

Understanding ISO 17025:2005

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Testing laboratories have an obligation to demonstrate their competence in the tests offered as a service to their clients. Formal recognition of that competence is gained through accreditation to the ISO 17025:2005 standard which is administered through National Accreditation Bodies

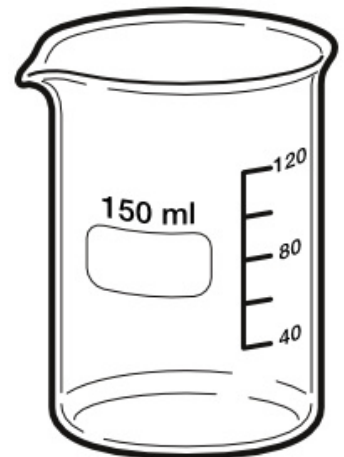
This workshop is designed to give laboratory management and staff a good understanding of the ISO 17025:2005 standard. It begins by explaining its aims, status and relationship with other standards and how, through international agreements, accreditation to this standard provides world-wide recognition.

The structure of the standard is described and then the management requirements are explained, with an emphasis on how these are applied in a technical business environment. Included are the responsibilities of management, document control, internal auditing and relationships with suppliers and sub-contractors.

The technical requirements are outlined, including training of staff, selection and calibration of equipment, documentation and validation of test methods, measurement uncertainty, internal quality control and proficiency testing. The specific concerns of delegates are addressed through questions and discussion.

Where appropriate, an explanation of the accreditation process can be given, covering assessment and surveillance visits by the accreditation body and dealing with non-compliances.

The workshop can be presented as a one-day seminar for technical staff, or in more compressed forms for management briefings.



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Brynawel
Llanafan Road, Cilmery
Builth Wells
Powys
LD2 3PA
UK

Director:

Leslie Coveney MSc C.Chem
MRSC FIFST

Phone: 01982-551901
Mobile: 07879-424543
E-mail: l.coveney@savant-technologies.co.uk

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