certificates issued by NSAI NML

NSAI NML is a signatory to the mutual recognition arrangement (MRA) of the International Committee of Weights and Measures (CIPM). The CIPM MRA\* provides for the mutual recognition of national measurement standards and of calibration certificates issued by national metrology institutes world-wide.

## What is the CIPM MRA?

The MRA has been drawn up by the CIPM, under the authority given to it in the Metre Convention. National Metrology Institutes (NMIs) from 48 states are signatories to the MRA, including NIST (US), NPL (UK), PTB (DE), etc.

## The CIPM MRA key objectives are to:

- establish the degree of equivalence of national measurement standards maintained by NMIs;
- provide for the mutual recognition of calibration and measurement certificates issued by NMIs;
- provide governments and other parties with a secure technical foundation for wider agreements related to international trade, commerce and regulatory affairs.

Within this arrangement, National Metrology Institutes declare their Calibration and Measurement Capabilities (CMCs) and have these CMCs rigorously assessed by international experts. They also have to demonstrate their measurement competence by the mandatory participation in appropriate key and supplementary comparisons and by operating a quality system in compliance with ISO 17025. When these criteria are met the CMCs can then be published on the BIPM website. *The CMC tables can be considered equivalent to the scope of accreditation table of a laboratory accredited under ISO 17025.* 

## **Acceptance of Calibration Certificates**

The use of the CIPM MRA logo is issued under the authority and with the permission of the BIPM. By placing the logo on a calibration certificate, NSAI NML is indicating that the calibration falls within NSAI NML's calibration and measurement capabilities (CMCs) published under the CIPM MRA. (CMCs can be viewed & downloaded at http://kcdb.bipm.org/AppendixC)

A certificate issued by a laboratory under the CIPM MRA can be accepted by assessors from Conformity Assessment Bodes with the highest level of confidence.

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\* Comité international des poids et mesures Mutual Recognition Arrangement