

Assessor evaluation - Case Study 10

Name: - *Subcontracting of Testing Services*

Category: *Lead Assessor – Subcontracting*

When reviewing certificates of analysis, it was noted that one of the tests on the lab's scope was being analyzed at one of their sister labs. The sister lab had a separate accreditation and the test in question was on their scope. To track this further, the assessor asked the Quality Manager to retrieve the client files for one of these subcontracted tests as well as the lab's list of approved suppliers. It was noted that the sister laboratory was not on the approved supplier list. As well, there was no record of the client being informed in advance that one of the tests was sent to their sister laboratory.

When asked about this, the Quality Manager stated that there was a large sign in the sample reception room that some tests may be analyzed in the sister lab.

Would you have rated this discovery a non-conformance? Yes? No?
If No – Why?

If yes - What ISO/IEC 17025 clause/s is/are applicable and why?

If yes – What AB Policy/ies is/are applicable and why?

If yes - What corrective action would you expect?
