
	<i>American Association for Laboratory Accreditation</i>	
	<b>P116 – Consensus Decisions from the Construction Materials Advisory Committee (CMAC)</b>	<b>Document Issued: October 11, 2016</b>
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### CMAC - A Summary of Critical Decisions

This document provides a summary of consensus decisions voted on and approved by the A2LA Construction Materials Advisory Committee (CMAC) and the A2LA Criteria Council (CC) for use by laboratories and assessors.

#### SCOPE DECISIONS:

- **Scopes Exclusions:** (Please refer to *R101 – General Requirements: Accreditation of ISO/IEC 17025 Laboratories*): Exclusions to test methods may only be included on a laboratory’s Scope of Accreditation when the test method contains multiple methods or method options and the laboratory is only capable of performing a portion of these methods or method options.
  - **ASTM D422 & ASTM D6913:** No exclusions will apply to D422. D6913 is the grain size portion of D422. Therefore, if performing grain size only in D422 and not the hydrometer procedure, then D6913 must be substituted for D422.
  - **ASTM C42, Drilled Cores:** When the Scope lists C42, but the coring portion is subcontracted, A2LA will only accredit the parts of a test method that a lab can actually perform and the Scope shall indicate any limitations that exist.
  
- **How are drilling procedures, plant inspections and mix designs on lab Scopes handled?**
  - Drilling procedures, plant inspections and mix designs shall be removed from all Scopes of Accreditation. These procedures are guides and should not be listed on laboratory ISO/IEC 17025 Scopes. These procedures are inspections and fall under ISO/IEC 17020 accreditation.
  
- **Rental Equipment Use:** For any method (e.g. ASTM D1587: Thin-Walled Tube Sampling of Soils for Geotechnical Purposes) where the laboratory may rent and operate the equipment used (either for sampling or testing) in an accredited test method, the personnel performing the test must be an employee or contracted employee of the laboratory. In addition, the rented equipment and laboratory personnel must meet all requirements of ISO/IEC 17025 (please refer to Explanations for the ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements, clause 5.5.1: 2005. <https://www.a2la.org/faq/faqfinder170252005.cfm>). If these conditions are not met, the test method cannot be added to the laboratory’s Scope of Accreditation.
  
- **Nondestructive Testing (NDT) Scopes and Construction Materials Testing (CMT) Scopes that contain (Non-destructive Testing) NDT:**
  - Scope Descriptions: ASME methods shall be broken down as far as possible in all future drafts of the Scopes of Accreditation (example: ASME Section V, Article 4 & 5 or ASME B31.1). See R212 for NDT Scope Breakdown.

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- **Standard Practices & Specifications:**
  - If the standard practice/specification contains a procedure/method within the standard, then it may be listed on the Scope of Accreditation.

**CALIBRATION DECISIONS:**

- **Calibration of the Skidmore Wilhelm Device/ Torque Wrench:**
  - Accredited calibration of the Skidmore-Wilhelm Device is required and must include force calibration to ASTM E4.
  - The torque wrench must be checked or verified with a calibrated Skidmore-Wilhelm Device therefore an accredited calibration is not required.
- **In-house Calibrations & Measurement Uncertainty:**
  - For a list of equipment requiring uncertainty calculations see table 2 of A2LA's *P103d – Annex-Policy on Estimating Measurement Uncertainty for Construction Materials & Geotechnical Testing Labs*.
  - **Proctor Hammer.** If the calibration method itself is listed on the Scope, then the lab must have the appropriate measurement uncertainty data.

**PROFICIENCY TESTING (PT) DECISIONS:**

- If a laboratory only has TXDOT methods listed on the Scope, then they only need to participate in the TXDOT PT Program.
- For TXDOT 1A Certification PT, if it can be shown that the samples were tested in the current lab, that the lab is abiding by its own PT plan, and that the samples are being spread out to all qualified employees, it is acceptable.

**CERTIFICATIONS/QUALIFICATIONS DECISIONS:**

- NICET certification transcripts can be requested by the A2LA assessor to confirm which specific tests methods the technicians are certified to perform. If this evidence cannot be provided, a deficiency may be cited by the A2LA assessor as appropriate.

**Document Revision History**

Date	Description
10/11/2016	➤ Initial publication