

DECEMBER 2025

IAS AccreditCom®

Testing Laboratory and Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Programs

NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the IAS Newsletter for the Testing Laboratory Accreditation and Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Programs.

This publication is designed to keep IAS customers and industry professionals informed about important developments at IAS and within the field of testing and calibration that may have an impact on your laboratory and its accreditation.

IAS accredits testing laboratories and calibration laboratories to ISO/IEC Standard 17025 and industry-specific standards. These two types of accreditations demonstrate to the marketplace and to regulators that testing laboratories and calibration laboratories have met the IAS accreditation requirements and are periodically monitored for compliance.



IAS Moves into a New Office

The IAS staff have moved into a new office in Brea, California – located within the same building that previously housed the IAS headquarters.

"This new office space has given us the opportunity to expand our office to accommodate growth. It also enabled us to update the environment to reflect the IAS brand and modernize the space with better IT and furnishings to support productivity."

—Raj Nathan, IAS President

IAS's new address is:
3060 Saturn Street, Suite 101
Brea, California 92821



IAS Celebrates 50 Years of Excellence with Gala and Dinner Event

IAS held its 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala and Dinner on Thursday, September 25, 2025, at the Embassy Suites in Brea, California. Technical experts from 15 countries attended this milestone event, which honored IAS's legacy of trust, integrity, and leadership in accreditation services around the world.

Since 1975, IAS has become a globally recognized accreditation body, serving government agencies, commercial businesses, and public entities across a wide range of sectors. The 50th Anniversary Gala brought together key stakeholders, accreditation professionals, industry partners, and honored guests to celebrate five decades of service and progress.

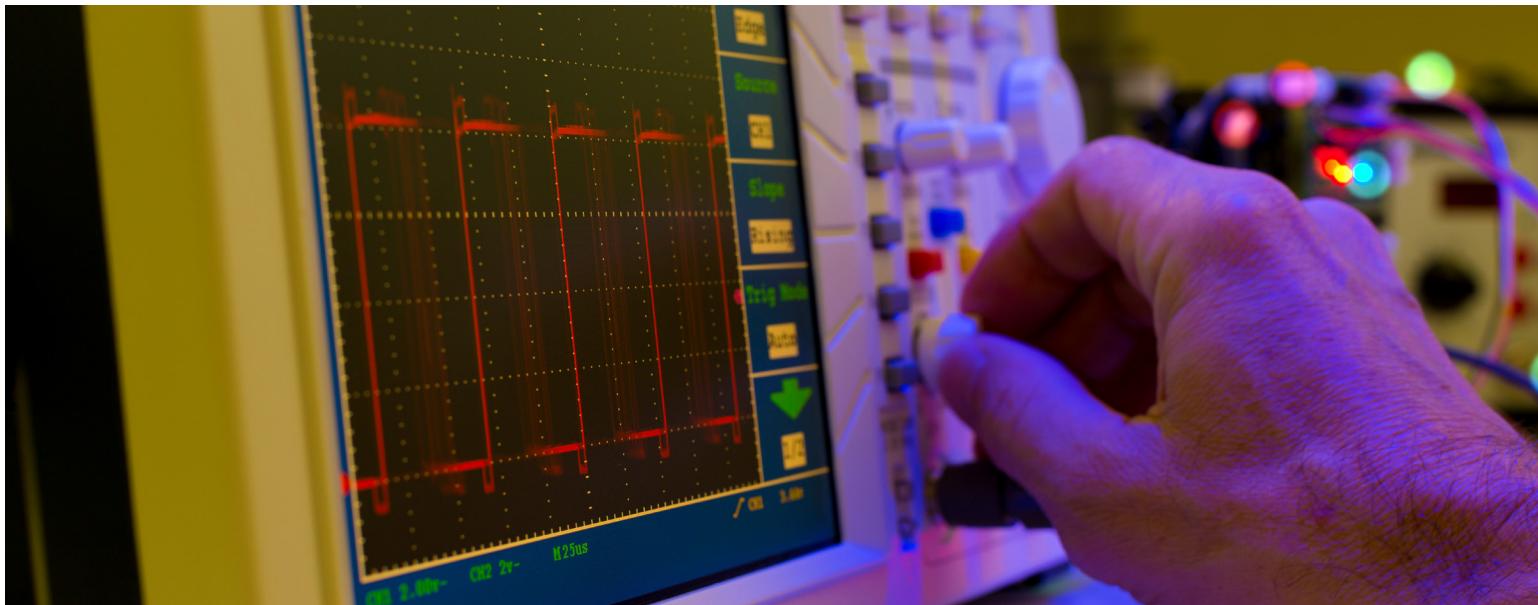
The evening included a formal dinner, commemorative program, keynote remarks, and reflections on IAS's evolution and impact across the accreditation landscape. A commemorative publication and [video](#) were released to honor the organization's 50-year legacy.

"This milestone is not just a celebration of our past, but a reaffirmation of our commitment to excellence in the years to come. We were honored to celebrate our dedicated staff, valued clients, and partners who have helped shape IAS into the respected organization it is today."

— Raj Nathan, IAS President



(L-R) Raj Nathan, IAS President, and Sergio T. Ascunce, Chair of IAS Board, present the 50th Anniversary Commemorative Publication during the Gala Celebration.



Frequent Assessment **Findings in Calibration Laboratories**

At IAS, we aim to support calibration laboratories in continuously improving their management systems and technical operations.

Based on recent assessments, we would like to share some common areas where extra attention can help the laboratory prevent nonconformities and strengthen overall compliance.

1. Metrological Traceability (Clause 6.5.1)

Laboratories must establish and maintain metrological traceability of their measurement results through a documented, unbroken chain of calibrations, each contributing to the measurement uncertainty and linking results to an appropriate reference. Missing or incomplete traceability documentation remains a frequent finding.

While this definition aligns with the general understanding of traceability – as an unbroken chain of comparisons linking measurement results to a national or international reference – we recommend further elaboration, in line with IAS policy **IAS/CL/014**, which is also referenced in **Annex A of ISO/IEC 17025:2017**.

According to IAS/CL/014, metrological traceability may be established through:

- Calibrations performed by an appropriate **National Metrology Institute (NMI)**;
- Calibrations performed by an **accredited calibration laboratory** under the ILAC MRA;
- **Certified Reference Materials (CRMs)** produced by an NMI or a **Reference Material Provider (RMP)** accredited by an ILAC MRA signatory.

If the CRM is not available from such providers, the laboratory must provide objective evidence of the CRM's suitability and the competence of the RMP.

2. Statements of Conformity and Decision Rules (Clause 7.1.3)

When a customer requests a statement of conformity (e.g., pass/fail, in-tolerance/out-of-tolerance), the specification or standard and the decision rule must be clearly defined and agreed upon with the customer. Failure to establish or communicate the decision rule properly is a common source of nonconformity.

We encourage laboratories to refer to **ILAC G8:09/2019 – Guidelines on Decision Rules and Statements of Conformity**, which outlines the various available approaches to conformity assessment. Additional useful references include:

- **JCGM 106:2012 – The role of measurement uncertainty in conformity assessment**
- **Handbook for the Interpretation of ANSI/NCSL Z540.3**

These documents help laboratories select and apply appropriate decision rules in a technically sound and transparent manner.

3. Verification of Methods (Clause 7.2.1.5)

Laboratories are required to verify that they can properly perform calibration methods before implementation, ensuring that the required performance is achieved. Records of the verification must be retained, and re-verification is necessary when a method is revised. A lack of a documented method verification continues to be a recurring issue.

By proactively addressing these areas, calibration laboratories can enhance the effectiveness of their management systems, reduce the likelihood of findings during assessments, and ensure a smoother accreditation process.

The Importance of Risk Management for Testing Laboratories

By Dimitrios Katsieris

Risk management has emerged as a critical element of testing laboratory operations, serving as the systematic framework that enables laboratories to identify, assess, and mitigate potential threats to data integrity, personnel safety, and operational continuity.

As testing laboratories face increasingly complex regulatory requirements, technological advances, and stakeholder expectations, the implementation of robust risk management practices has become essential not only for maintaining accreditation compliance under standards such as ISO/IEC 17025, but also for ensuring sustainable business operations and protecting the validity of analytical results that inform critical decisions across industries ranging from healthcare to environmental monitoring.

• Risk-Based Assessment and ISO/IEC 17025 Compliance

Risk management is fundamental to testing laboratory operations as it enables strategic allocation of resources and ensures critical testing areas receive appropriate attention while meeting ISO/IEC 17025:2017 requirements. The standard explicitly requires laboratories to identify risks and opportunities that could affect the validity of laboratory results and implement actions to address these risks.

Laboratories must conduct risk assessments, among others, for identifying impartiality issues, sample handling, analytical procedures, equipment failures, personnel competency, and environmental conditions to maintain accreditation. By implementing risk-based approaches aligned with Clause 8.5 of ISO/IEC 17025, laboratories can prioritize quality control measures, optimize sampling strategies, and establish targeted monitoring programs that focus on high-risk processes while demonstrating continuous improvement through management review processes.

• Regulatory Compliance and Stakeholder Confidence Through Risk Controls

Effective risk management directly impacts a laboratory's ability to meet ISO/IEC 17025 requirements and maintain stakeholder trust, particularly for laboratories accredited under programs like FDA's ASCA or EPA's NLLAP. The standard requires laboratories to evaluate risks to impartiality, establish risk-based quality control programs, and implement appropriate corrective actions when risks materialize. Testing laboratories must demonstrate robust risk controls through documented risk assessments, method validation studies that consider measurement uncertainty, and proficiency testing participation as risk mitigation measures. This systematic approach enables laboratories to proactively identify potential non-conformities, maintain the validity and reliability of test results, and provide evidence of effective quality management systems that support critical decision-making processes across sectors like medical diagnostics, environmental monitoring, and food safety.

Extending Your Scope of Accreditation?

Laboratories often extend the scope of the tests and methods in their accreditation to provide a broader range of services to their customers and expand their business. If you plan to extend your scope at the time of a reassessment, it is important to inform IAS before the assessors arrive at your laboratory for the scheduled visit. IAS assessors plan their work in advance based on the size of your current scope. When you notify IAS ahead of time, the additional scope can be more easily accommodated, helping to avoid scheduling conflicts and unnecessary costs — and making the assessment process more efficient.

How Are IAS Accreditation Criteria Updated?

If your organization is accredited under the Testing and/or Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Programs, you are likely familiar with the IAS Accreditation Criteria [AC89](#) for Testing and [AC204](#) for Calibration.

To update these criteria, IAS follows a structured process that allows for periodic revisions as needed. Any interested party may propose changes at any time by submitting written revisions to IAS, along with the rationale for the proposed changes. The proposals are reviewed by the IAS Accreditation Committee in a public forum that includes an open discussion session. Following the review, the committee may accept, reject, or modify the proposed revisions.

The most recent IAS Accreditation Committee was held on **June 11, 2025**.

[Learn more about the meeting.](#)

Have There Been Updates to AC89 or AC204 That Affect Your Company's Accreditation?

Be prepared for the next assessment by staying up to date on changes to AC89 and AC204. Staying informed about these changes helps your company prepare in advance and begin implementing any new requirements.

You can view the most current versions of these criteria on the [IAS website](#). Updates are indicated with a vertical line in the margin of the affected sections in the document.

Following the June 2025 Accreditation Committee Hearings, the AC89 and AC204 criteria are effective as of August 1, 2025. Access the latest version of these criteria in the links below.

[AC89](#)

[AC204](#)



Training for Testing Laboratories and Calibration Laboratories

IAS offers multiple training courses that help participants learn about key topics related to accreditation for testing and calibration laboratories. These courses are offered in live sessions in different time zones to accommodate the needs of our global customers. Training topics include:

- ◆ **Understanding ISO/IEC 17025 for Testing and Calibration Labs**
- ◆ **Uncertainty of Measurement for Labs**
- ◆ **Internal Auditing for All Standards**

[View](#) the complete training schedule and descriptions of courses.



Need to Update Your Contact with IAS?

Most accredited organizations will eventually need to update the contact person(s) listed in the IAS Portal. Each accredited customer has three designated contacts who receive communication from IAS: a **Technical Contact**, a **Billing Contact**, and a **Legal Contact**. Although some customers use the same person for all three designations, it is best to assign a different individual to each role.

Each contact has their own login credentials. To update this information, customers must log into the IAS portal and make the change directly. It is important to keep this information current — and to ensure more than one individual in your organization has access to login information.

IAS has created a short video demonstrating how to update contact information.

[Watch the instructional video.](#)



2026 Events

The following events may be of interest to professionals who work for testing and calibration laboratories.

- ⇒ **Measurement Science Conference**
Garden Grove, California, February 2–5, 2026
- ⇒ **EduCode | Las Vegas, Nevada**,
February 23–27, 2026
- ⇒ **NCSL International – Technical Exchange**
Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 2–5, 2026
- ⇒ **California Water Environment Association**
Sacramento, California, April 7–10, 2026
- ⇒ **Analytica Lab India | Mumbai, India**
April 22–24, 2026
- ⇒ **NCSL International – Workshop & Symposium | Kansas City, Missouri**,
July 24–29, 2026
- ⇒ **ArabLab Live | Dubai, UAE**
September 26–28, 2026

Yunita Violetta Receives IAS-Sponsored Scholarship

Congratulations to Cal State University Dominguez Hills student Yunita Violetta, who received the IAS-sponsored scholarship at the Measurement Science Conference. The scholarship was awarded by IAS Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Manager Giulia Suriani and IAS Accreditation Programs Director Prasanth Ramakrishnan at the MSC Scholarship Luncheon on April 17, 2025, held at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, California.



IAS Accreditation Program leaders Giulia Suriani and Prasanth Ramakrishnan present the IAS-sponsored scholarship to Yunita Violetta at the MSC Scholarship Luncheon on April 17, 2025.



Meet Giulia Suriani – Program Manager, Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Program, IAS

Giulia is the Program Manager for the Calibration Program at the International Accreditation Service (IAS). In this role, she is responsible for upholding the integrity and quality of IAS's calibration accreditation program and leading comprehensive assessments for both currently accredited organizations and new applicants. Giulia works closely with customers and assessors, providing technical support to address questions and ensure all needs are effectively met.

Giulia has extensive experience in quality management through roles as a team leader and technical officer. She has been a Peer Evaluator, supporting assessments of accreditation bodies across the globe. Giulia also is the Convenor of the ILAC Working Group (WG) for Metrology. In addition, Giulia has played a key role in capacity-building initiatives, providing technical advisory services, and has been actively involved in international quality infrastructure committees.

Appointed the Convenor of the ILAC AIC – Working Group 'Metrology'

As Convenor of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Accreditation Committee (AIC) – Working Group 'Metrology' (WG), Giulia is responsible for keeping the AIC Chair informed of the progress of the group's work and of any proposed changes to the specific Terms of Reference (ToR), including new work items the group wishes to initiate.

The WG Metrology focuses on issues related to calibration, traceability of measurement results, and uncertainty of measurement. The group supports ILAC's liaison with JCGM Working Groups 1 and 2 and prepares ILAC inputs for the revision of JCGM documents such as the VIM (International Vocabulary of Metrology) and the GUM (Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement). It also drafts responses to technical enquiries from international and regional organizations (e.g., BIPM, RMOs) and other ILAC committees, while providing support to other AIC working groups on topics relevant to calibration, traceability, and measurement uncertainty.

International Journal of Conformity Assessment – Artificial Intelligence

The current issue of the International Journal of Conformity Assessment is dedicated to Artificial Intelligence. Published by IAS for conformity assessment academics and practitioners, IJCA aims to contribute to the fields of testing, inspection, certification, and accreditation by providing a high-quality medium for the dissemination of knowledge and methods associated with global conformity assessment practices and concepts. The conformity assessment fields covered include testing and calibration laboratories, inspection bodies, product certification bodies, management system certification bodies, organizations offering certification of persons, among others. [Learn more](#).



Handbook of Quality System, Accreditation and Conformity Assessment

Published by Springer Nature, this handbook offers a comprehensive overview of topics related to quality systems, accreditation, and conformity assessment. Key sections address conformity assessment procedures, accreditation and certification, measurement requirements, management systems, product quality, and the safety and future of conformity assessment. This multidisciplinary reference is valuable for researchers and professionals across sectors involved in conformity assessment activities. [Learn more](#).

Dimitrios Katsieris and Ned Gravel of IAS contributed to the content of this publication.



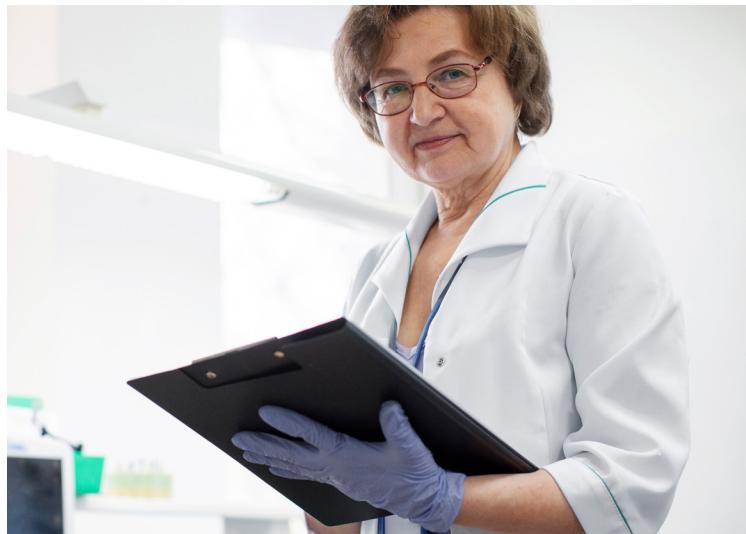
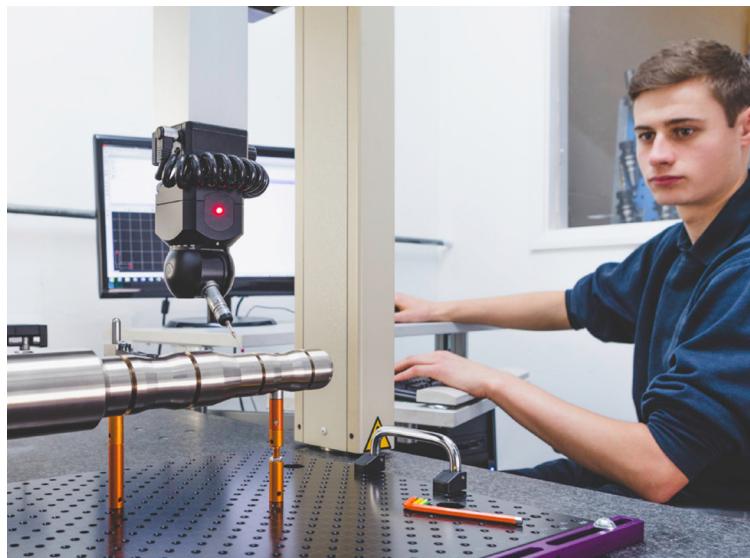
Promote Your Accreditation

IAS customers can showcase their accreditation using official IAS Accreditation Program symbols, which may be displayed in advertisements and brochures, on websites, at exhibit booths, and in other promotional materials. To request accreditation symbols, email requestamark@iasonline.org.

Let Us Know What You Think

IAS is committed to continually improving our services and values your feedback. We use your input to enhance the support we provide to customers and stakeholders. Visit the [Contact Us](#) page of the IAS website to share your comments.

The International Accreditation Service (IAS) is a nonprofit accreditation body and a signatory member of the Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC), the International Accreditation Forum (IAF), and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC). IAS is also a member of the [ICC Family of Solutions](#).



Assessor Positions at IAS

IAS is looking for qualified individuals to become assessors for the Testing Laboratory and Calibration Laboratory Programs. [Learn more about becoming an assessor.](#)

IAS on Social Media

If you haven't connected with IAS on social media, you may be missing out on the latest accreditation news and updates. IAS shares periodic announcements, industry insights, and program information on dedicated pages across [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#). To find us, visit any of these platforms and search for International Accreditation Service. Be sure to like, follow, and subscribe.

Need Answers? Get in Touch with IAS.

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