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Message from the Chair

The strength of an organization may be demonstrated by its commitment to a unified vision. A2LA’s vision is to be the premier provider of accreditations accepted everywhere and by everyone. As the guiding force of the organization, the A2LA Board of Directors has identified five specific areas that are key to the pursuit of our vision. These areas include: fiscal integrity, resource development, long-term viability, value and quality.

Despite the slow economic recovery and continuing uncertain economic conditions, A2LA has consistently met its fiscal targets. A2LA is a financially sound and well-managed organization. A2LA’s human resources – our staff, assessors and all who work on behalf of A2LA - are second to none in the industry, and we continue to improve our IT infrastructure and facilities. In addition to continued strength in our existing programs, our sound financial condition has allowed us to reinvest resources in our long term viability programs such as medical and forensics, which should provide a foundation for the future success of A2LA and benefits to a wide range of new clients.

Despite increasing pressures by some segments of our industry to treat accreditation services like a commodity and focus solely on price, A2LA has maintained its emphasis on providing a service of value to its customers. We continue to expand our MRAs and other forms of recognition and are currently exploring various strategic partnerships to benefit and bring increased value to our clients.

While all of these other areas are important to the health of the organization and our mission, the quality of our services remains our primary focus. This is an area where we excel, and we continue to see improvement in the established quality metrics. Our quality of service must remain a top priority, as compromising the overall quality of our services would be detrimental to our customers and our customers’ customers. A2LA must continue to provide the value and service to our clients that they expect, deserve and rely upon.

Our clients depend on us, as a third party provider of services, to ensure that there is complete confidence in such critical areas as food safety, toy safety and calibrations that affect a multitude of industries, to name a few. The potential consequences to public health and safety are enormous if stakeholders lose faith and confidence in our accreditations. We must hold ourselves accountable and refuse to take shortcuts or to take anything for granted. By maintaining an unwavering focus on quality and value, stakeholder confidence in A2LA will continue to be bolstered.

In closing, I would like to personally thank all who work on behalf of A2LA for their dedication, vigilance, and hard work supporting this excellent organization. I have had the pleasure of serving as Chair of the A2LA Board of Directors since 2012. In accordance with the term limits in our bylaws, 2015 will bring a new Chair to the Board. I thank you for your support and for this opportunity to work with you. It has been an honor to serve the Association.

For the Board of Directors,

Michael Kesselmayer
2013 proved to be another exciting year for A2LA as we strive to realize our vision to be the premier provider of accreditation, accepted everywhere by everyone. This year has seen new recognitions, Association milestones and numerous accreditations granted. Our accreditation programs have expanded into exciting new areas including approval to accredit Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP) Third Party Assessment Organizations (3PAOs) to ISO/IEC 17020 and DNA laboratories to FBI DNA Quality Assurance Standards. Our training programs have experienced growing enrollment and more diversified courses are being offered. Our 3,500th accreditation certificate was awarded. At the end of 2013, A2LA anticipated imminent approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to accredit clinical laboratories to the requirements found within the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) of 1988. As an update to that long-anticipated approval, CMS notified A2LA of having achieved “deemed status” to accredit clinical laboratories in January 2014 and this was formally published in the Federal Register on March 25, 2014. We look forward to reporting on how this exciting new area has developed in our 2014 Annual Report.

Overall, our metrics, established by the Board of Directors to measure our progress, have generally been positive. The end-of-year revenue was higher than budgeted, as A2LA welcomed 243 new applications over the course of 2013. Turnaround times across the entire organization are consistently improving. Performance feedback on our assessors and A2LA staff is consistently positive. In order to enhance customer service, A2LA treats all ratings of “needs improvement” or “poor” as complaints and addresses them accordingly. We remain committed to seeking out opportunities for improvement in order to maintain top quality performance while effectively managing significant growth.

Strategic objectives we have identified for pursuit in 2014 include the following:

- Providing the best customer service in all sectors of industry by carefully listening to our customer needs and enhancing our customer service infrastructure;
- Developing strategic partnerships to increase value-added services to our clients. In our core business we will continue to serve our clients with the highest professionalism and integrity;
- Expanding our training capabilities and services to reach a wider range of industries worldwide;
- Raising awareness by government, industry and consumer stakeholders about the importance of accreditation and its role in risk management;
- Promoting the aim of “one test, one certification, one accreditation—accepted everywhere” embodied by mutual recognition arrangements (MRAs) among accreditation bodies, including those of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF); and
- Fostering a culture of shared growth by supporting our domestic and overseas partners and stakeholders to become globally competitive players in the accreditation community.

I would like to commend all of the A2LA staff, assessors, members, accredited and enrolled organizations, external stakeholders and other constituents for their hard work in making A2LA’s goals a reality. The support from all parties involved has been pivotal in A2LA’s success in 2013.

Peter S. Unger
President & CEO
Introduction

The **AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR LABORATORY ACCREDITATION (A2LA)** is a nonprofit, nongovernmental, public service, membership society dedicated to the formal recognition of competent laboratories and related activities.

During 2013, A2LA operated the following different types of voluntary accreditation programs to recognize competency in support of assuring the quality of data used in decision-making:

- Accreditation of testing and calibration laboratories (regardless of ownership), the essential requirements being technical competence and compliance with ISO/IEC 17025:2005;
- Accreditation of clinical testing laboratories to ISO 15189:2012;
- Accreditation of proficiency testing providers to ISO/IEC 17043:2010;
- Accreditation of reference material producers to ISO Guide 34:2009; and

During 2013, A2LA maintained a membership of 620 individuals and organizations. Membership in A2LA is separate and distinct from accreditation. Members elect the Board of Directors, receive discounts on training and accreditation fees and are encouraged to provide input on a variety of national and international activities and initiatives.

Recognition of A2LA accreditation programs comes from organizations around the world with which A2LA has mutual recognition arrangements or other forms of recognition.

A2LA’s accreditation programs are described in the sections that follow.
Laboratory Accreditation

Laboratory accreditation is that part of the conformity assessment process that recognizes the technical competence of laboratories providing calibration or test data. A2LA accredits all types of laboratories and thus provides one place where a laboratory may achieve accreditation for all of its testing and calibration activities.

A2LA uses ISO/IEC 17025:2005 - General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories, as the general requirements for accreditation of calibration and testing (with the exception of clinical testing) laboratories. A2LA also offers an accreditation program for clinical testing laboratories using ISO 15189:2012, Medical Laboratories - Requirements for quality and competence. A description of the accreditation process is maintained in A2LA’s document titled R101 - General Requirements – Accreditation of ISO/IEC 17025 Laboratories (and the corresponding R901 – General Requirements; Accreditation of Clinical Testing Laboratories Meeting the ISO 15189 Requirements). The laboratory’s commitment to A2LA in pursuing accreditation is documented in R102 - Conditions for Accreditation.

Because of the needs of users (users of accredited laboratories) and specifiers (organizations that require accreditation, including government and private sector entities), specific technical criteria have been developed to amplify the requirements of the general criteria (e.g. ISO/IEC 17025) for several of the programs and fields of testing and calibration.

A separate Scope of Accreditation is given for each field. It lists specific tests, types of tests, or calibrations for which the laboratory has been found competent. For calibration laboratories, Scopes of Accreditation also include a description of the laboratory’s capabilities in terms of measurement parameter, range, calibration & measurement capability expressed as an uncertainty, and technique and/or equipment.

A supplement to the application for accreditation (I109 – Fields of Accreditation for ISO/IEC 17025 Laboratories) describes the many technical fields and programs for which a laboratory may apply. These include the programs listed in Table 1.
**Laboratory Accreditation Fields and Special Programs**

*Fields and special programs with additional requirements beyond ISO/IEC 17025*

- **Acoustics & Vibration**: Tests involving the measurement of noise emission, noise exposure, sound transmission, sound absorption, and vibration.
- **Biological**: Biological, microbiological and biochemical testing and measurement, including examination of foods and pharmaceuticals.
  - Food Microbiology*
  - Veterinary Diagnostics*
  - Anti-Doping*
- **Calibration**: Measurements typically conducted by standards and calibration laboratories for a variety of measurement quantities.
- **Chemical**: Analyses and detection including instrumental and automated methods, and associated physical tests on materials and products.
  - Animal Drug Testing*
  - Coal
  - Fertilizers
  - Fasteners and Metals*
  - Paint
  - Food Chemistry*
  - Veterinary Diagnostics*
  - Anti-Doping*
- **Construction Materials**: Tests to determine the engineering properties of materials and products used in construction.
- **Electrical**: Tests of an electrical and electronic nature performed on instruments, equipment, appliances, components, and materials. Includes (but not limited to) EMC, CTIA, Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) and Bluetooth testing.
- **Environmental**: Tests for constituents in various EPA environmental media.
  - Air
  - Water
  - Radon
  - Asbestos
  - Bioassay
- **Solid/Hazardous Wastes**
- **Environmental Lead (Pb)***
- **Underground Storage Tanks (KY & WY)***
- **TX Department of Health Indoor Air Quality***
- **Forensic Examination**: Tests performed on submitted or collected items where the result of that testing may be used in criminal or civil litigation.
- **Geotechnical**: Tests of soil and rock to provide engineering data.
- **Information Technology**: Tests of any aspect of a hardware or software environment.
- **Mechanical**: Tests, measurements, and evaluation of physical properties of materials, components, and assemblies.
  - Fasteners and Metals*
  - Paint
  - Paper
  - Plastics
  - Rubber
  - Windows and Doors
- **Clinical**: Specific clinical laboratory tests on samples from humans. (This program is based on ISO 15189, rather than ISO/IEC 17025.)
- **Nondestructive**: Examination of materials, components, and assemblies to detect discontinuities without damaging the material, component or assembly.
- **Sustainable Energy**: Tests for efficient use of energy and tests of products designed to take advantage of sustainable and renewable energy sources.
- **EPA ENERGY STAR**
- **Thermal**: Tests involving the measurement of fire, heat, flow, temperature, and humidity.
  - Fire Testing
  - Insulation Performance

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**Inspection Body Accreditation**

For the purpose of accreditation, inspection is defined as the examination of a product, process, service or installation or their design and determination of its conformity with specific requirements or, on the basis of professional judgment, with general requirements. Inspection of processes includes personnel, facilities, technology and methodology that make up the process. The results of inspection may be used to support certification.

A2LA recognizes the close relationship between inspection, sampling, testing and measurement, yet understands that inspection includes a variety of activities not covered in testing laboratory accreditation. Different but related requirements are needed. A2LA is committed to using the latest international standards and so uses as the general requirements for this program ISO/IEC 17020:2012 *Conformity assessment - Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection*. A description of the accreditation process is maintained in A2LA’s document titled R301 - *General Requirements - Accreditation of ISO/IEC 17020 Inspection Bodies*. The inspection body’s commitment to A2LA in pursuing accreditation is documented in R102 - *Conditions for Accreditation*. Added requirements deemed necessary to clarify issues related to the use of the “A2LA Accredited” symbol on inspection reports and the relationship of inspections versus tests and measurements that may be involved as part of the inspection process are also included.

Accreditation is based on the assessment of the performance of an inspection body including procedures, staff competence and reporting. It is available to all types of inspection bodies.
including in-house services. A2LA acknowledges that some user organizations may choose to accept only inspections conducted by third party (Type A) inspection bodies. It is up to such organizations to decide which accredited inspection bodies they will accept.

An inspection body may be an organization, or part of an organization, but must be discretely identifiable in order to be accredited. An inspection body engaged in testing, measurement or sampling work may apply for accreditation for its work as a laboratory concurrently with its application for accreditation for inspection.

A2LA welcomes applications for the accreditation of all types of inspection work.

### Table 2. Inspection Body Accreditation Areas and Special Programs

* Fields and special programs with additional requirements beyond ISO/IEC 17020
- Agricultural products
- Bulk cargoes (e.g., coal, iron ore, petroleum)
- Cargoes in containers and packages
- Cast products
- Cranes
- Electrical equipment
- Foods
- Forensic Examination
- Forged products
- Gaming equipment
- Mechanical equipment
- Pipelines
- Protective coatings
- Rolled products
- Structures (e.g., concrete, steel, timber)
- Textiles
- Welding
- Special Inspection*
- Information Technology*
- FedRAMP*

### Proficiency Testing Provider Accreditation

Proficiency testing (PT) programs are used by A2LA as part of the laboratory accreditation assessment process to determine the ability of laboratories to competently perform tests or calibrations for which accreditation is held. Proficiency testing programs are also used to monitor accredited laboratories’ continuing performance.

The A2LA proficiency testing provider accreditation program is designed for proficiency testing providers who wish to demonstrate their competence by formal compliance with a set of internationally accepted requirements for the planning and implementation of proficiency testing programs. The program also provides users of proficiency testing programs (laboratories, accreditation bodies such as A2LA, technical assessors, government agencies, etc.) increased confidence that the PT programs being relied upon are being operated competently in accordance with specified technical and management system requirements.

The specific assessment requirements for this program are based on the requirements contained in ISO/IEC 17043:2010 Conformity Assessment – General requirements for proficiency testing.

A2LA has also been recognized by The NELAC Institute (TNI) as a proficiency testing provider accreditor (PTPA). By virtue of this recognition, A2LA is able to conduct assessments to the stringent TNI requirements and offer accreditation that covers all of the TNI fields of proficiency testing (including providers of Stationary Source Audit Samples). The A2LA TNI PTPA Program is based on Volume 3 – General Requirements for Environmental Proficiency Testing Providers.

A2LA recommends that, wherever possible, A2LA-accredited testing and calibration laboratories use accredited proficiency testing providers to meet the accreditation requirements for participation in proficiency testing.

### Reference Material Producer Accreditation

The A2LA accreditation program for reference material producers is designed for producers of reference materials who wish to demonstrate their competence by formal compliance with a set of internationally recognized criteria. The program provides users of reference materials, such as testing and calibration laboratories, with increased confidence that the reference materials being relied upon are being produced in accordance with specified technical and management system requirements and are of appropriate quality.
The requirements for this program are based on those contained in ISO Guide 34:2009, *General requirements for the competence of reference material producers*. ISO Guide 34 sets out the general requirements with which a reference material producer must demonstrate compliance, if it is to be recognized as competent to carry out the production of reference materials. It is recognized that each reference material needs to be characterized mainly to the level of accuracy required for its intended purpose (i.e. appropriate measurement uncertainty).

In December 2007, A2LA was recognized under the APLAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for our reference material producer accreditation program.

**Product Certification Body Accreditation**

The certification of a product (a term used to include a process or service) is a means of providing assurance that the product, process or service complies with specified standards or other normative documents. The value of certification is the degree of confidence and trust that is established by an impartial and competent demonstration of fulfillment of specified requirements by a third party. A2LA accreditation attests that a product certification body has demonstrated that:

- It is competent to perform specific product certifications or specific types of product certifications;
- Its management system is documented, is fully operational, and addresses and conforms to all elements of ISO/IEC Guide 65:1996 - *General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems* (including IAF GD-5) or ISO/IEC 17065:2012;
- It is operating in accordance with the required management system; and
- It conforms to any additional requirements established by A2LA.

Accreditation is based on A2LA’s assessment of a product certification body’s performance including but not limited to procedures, staff competence, reporting and surveillance (where relevant). It is available to all certification bodies.

A2LA’s Product Certification Accreditation Program has begun to move steadily forward in transitioning accreditations to the new ISO/IEC 17065:2012 standard. An official transition memorandum, *R307 - Transition Memorandum to ISO/IEC 17065*, was published in November 2012 and outlines the steps A2LA will be taking over the next few years in order to bring all accredited certification bodies into compliance with the new standard. As an IAF MLA signatory, A2LA is required to have all accredited certification bodies fully accredited (that is, assessment complete and Accreditation Council approval obtained) no later than September 15, 2015.

A2LA welcomes applications for the accreditation of all types of product certifiers. The following are just a few examples of work for which accreditation may be sought:

- Appliances
- Automotive lifting devices
- Bottled water and packaged ice
- Building products
- Building and institutional furniture
- Class II biohazard cabinetry
Drinking water additives
Drinking water treatment units
Electric appliances and accessories
Electrical products
Fenestration products
Food service equipment
Gas appliances and accessories
Gas and oil products
Windows and doors
Manufactured products and recreational vehicle plumbing products
Marine products
Personal protective and safety equipment
Plastic piping systems and components
Plumbing products
Recreational clothing
Occupational health and safety/personal protective clothing
Sanitation products
Sealed insulating glass
Software
Solar energy
Swimming pools, spas and components
Telecommunications
Treated wood
Wastewater treatment units
Windows and doors
Wood Products

Organizations may apply for accreditation to multiple product certification body schemes. However, when the certification schemes are unrelated (e.g. Telecommunication and WaterSense) or are developed for different, specific regulators/specifiers in a given industry, the certification body will be required to maintain separate scope(s) of accreditation for each certification program/scheme.

A certification body which also is engaged in testing, inspection, measurement or sampling work may apply for accreditation for this work concurrently with its application for accreditation of its certification activities. All of these accreditations may be accomplished with one assessment from one accreditation body. Organizations exercising this option can reduce cost and time expended during the on-site assessment process.

A2LA is recognized by the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) under the National Voluntary Conformity Assessment Systems Evaluation (NVCASe) program for accreditation of telecommunication certification bodies (TCBs) for FCC requirements. Additionally, under the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Telecommunications and Information (APEC TEL) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA), NIST is the Designating Authority for the United States and has listed A2LA as a recognized accreditation body for:

- Industry Canada under the APEC TEL MRA Phase II
- Singapore's Info-Communications Development Authority (IDA) under the APEC TEL MRA Phase II
- Hong Kong's Office of Communications Authority (OFCA) under the APEC TEL MRA Phase II
- Japan's Telecommunication Business Act and Radio Law (MIC) under the US-Japan MRA

A2LA is recognized by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as an accreditation body for product certification bodies wishing to certify products for the EPA ENERGY STAR Program. In January 2011, the EPA implemented a major overhaul to the ENERGY STAR program, and began requiring third-party certification of all products which were to receive the ENERGY STAR mark. Certification bodies wishing to be recognized by the EPA are required to gain and maintain accreditation to ISO/IEC Guide 65 or ISO/IEC 17065 from an IAF-MLA signatory accreditation body located in North America. A2LA is one of a select few accreditation bodies recognized to offer this accreditation for the ENERGY STAR program, and is the only American accreditation body which can offer testing (ISO/IEC 17025) and product certification (ISO/IEC Guide 65) assessments in a single source setting.

A2LA is also listed as an approved accreditation body for the EPA's WaterSense program. EPA requires all products bearing the WaterSense label to be independently certified by a certification body who has been accredited by an approved accreditation body. This certification provides consumers with confidence in both the water efficiency and performance of WaterSense labeled products.
At the end of 2013, A2LA had 2,585 actively accredited certificates representing all 50 states, Aruba, Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Cayman Islands, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Guam, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of China, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and Vietnam, an increase of 5.6% over 2011. (Note: The organizations in foreign economies pursued accreditation from A2LA due mostly to their desire to meet U.S. regulatory requirements.) During this same period, 120 accreditations were withdrawn. A comparison of laboratories accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 in various fields of testing and calibration with previous years is shown in Table 3a. Table 3b shows the number of organizations accredited in A2LA’s additional accreditation programs in 2013. The number of entities enrolled has shown a net increase of 130 (2,718 at the end of 2013; 2,596 at the end of 2012). For the year, a total of 211 new applications for accreditation were received and 133 entities were in the process of becoming accredited at year’s end.

### Table 3a.

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</table>
Details about tests, types of tests, calibrations or specific activities included in an organization’s accreditation are identified in a Scope of Accreditation and may be obtained by visiting our website (www.A2LA.org) or contacting A2LA.

An organization may be competent to perform activities other than those listed on its Scope or may not perform them exactly as written for some customers. The organization and its customer must agree on the procedure to be used. If an organization presents data on a report or certificate carrying an “A2LA Accredited” symbol, however, that data must be as a result of using a method identified in the Scope as stated. Data resulting from an unaccredited method and reported on an endorsed report must be clearly identified as such.

Assessors

Assessor selection is based on confirmation of the assessor’s technical expertise, successful completion of the training process, and continued satisfactory performance of assessments. The key requirement is knowledge of the technology in the areas the assessors will be assessing. All testing and calibration assessors are required to pass the five-day A2LA assessor orientation course that includes instruction on ISO/IEC 17025 and on A2LA’s policies and procedures for performing assessments. Specialty assessor orientation courses are also held in the areas of product certification (focusing on ISO/IEC 17065), inspection (focusing on ISO/IEC 17020), clinical testing laboratories (focusing on ISO 15189), proficiency testing providers (focusing on ISO/IEC 17043) and reference material producers (focusing on ISO Guide 34).

A2LA lead assessors must be approved by the A2LA Director of Accreditation Services on a yearly basis. The names of new lead assessors are submitted to the Director of Accreditation Services once they have successfully passed the staff evaluation to conduct the technical and management system portions of the on-site assessment. Returning assessors must also be evaluated on a regular basis. There were more than 150 contracted assessors in 2013. 25 additional new assessors were initiated into the assessor training program, 23 of whom successfully completed the A2LA assessor evaluation process and 5 of whom have been approved as lead assessors by the end of 2013. Over 250 names of additional testing and calibration experts are on file as potential assessors.

### Table 3b.

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<td>28</td>
<td>24</td>
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A2LA’s Technical Advisory Committees held their annual meetings. Many of A2LA’s trained and qualified assessors are also private consultants who are willing to offer their own consulting services to prepare organizations for the accreditation process. An interested organization may contact A2LA and A2LA will provide a list of those consultant assessors best technically qualified to assist the organization’s accreditation efforts in the relevant technical area. The chosen consultant then works with the organization, independent of A2LA and its accreditation program. If the organization subsequently chooses to apply to A2LA for accreditation, that consultant assessor cannot serve on the assessment team for that organization.

More than 100 assessors attended the annual A2LA Technical Forum and Annual Meeting in Columbia, Maryland to discuss issues affecting accreditation and to develop policies to further consistency and uniformity in assessments. Measurement uncertainty, traceability, and proficiency testing were the main topics of discussion. The A2LA Accreditation Council and Criteria Council met and the A2LA

## Training and Seminars

A2LA’s Training Program provides a variety of courses designed to help organizations achieve and maintain accreditation to international standards. Courses have been developed to:

- Aid in establishing a management system that works with and enhances an organization as a whole.
- Guide prospective clients through the assessment and internal audit processes.
- Aid in understanding how quality principles apply to various organizations.
- Explain specific concepts, such as root cause analysis, measurement uncertainty, etc.

A2LA has been very active in increasing the number of training programs available to members, accredited organizations and the public. In addition to our traditional public courses, we also offer training provided at an organization’s location (upon request) as well as webinars and interactive online training programs on a variety of specific subjects, such as basic statistics for metrology, understanding ANSI and decoding ISO 15189.

Training course enrollment was very strong in 2013. The following classes were publicly offered:

- ISO/IEC 17025:2005 and Laboratory Accreditation
- ISO/IEC 17025:2005 for Accredited Laboratories
- Introduction to Measurement Uncertainty
- Assessment of Laboratory Competence
- Root Cause Analysis and Corrective Action
- Internal Auditing
- ISO 15189:2012 and Medical Laboratory Accreditation
- ISO/IEC 17020:2012 and FedRAMP

In addition to the public offerings, A2LA sponsored many on-site courses to satisfy the needs of our clients. A2LA also partnered with WorkPlace Training and APHL to offer various webinars.
Internationally, A2LA continues to participate in the activities of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and associated regional bodies. In 2000, A2LA signed the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) between 36 accreditation bodies from 28 economies worldwide. Since then, additional accreditation bodies from other economies have joined the MRA. Established in 1977, ILAC is the premier international forum for the harmonization of laboratory accreditation procedures and policies as a means of reducing technical barriers to trade and the promotion of laboratory accreditation as a mechanism to enhance confidence in testing and calibration facilities, both domestically and internationally.

A2LA also actively participates in the activities of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF). A2LA has been a member of the multi-lateral arrangement for the main scope, product certification, with IAF since May 16, 2011. 59 economies are represented through the members and signatories of the MLA. The primary function of the MLA is to develop a single worldwide program of conformity assessment which reduces risk for business and its customers by assuring them that accredited certificates may be relied upon.

Other international cooperation arrangements in effect during 2013 included the MRA with the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC), and the multi-lateral agreement with the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC). Information about the international accreditation systems with whom A2LA has a valid agreement as of June 2013 is presented in Appendix A of this Annual Report. Copies of the MRAs are available upon request. A2LA will testify to the competence of each accreditation system with whom it has an MRA and attest to the fact that they follow the recognized norm for operating such systems, ISO/IEC 17011, and use relevant ISO/IEC standards as the basis for the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies. Up-to-date information on cooperating accreditation systems may be obtained by visiting our website or contacting A2LA Headquarters.

Staff members from A2LA continue to hold key leadership positions in ILAC, IAF, APLAC and IAAC. Peter Unger, A2LA President/CEO, was re-elected as ILAC Chair for 2013-14. Mr. Unger serves as a lead evaluator and trainer of peer evaluators for accreditation bodies under the ILAC arrangement as well as APLAC and IAAC, and is Technical Advisor to the Executive Committee of IAAC. Roxanne Robinson, A2LA Vice President/COO, serves as an evaluation manager for regions and individual accreditation bodies under the ILAC arrangement and is recognized as a lead evaluator for ILAC, APLAC and IAAC. Ms. Robinson is co-chair of the ILAC/IAF joint working group on the A-series documents and was elected as APLAC MRA Council Chair for 2013-2014. She is also a member of the APLAC Board of Management. Trace McInturff, A2LA Director of Accreditation Services, is a recognized lead evaluator for APLAC and IAAC, serves as Chair of the APLAC Technical Committee, and is active on the ILAC Accreditation Issues Committee (IAC), the ILAC Proficiency Testing Working Group (PTWG) and the ILAC/World Anti-Doping Association (WADA) Accreditation Committee. Rob Miller, A2LA Accreditation Manager, is a member of the IAF Technical Committee (TC), IAF MLA Committee (MLAC), IAF Management Committee (MLA MC), IAF/ILAC Joint Management Committee (JMC), IAAC Laboratory Subcommittee (LSC), IAAC Certification Body Subcommittee (CBSC) and IAAC Inspection Body Subcommittee (IBSC).
National Activities

Standardization activities in accreditation and conformity assessment remain a high priority for the Association. In addition to its ISO standards activities, A2LA participates on ASTM Committee E36 on Accreditation and Certification. The Committee is involved in accreditation and inspection standardization activities that A2LA considers important to support. A2LA also participates in the ANSI International Conformity Assessment Committee to provide input to the ISO standardization process. Staff members are also involved in numerous ASTM, ANSI and NCSL International committees related to technical and accreditation issues.

A2LA staff’s commitment to serving on these and numerous other committees enables the Association to provide insight on conformity assessment activities, as well as to gain knowledge from the given industry groups. This provides us with a better understanding of the needs of our stakeholders and accredited

Recognition of A2LA Programs

Recognition of A2LA programs includes formal written agreements between A2LA and users of accredited organizations, officially documented endorsements of A2LA programs, and informal acceptance between A2LA and various parties. Below are listed the Federal agencies, State agencies, and private sector parties with whom A2LA had some type of formal written agreement of recognition or documented endorsement in 2013.

- The Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT) formally recognizes A2LA as a laboratory accreditation body working in cooperation with the EPA National Lead (Pb) Laboratory Accreditation Program (NLLAP) to accredit lead (Pb) testing laboratories. Laboratories seeking to be listed on the NLLAP approved list must comply with the additional Environmental Lead (Pb) Program Requirements.

- The EPA has released the ENERGY STAR for Computers Verification and Testing Guidelines and Procedures Manual Version 1.0. This document contains the specific verification testing guidelines and procedures for conducting product testing of computers. According to the document, in order to conduct verification testing to determine whether the computer products meet the ENERGY STAR Program Requirements for Computers Version 5.0, laboratories must be accredited to ISO/IEC 17025. The accreditation body must be a signatory to an internationally-recognized mutual recognition arrangement (MRA) such as ILAC. As A2LA is a full member signatory of the ILAC MRA, A2LA meets the EPA requirement for accrediting bodies.

- A2LA is recognized by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as an accreditation body for product certification bodies wishing to certify products for the EPA ENERGY STAR Program, as well as being recognized as an accreditation body for testing laboratories wishing to test products for this program. In January 2011, the EPA implemented a major overhaul to the ENERGY STAR program, and began requiring third-party certification of all products which were to receive the ENERGY STAR mark. Certification bodies wishing to be recognized by the EPA are required to gain and maintain accreditation to ISO/IEC Guide 65 or 17065 from an IAF MLA signatory accreditation body located in North America. Testing laboratories wishing to be recognized for product testing services must either hold accreditation to
ISO/IEC 17025:2005 through a recognized accreditation body, or be part of a recognized certification body’s Witnessed Manufacturer’s Test Lab (WMTL) or Supervised Manufacturer's Test Lab (SMTL) program. A2LA is one of a select few accreditation bodies recognized to offer product certification accreditation for the ENERGY STAR program, and is the only American accreditation body which can offer testing (ISO/IEC 17025) and product certification (ISO/IEC Guide 65 or 17065) assessments in a single source setting.

- The EPA requires all products bearing the WaterSense label to be independently certified by a certification body who has been accredited by one of the approved accreditation bodies, of which A2LA is one. This certification provides consumers with confidence in both the water efficiency and performance of WaterSense labeled products.


- The U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requires that manufacturers and suppliers of certain electrical equipment, who intend to use a “Declaration of Conformity” (DoC) on their products, must have the products tested by an accredited Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) laboratory. Examples of devices subject to DoC include, but are not limited to Class B personal computers and peripherals; CB receivers; super-regenerative receivers, and TV interface devices. A2LA is one of the approved accreditation bodies under this program. Laboratories seeking to be accepted by the FCC by virtue of their A2LA Electrical (EMC) accreditation must also meet the technical requirements contained in 47 CFR (FCC) Parts 2, 15 & 18.

- A2LA has been approved to offer ISO/IEC 17020 assessment and accreditation to Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP) Third Party Accreditation Organizations (3PAOs) under the FedRAMP Concept of Operations (CONOPS).

- The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) has published a Federal Specification for the Star-of-Life Ambulances, KKK-A-1822F Change Notice 3. Section 4 of this specification now states that the first production vehicle shall be tested and certified to KKK-A-1822F by an independent testing lab approved by the Government. Approval criteria for the independent testing lab include accreditation by an ILAC MRA signatory (such as A2LA).

- The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has formally recognized A2LA as competent to accredit testing laboratories to meet the technical requirements for acceptance by European Union Member State Governments under the EMC Annex of the U.S. - EU Mutual Recognition Agreement. NIST has also recognized A2LA as an authorized body under the provisions of Phase I of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) MRA.

- The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has formally recognized A2LA as competent to accredit product certification bodies for telecommunication equipment. The scope of recognition includes:


  b. Canada: Industry Canada (IC) requirements as described in CB-02, CB-03, and REC-CB documents under APEC TEL MRA Phase II.
c. Singapore: Info-communications Development Authority (IDA) requirements as described in IDA MRA REC SCHEME document under APEC TEL MRA Phase II.
d. Hong Kong: Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) requirements as described in the OFCA 421 (12) Hong Kong Telecommunications Equipment Evaluation and Certification (HKTEC) Scheme document under APEC TEL MRA Phase II.
e. Japan: Telecommunication Business Act and Radio Law (MIC) under US-Japan MRA.

- The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has recognized A2LA to accredit testing laboratories under the USGv6 Test Program. This program requires that laboratories performing testing of Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6) products for use in the United States government be accredited by an ILAC MRA signatory, such as A2LA.
- The NELAC Institute (TNI) has recognized A2LA as a proficiency testing provider accreditor (PTPA). By virtue of this recognition, A2LA is able to conduct assessments to the stringent TNI requirements and offer accreditation that covers all of the TNI fields of proficiency testing.
- The Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, in a letter and attached safety evaluation report (SER) issued to the Arizona Public Service Company, approved a requested change to the quality assurance (QA) program of the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station Units 1, 2 and 3. The change provides for acceptance of A2LA accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 as a means of qualifying calibration laboratories to provide commercial-grade calibration services to the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station. The accreditation process is accepted in lieu of a supplier audit, commercial-grade survey, or in-process surveillance.
- The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) published notices in the Federal Register regarding accreditation requirements for third party laboratories that are testing in conformance with the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) of 2008 for lead in paint, cribs, pacifiers, small parts, and children’s jewelry. According to these publications and the CPSIA, all products currently subject to the lead in paint regulation at 16 CFR 1303, all cribs subject either to 16 CFR 1508 or 1509, all pacifiers subject to 16 CFR 1511, small parts subject to 16 CFR 1501, and children’s jewelry subject to the 600 ppm and 300 ppm lead content limits, must be tested by a laboratory accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 by an accreditation body (such as A2LA) who is a signatory to the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (ILAC MRA).
- The U.S. Navy has placed wording within their NAVAIRINST 2400.20 Instruction to ensure that MIL-STD-461 Electromagnetic Interference (EMI) qualification testing is conducted by public or private laboratories accredited to ISO/IEC 17025. The instruction further specifies that the accreditation of such a testing laboratory shall be issued by an accreditation body operating in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011 and shall be an ILAC MRA signatory (such as A2LA).
- The U.S. Navy has entered into a Navy Calibration Cooperative Agreement with A2LA. Under this agreement, the Navy approves and accepts accreditations from calibration laboratory accreditation bodies headquartered in the U.S. and recognized by a laboratory accreditation cooperation such as APLAC and ILAC. A2LA is recognized by and is a signatory to both APLAC and ILAC.
- The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) relies on the ILAC MRA to implement the DoD ELAP laboratory accreditations. A2LA has been recognized by the DoD ELAP to provide accreditation for environmental testing laboratories that perform testing in support of the DoD environmental restoration programs at DoD operations, activities, installations, including government-owned, contractor-operated facilities and formerly-used defense sites (FUDS).
- The U.S. Coast Guard has developed criteria to be used by its Life Saving & Fire Safety Division for the acceptance of independent laboratories that conduct initial and follow-up testing of lifesaving and fire protection equipment and materials that require Coast Guard approval. ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation from an accreditation body who is a full member of ILAC (such as A2LA) is required for acceptance of testing under the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Fire Test Procedure (FTP) Code.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS): Under specific requirements based upon the European Union’s Regulation (EC) 1774/2002, pet food production facilities must be approved by APHIS. APHIS is now approving laboratories based upon their A2LA accreditation. As a result, test reports required to be submitted in EU pre-inspection packages or with EU certificates may come from laboratories accredited by A2LA.
**California**

The Structural Materials Testing Branch of the Office of Structural Materials for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has issued on September 15, 2011 qualification requirements for independent testing laboratories that perform testing on reinforcement splicing for Caltrans. One of these requirements is that such testing labs be accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 for specific tests.

**Florida**

The State of Florida Building Commission has formally recognized A2LA accredited laboratories as meeting the requirements for testing laboratories that conduct tests on products related to its system for product approval under Florida building code. The system is meant to ensure that safe products and technologies are used in building construction and also to encourage new products and technologies that can increase safety or meet safety requirements through less expensive means. Criteria has been established for approval of public and private entities that test, evaluate and certify panel walls, exterior doors, roofing products, skylights, windows, shutters and structural components as well as new and innovative building products. This approval may be obtained through either local jurisdictions for local approvals or the Florida Building Commission for statewide approval.

**Illinois**

The State of Illinois Green Governments Coordinating Council, in its Guidelines and Specifications for the Green Cleaning School Act (105 ILCS 140), states that schools may procure and use non-pre-qualified cleaning supplies as long as the manufacturer or distributor of those supplies provides qualification of environmental sensitivity by providing the Council with independent documentation verifying that the products meet the criteria of at least one of the Green Seal standards or EcoLogo standards. The verification must come in the form of testing data provided by one or more independent third-party laboratories that are accredited to ISO/IEC 17025.

**Kentucky**

Under Kentucky statute KRS 224.60-130(2)(a), the Office of the Petroleum Storage Tank Environmental Assurance Fund has established criteria to accredit laboratories that contract with owners or operators of underground storage tanks (UST) to perform analytical testing related to Kentucky’s underground storage tank program. All UST owners and operators are required to have certain types of analytical testing performed at an A2LA accredited laboratory to be eligible for Fund participation, pursuant to statute 415 KAR 1:140. This program covers certain parameters and methods as noted in the specific program requirements and falls under A2LA’s Environmental program.

**Maryland**

The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) and the Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) recognizes A2LA as a deemed accreditation body under the State of Maryland in accordance with the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) Title 10, Subtitle 51 Forensic Laboratories. ([http://dhmh.maryland.gov/ohcq/ForLabs/default.aspx](http://dhmh.maryland.gov/ohcq/ForLabs/default.aspx)) As a deemed accreditation body by the DHMH, forensic laboratories that are regulated under the Maryland Forensic Regulations can seek out accreditation services from A2LA and/or continue using A2LA as an accreditation body.

**Maryland - State Fire Marshall**

The State of Maryland, Department of State Police, Office of the State Fire Marshall has recognized A2LA as an accreditation body for accrediting testing laboratories that perform work for the State of Maryland.

**Minnesota**

On October 1, 2013, the Minnesota Department of Health published an approved list of assessment organizations for their Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program. A2LA is included on this list of approved assessment organizations.

**New Mexico**

A formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes an agreement between the New Mexico Environment Department and A2LA whereby the State of New Mexico will certify laboratories to perform compliance testing for drinking water samples based on the laboratories’ A2LA accreditation.
**Nevada (Clark County)**
The Department of Development Services, Building Division of Clark County, NV has recognized A2LA’s program for accrediting Special Inspection bodies. Special Inspections entail the monitoring of certain critical aspects of building construction as defined in Chapter 17 of the International Building Code (IBC). The Clark County Department of Development Services, Building Division then amplifies the requirements through technical bulletins and the Building Administrative Code (BAC). Clark County also requires special inspection agencies doing business within its jurisdiction to be accredited by an approved, nationally recognized accrediting body, such as A2LA.

**New York (New York City Department of Buildings)**
The New York City Department of Buildings has recognized A2LA’s program for accrediting Special Inspection bodies, as detailed on their website. Special Inspections entail the monitoring of certain critical aspects of building construction as defined in Chapter 17 of the International Building Code (IBC). The NYC Department of Buildings also has specific technical requirements which form part of A2LA’s accreditation program in this area.

**North Carolina**
Under North Carolina Article 4, Chapter 114.16.1, formally referred to as “The Forensic Sciences Act of 2011,” the general assembly of North Carolina has established criteria for the admissibility of forensic analysis as evidence in courts of law. A forensic analysis, to be admissible in accordance with these requirements, shall be performed by a laboratory that is accredited by an accrediting body that requires conformance to forensic specific requirements and which is a signatory to the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Testing.

**Texas**
The Texas Department of Health now recognizes accreditations granted by A2LA to laboratories performing preparation and analysis of mold associated with mold-related activities that affect indoor air quality. A2LA has been identified by the Texas Department of Public Safety and Corrections as a “Recognized Accreditation Body” for the accreditation of laboratories performing forensic analysis of physical evidence for use in a criminal proceeding in accordance with Texas Administrative Code Title 37, Part 1, Chapter 28, Subchapter 1 - Accreditation.

**City of Houston**
In Standard General Requirement Section 01454, the City of Houston specifies that laboratories testing to the latest issues of ASTM standards, TxDOT methods or other recognized test standards must be accredited by A2LA.

**Harris County, Texas**
The Harris County Public Infrastructure Department, Engineering Division has published its “Regulations of Harris County, Texas for the Approval and Acceptance of Infrastructure”, which specifies in Section 2 that laboratories accredited by A2LA in the field of construction materials testing are acceptable for the purposes of meeting the published regulations.

**Port of Houston Authority (POH) (Houston, TX)**
The POH “Contract for Construction Materials Engineering Testing and Inspection Services” requires testing and inspection laboratories that perform geotechnical services under this contract to be accredited by A2LA.
Washington

Wyoming
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division (WDEQ/WQD) Leaking Aboveground and Underground Storage Tank (LAUST) Program Policy Number 35 requires that laboratories performing work for the program must be A2LA accredited under the “Wyoming LAUST Remediation Program”. The scope of the program covers specific EPA methods for laboratories that are registered with the State of Wyoming and authorized to do business in Wyoming. To be certified by the LAUST Remediation Program to perform analytical testing related to the program, laboratories must provide evidence of their current accreditation from A2LA to the WDEQ/WQD.

Automotive Industry
A2LA’s Calibration Accreditation Program has been recognized within TS 16949 (Section 7.6.3) as one option that commercial and independent calibration facilities serving the automotive industry can select in order to satisfy the portion of Clause 4.11.2.b.1 which requires accreditation of calibration facilities serving the automotive industry.

United States Golf Association
A2LA’s Putting Green Materials Testing Program for soils and turf is formally recognized by the United States Golf Association (USGA).

Safety Equipment Institute (SEI)
SEI administers third-party certification programs to test and certify a broad range of safety and protective products. Safety and protective products certified by SEI must periodically undergo compliance testing to specified standards at independent testing laboratories that have been evaluated and awarded contracts by the SEI Board of Directors. In an effort to minimize redundant assessments, SEI has agreed to rely on the laboratories’ A2LA assessments in place of SEI evaluations. The agreement between A2LA and SEI was signed on May 7, 2002. SEI is accredited to ISO/IEC Guide 65: 1996 by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the Standards Council of Canada (SCC).

Bluetooth
A2LA has signed an MOU with the Bluetooth Special Interest Group (SIG). Bluetooth has established a Qualification Program to test and qualify products using Bluetooth wireless technology to be certified as Bluetooth compliant pursuant to the specifications for such Products as determined by Bluetooth. As part of the Qualification Program and according to the Bluetooth Qualification Program Reference Document, the Bluetooth Qualification Review Board (BQRB) administers the recognition of facilities as Bluetooth Qualification Test Facilities (BQTF’s), based on accreditation by A2LA. Laboratories seeking to be recognized under this program in the Electrical field of testing must meet the additional program requirements of the Bluetooth SIG.

Cellular Telephone and Internet Association (CTIA)
A2LA is recognized by the Cellular Telephone and Internet Association (CTIA) to provide laboratory accreditation services in support of CTIA’s certification program to verify conformance of wireless products to established industry standards.

Gaming Standards Association (GSA)
GSA recognizes A2LA as qualified to accredit laboratories to perform GSA standards conformance testing. Labs participating in the GSA Certification Program must be ISO/IEC 17025 accredited by an accreditation body (such as A2LA) that meets the requirements detailed in the GSA Certification Program Guide.

Aerospace Industry
- Boeing: Boeing’s document, D1-4426 (Updated June 4, 2013) under the heading “Exceptions When NADCAP Accreditation is Not Required” (http://www.boeingsuppliers.com/d14426/) states: “NADCAP accreditation for MTL is not required for companies holding ILAC recognized accreditations for the applicable test methods.”
- General Electric (GE): With the incorporation of ISO/IEC 17025 in S-400 (revision date October 15, 2012), GE allows more flexibility in the approval process. In accordance with GE S400, section 2.2.7, subsequent to initial approval by GE, a laboratory can get recertified for GE work by (1) GE Aviation audit, (2) ILAC ISO 17025 audit, (3) Nadcap AS7003 audit, (4) GE-AIRBUS-SAFRAN audit to SAFRAN Referee Document Agreement, PTL0082.
- United Technologies Corporation (UTC): UTC and its member organizations (Hamilton Sundstrand, Pratt & Whitney, Pratt & Whitney Canada, and Sikorsky Aircraft) specify A2LA through the Aerospace Supplier Quality Requirements. Aerospace Supplier Quality Requirements, ASQR-01, Revision 8 states in section 7.5.2 that “Nadcap accreditation is not required for materials testing laboratories with American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA).”
**ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers)**
The 2007 ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code III, Subsection NCA: General Requirements for Division 1 and Division 2 – Rules for Construction of Nuclear Facility Components specifies the acceptance of accreditation by A2LA or other ILAC MRA signatories for calibration laboratories.

**Racing Medication & Testing Consortium (RMTC)**
The RMTC has specified in its “Laboratory Accreditation Requirements and Operating Standards”, Version 2.1, January 2011 that laboratories seeking to become recognized under their program must be accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 by an accreditation body that is a full signatory to the ILAC MRA (such as A2LA).

**World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)**
WADA, in its January 2009 World Anti-Doping Code International Standard for Laboratories, requires laboratories to be accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 by an accreditation body that is a signatory to the ILAC MRA (such as A2LA) using assessors trained and qualified by WADA.

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**Board of Directors**

The Association is managed by its Board of Directors (BOD). The 2013 Officers and BOD included (as of December 31, 2013):

**Executive Committee:**
- **CHAIRMAN:** Michael Kesselmayer, Professional Service Industries, Inc.
- **PAST CHAIRMAN:** Woodward Vogt, Paradigm Consultants, Inc.
- **FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN:** Robert Whitehead, ChemWare, Inc.
- **SECOND VICE CHAIRMAN:** David Fischer, Fischer Custom Communications, Inc.
- **SECRETARY:** Dilip Shah, E=MC3 Solutions
- **TREASURER:** Samuel Sparks, Consultant
- **CHAIRMAN, CRITERIA COUNCIL:** Timothy Osborne, Trescal, Inc.
- **CHAIRMAN, ACCREDITATION COUNCIL:** Alex Klein, ArcelorMittal – Indiana Harbor

**Members:**
- Helga Alexander, Southern Research Institute
- Edward Colbert, Bayer MaterialScience, LLC
- David Evanson, Evanson Microbiological Services
- John Fitzpatrick, APR Energy
- Arlene Fox, AOAC International
- Paul Moliski, Intertek
- Judith Morgan, Environmental Science Corporation
- James Nokes, Microbac
- R. Dan Reid, Consultant
- George Riley, Consulting Forensic Scientist
- Adam Schlosser, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Center for Global Regulatory Cooperation

**Liaison Members of the Board:**
- Francis Azzarto, General Electric Aircraft Engines
- Tim Brooke, ASTM International
- Charles Pixley, USDA FSIS LQAD
- George Salem, FDA

**Counsel:**
- James Hostetler, Law Office of Jim Hostetler
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Jennifer Njuki, Accreditation Officer
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Vincent Pugh, Accreditation Officer
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Lauren Smith, Accreditation Officer II
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Marie Wright, Accounts Payable Specialist
(301 644 3211, mwright@A2LA.org)
Accreditation Council

The Accreditation Council (AC) is appointed by the President/CEO and, at the end of the year, consisted of 158 people. This Council reviews and takes final action, subject to the rights to appeal otherwise provided for in the Bylaws, on accreditation applications to the Association or to revoke accreditation once granted. All decisions relating to accreditation or revoking accreditation must be approved by 2/3 of those voting on the Accreditation Council. Generally, at least two affirmative ballots (with no unresolved negative ballots) of the three ballots distributed must be received before accreditation can be granted. If three or more AC members are required in order to ensure a full review of the organization’s activities, (re)accreditation may not be granted until all of these votes have been received and any negative votes resolved. At the end of 2013, the Accreditation Council members included:

Chairman: Alex Klein, ArcelorMittal

Vice Chairman: Stephen L. Kaiser, Consultant

Members:
Mohamed Abdalla, Consultant
John Adams, Consultant
James Agin, Q Laboratories, Inc.
Qussay Albakri, Consultant
Helga Alexander, Southern Research Institute
Robert Audette, Audette Consulting
Susan Audino, Maryland Department of Agriculture
John Ball, JBC-Alabama
Nathan Belsher, Consultant
Gary Bennett, National Instruments
Andrew Blackwood, Ph.D., Structure Probe, Inc.
Chuck Blank, Consultant
Dennis Bloom, Airgas Merchant Gas
Peter Boers, Consultant
Mary Boeselager, Quality Management Systems, LLC
Sandra Bohlen, Baltimore Police Department
Constantin Bolintineanu, DSC Testing Laboratory
Michael Bosley, Consultant
Sabra Botch-Jones, FTox Consulting, LLC
Robert Bredt, Consultant
Tiffany Brigner, Colorado Department of Agriculture
Aaron Brudenell, Consultant
TinaBuffington, USDA APHIS NVSL
AdaHensley, Fisher BioServices

Shuya Chang, Ph.D., ExxonMobil Chemical
Justing Cheng, Q-Lab Inc.

David Fall, Covance Laboratories Inc.
Charles Fallon, Consultant
Marianne Farallo, Consultant
Charles Ferrer, Consultant
Fred Fetterolf, FETCO NDE Services
Daniel Fritz, FXI
Siu Lin Fung, Consultant
Tessie Gamber, Consultant
Marcia Garcia, AABB (American Association of Blood Banks)
Michael Gentry, The Quality Consulting Group
Bruce George, Tyson Fresh Meats
Mark Gerfin, Consultant
Raimundo Gil, Consultant
Craig Glunt, Battelle Memorial Institute
Gregory Gogates, Fasor Technical Services, Inc.
Anne Gray, Consultant
George Grigonis, Consultant
Kathryn Gumpper, ChemVal Consulting, Inc.
Bradley Harper, U.S. Army
Karl Haynes, Electro Rent Corporation

David Evansan, EVANSON Microbiological Services
Darla Ewalt, Consultant
Edward Ewing, Kettering Memorial Health System

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Accreditation Council, continued

Brenda Jackson, North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Stephen Kaiser, Consultant
Paul Keep, Keep Metrology Services
Marc Kelemen, NanoSynopsis, LLC
Joseph Kellum, Consultant
Jeff Kelly, ICL Calibration Laboratories, Inc.
John Kinsella, Kinsella & Kinsella
Alex Klein, ArcelorMittal – Indiana Harbor
Eugene Kleta, UL LLC
John Knicely, Consultant
Keith Kokal, Micro Laboratories Inc.
Doug Kramer, Kramer & Associates
Christopher Krug, Johnson County Sheriff Office/ Criminalistics Laboratory
Ray Lafferty, Consultant
Robert Lambert, Consultant
Brian Lee, Anritsu Company
Walt Lehman, Diamond Technical Services
Doug Lentz, Consultant
Jeffrey Lewis, ATF/Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Billy Liu, QST International
Xin Liu, Division of Laboratory Systems, CDC
David Lorenzen, Consultant
Steli Loznen, Consultant
Cathy Mansfield, Applied Technical Services, Inc.
Michael Masciantonio, Bayer Material Science
Shawn Mason, Consultant
Dennis McCully, Consultant
Amy McGuckian, Pamp Beach County Sheriff’s Office
Dawn Mettler, Rockbridge Laboratory Services
Lon Miles, Consultant
David Miller, Consultant
Charles Mlodzik, Consultant
John Murphy, Consultant
Benoit Nadeau, Consultant
Robert Nichol, TUV Rheinland Industrial Solutions, Inc.
Janet Norris, JTN Consulting
Evangelos Ntrivalas, Foundation for Blood Research
Mona Ostrander, Consultant
Biren Patel, ArcelorMittal Steel Inc.
Heidi Phillips, Colorado Department of Agriculture
James Platte, Consultant
Philip Poston, Poston Consulting, LLC
Thomas Powis, Broadview Instrumentation Services
Larry Presley, Consultant
George Purvis, Ninyo & Moore
Barr Quinlan, Consultant
Bradley Rauch, Consultant
Jerry Reed, Consultant
Joseph Reisinger, Consultant
George Riley, Consulting Forensic Scientist
Pat Royal, Quality Systems Consultants, Inc.
Markus Ruefenacht, Heusser Neweigh
Ronald Ryniewicz, Consultant
Adeniyi Salam, Consultant
Christopher Sandlin, Sandlin Consulting
Charles Schaefer, Consultant
Werner Schaefer, Schaefer Associates
Raymond Schiltz, Jr., E-Matters, Inc.
Jordan Shaw, Eurofins Microbiology Laboratories, Inc.
Richard Sheibley, Consultant
Dan Sigoun, Consultant
Thomas Smith, Consultant
Bradley Stawick, Microbac Laboratories, Inc.
Steven Steiro, Consultant
David Sugiyama, City of Tulsa Police Department
Brent Summerville, Small Wind Certification Council
Yi-Wei Tang, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
Harry Taylor, Administrative Consultants Pathology
Daniel Tholen, Dan Tholen Statistical Consulting
Prashant Umare, Consultant
Lorena Villarreal, Laboratorio LASA
John Vurpillat, Consultant
David Waitt, Consultant
Lisa Walters, Healthy Solutions Quality Consulting
Ilka Warshawsky, Consultant
Sheryl Whitlock, University of Delaware
Bryan Wilkerson, Dynamic Technology
Gene Zerlaut, SC-International Inc.
David Zimmerman, Spectrum EMC Consulting, LLC
Niel Zuern, Consultant
Criteria Council

The Criteria Council is appointed by the President/CEO and includes at least one person having particular expertise or qualifications for each field of testing/calibration in which the Association is offering accreditation. The Council defines the fields of testing/calibration in which the Association grants accreditation and approves general and specific criteria for each of the fields of testing. The 2013 Criteria Council members included:

Chairman: Timothy Osborne, Trescal, Inc
Members:
Robert Audette, Audette Consulting
Kelly Black, Neptune and Company, Inc.
Constantin Bolintineanu, DSC Testing Laboratory
Cathy Burns, Food and Drug Administration
Gary Cornell, Consultant
Tuan Dang, Global Tungsten & Powders Corp.
David Deaver, Consultant
Tom Doggart, Nomad Metallurgy, LLC
Howard Elbaum, Consultant
Arlene Fox, AOAC International
Charles Gortakowski, Consultant
Jeff Gust, Fluke Corporation

Vice Chairman: Niel Zuern, Consultant
Members:
Michelle Hoppenrath, Silliker Inc., Crete – Analytical
Klaus Jaeger, Jaeger Enterprises
William Kavanagh, Consultant
Alex Klein, ArcelorMittal – Indiana Harbor
Robert Lambert, Consultant
Albert Liabastre, Consultant
Dawn Mettler, Rockbridge Laboratory Services
Deborah Miller, Consultant
Mitzi Miller, Dade Moeller & Associates
Biren Patel, ArcelorMittal Steel Inc.
Charles Pixley, USDA FSIS LQAD
George Riley, Consultant
Nirmal Saini, Center for Analytical Chemistry,
California Department of Food & Agriculture
Werner Schaefer, Schaefer Associates
Tom Smith, Virtual Metrology Inc.
Bradley Stawick, Microbac Laboratories, Inc.
Kenneth Stoub, Group Seven Laboratory
Services, Inc.
Daniel Tholen, Dan Tholen Statistical Consulting
Prashant Umare, Consultant
John Vurpillat, JFV Consulting Corp
David Waitt, Consultant

Membership in the Association

As of December 31, 2013, the membership in the Association was as follows:

Honorary Members ......................................................... 8
AC Honorary Members .................................................... 160
Individual Members ......................................................... 90
Institutional Members ....................................................... 14
Organizational Members .................................................... 348

TOTAL MEMBERS: ......................................................... 620
Financial Summary

A comparison of the total revenue and support plus investment income less expenses resulting in a change in net assets (in $000s) for the years ended at December 31st since 2004 is shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue &amp; Support *</td>
<td>$13,424</td>
<td>$12,487</td>
<td>$11,225</td>
<td>$11,005</td>
<td>$10,338</td>
<td>$9,074</td>
<td>$8,599</td>
<td>$8,780</td>
<td>$7,939</td>
<td>$7,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expense</td>
<td>$13,017</td>
<td>$12,129</td>
<td>$10,999</td>
<td>$10,541</td>
<td>$9,749</td>
<td>$9,688</td>
<td>$8,746</td>
<td>$8,486</td>
<td>$7,678</td>
<td>$7,218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
<td>$407</td>
<td>$358</td>
<td>$226</td>
<td>$464</td>
<td>$589</td>
<td>$(614)</td>
<td>$(147)</td>
<td>$294</td>
<td>$261</td>
<td>$577</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Includes investment income and losses.
On November 2, 2000, A2LA signed the mutual recognition arrangement with the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC). The Arrangement was signed in Washington, D.C. at the General Assembly of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and entered into force on January 31, 2001. More than 30 accreditation bodies from 26 economies signed the arrangements. Since then, additional accreditation bodies have become signatories.

A cornerstone of the ILAC MRA is the utilization of existing or developing regional arrangements established in the Americas (IAAC), the Asia-Pacific region (APLAC), Europe (EA) and Southern Africa. The bodies participating in these regional arrangements are responsible for maintaining the necessary confidence in the competence of their member accreditation bodies that are signatories to the new ILAC Arrangement.

By signing the ILAC MRA, the signatory accreditation bodies commit to promoting acceptance of the test reports/calibration reports issued by the laboratories accredited by the signatory accreditation bodies.

Signatories to the ILAC MRA (as well as their Scope of Recognition) as of April 24, 2014 include:

- OAA – Argentina (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- NATA - Australia (testing, calibration, inspection)
- JAS-ANZ – Australia/New Zealand (inspection)
- AA - Austria (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- BELAC - Belgium (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- BATA – Bosnia and Herzegovina (testing, calibration, inspection)
- CGCRE - Brazil (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- CALA - Canada (testing)
- QMP-LS – Canada (ISO 15189)
- SCC – Canada (testing, ISO 15189, calibration)
- INN - Chile (testing, ISO 15189, calibration)
- CNAS – People’s Republic of China (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- HKAS – China, Hong Kong (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- QNAC – Colombia (testing, calibration)
- ECA – Costa Rica (testing, calibration, inspection)
- HAA – Croatia (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- ONARC - Cuba (testing, calibration)
- CYS-CYSAB - Cyprus (testing, ISO 15189)
- CAI – Czech Republic (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- DANAK - Denmark (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- OAE - Ecuador (testing, calibration, inspection)
- EGAC - Egypt (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- FINAS - Finland (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- COFRAC - France (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- DAkkS - Germany (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- ESYD - Greece (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- OGA - Guatemala (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- NAT - Hungary (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- NABL - India (testing, ISO 15189, calibration)
- NABCB – India (inspection)
- KAN - Indonesia (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- INAB - Ireland (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- ISRAC – Israel (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- ACCREDIA – Italy (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- JANAAC – Jamaica (testing)
- JAB - Japan (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- IAJapan - Japan (testing, calibration)
- VLAC - Japan (testing)
- NCA – Kazakhstan (testing, calibration)
- KOLAS – Republic of Korea (testing, calibration)
- KCA – Kyrgyz (testing)
- OLAS - Luxembourg (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- Standards Malaysia - Malaysia (testing, ISO 15189, calibration)
- ema - Mexico (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- MNAS – Mongolia (testing, calibration)
- RVa – The Netherlands (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- ITANZ – New Zealand (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- NA - Norway (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- PNAC - Pakistan (testing, calibration)
- PNGLAS – Papua New Guinea (testing)
- ONA – Paraguay (testing)
- INDECOPI-SNA – Peru (testing, calibration, inspection)
- PAO - Philippines (testing, calibration)
- PCA - Poland (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- IPAC - Portugal (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- RENAR - Romania (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- AAC Analitica – Russian Federation (testing)
- ATS – Serbia (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- SAC - Singapore (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- SNAS - Slovakia (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- SA - Slovenia (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- SANAS – South Africa (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- ENAC - Spain (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- SLAB – Sri Lanka (testing, ISO 15189, calibration)
- SWEDAC - Sweden (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- SAS - Switzerland (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- TAF – Chinese Taipei (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- BLA-DSS – Thailand (testing)
- BLQS-DMSc – Thailand (testing, ISO 15189)
- NSC-ONAC - Thailand (testing, calibration, inspection)
- IARM – The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (testing, calibration, inspection)
- TUNAC - Tunisia (testing, ISO 15189, calibration)
- TURKAK - Turkey (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- DAC – United Arab Emirates (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- UKAS – United Kingdom (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- OUA – Uruguay (testing)
- A2LA - USA (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- ANSI-ASQ dba ACLASS & FQS - USA (testing, calibration, inspection)
- AIHA-LAP LLC - USA (testing)
- ASCLD/LAB - USA (testing)
- IAS - USA (testing, calibration, inspection)
- NVLAP - USA (testing, calibration)
- L-A-B - USA (testing, calibration)
- PJLA - USA (testing, calibration)
- BoA - Vietnam (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)

A2LA staff is able to provide specific details regarding the names and contact information for the accreditation body in a specific country/economy listed above.
On November 19, 1997, A2LA signed the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC) mutual recognition arrangement. The arrangement is intended to facilitate the acceptance of test and calibration data with a number of Asia-Pacific countries whose national accreditation bodies have signed the APLAC arrangement. APLAC promotes the recognition and acceptance in all the signatory countries of certificates and reports issued by organizations accredited by national accreditation bodies that have signed the arrangement.

By signing the arrangement, the signatory accreditation bodies commit to promoting acceptance of the test reports/calibration reports issued by the laboratories accredited by the signatory accreditation bodies. However, accreditation bodies cannot guarantee acceptance by their stakeholders. As such, one of A2LA’s primary functions is to assist A2LA-accredited laboratories in gaining acceptance of their data in the countries of the APLAC arrangement signatories. Likewise, A2LA is committed to helping laboratories accredited by the APLAC arrangement signatories obtain acceptance in the United States.

Through the APLAC MRA evaluation process, a uniform level of competence of the accredited bodies is assured, and the need for multiple assessments is diminished or eliminated. Ideally, a supplier would only need one certificate or report to satisfy the entire Asia-Pacific market and all governments. Signatories to the APLAC MRA (as well as their Scope of Recognition) as of April 24, 2014 include:

- NATA - Australia (testing, calibration, inspection, RMP)
- SCC - Canada (testing, calibration, ISO 15189)
- CALA - Canada (testing)
- QMP-LS – Canada (ISO 15189)
- CNAS - People’s Republic of China (testing, calibration, inspection, ISO 15189, RMP)
- HKAS - Hong Kong China (testing, calibration, ISO 15189, inspection, RMP)
- NABL - India (testing, calibration, ISO 15189)
- NABCB - India (inspection)
- KAN - Indonesia (testing, calibration, Inspection, ISO 15189)
- JAB - Japan (testing, calibration, ISO 15189, inspection)
- IAJapan - Japan (testing, calibration, RMP)
- VLAC - Japan (testing)
- KOLAS - Republic of Korea (testing, calibration)
- Standards Malaysia - Malaysia (testing, calibration, ISO 15189)
- ema - Mexico (testing, calibration, ISO 15189, inspection)
- MNAS – Mongolia (testing, calibration)
- IANZ - New Zealand (testing, calibration, ISO 15189, inspection)
- PNAC – Pakistan (testing, calibration)
- PNGLAS – Papua New Guinea (testing)
- PAO – Philippines (testing, calibration)
- AAC Analitica – Russian Federation (testing, RMP)
- SAC - Singapore (testing, calibration, ISO 15189, inspection)
- SLAB – Sri Lanka (testing, ISO 15189, calibration)
- TAF - Chinese Taipei (testing, calibration, ISO 15189, inspection)
- DMSc - Thailand (testing, ISO 15189)
- DSS - Thailand (testing)
- NSC-ONAC - Thailand (testing, calibration, inspection)
- A2LA - USA (testing, calibration, inspection, RMP, ISO 15189)
- ACLASS - USA (testing, calibration, RMP, inspection)
- IAS - USA (testing, calibration, inspection)
- L-A-B - USA (testing, calibration)
- NVLAP - USA (testing, calibration)
- PJLA - USA (testing, calibration)
- AIHA-LAP, LLC – USA (testing)
- BOA - Vietnam (testing, calibration, Inspection, ISO 15189)
- JAS-ANZ - Australasia (inspection)

A2LA staff is able to provide specific details regarding the names and contact information for the accreditation body in a specific country/economy listed above.
INTERNATIONAL MUTUAL RECOGNITION (IAAC)
The Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC) Multi-Lateral Arrangement (MLA)

On October 24, 2002, A2LA, INMETRO (Brazil) and SCC (Canada) signed the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC) multi-lateral arrangement. The IAAC is an association of accreditation bodies and other organizations interested in conformity assessment in the Americas.

Signatories to the IAAC MLA (as well as their Scope of Recognition) as of April 24, 2014, include:

- OAA – Argentina (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, product certification)
- CGCRE – Brazil (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection, product certification)
- SCC – Canada (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, product certification)
- INN – Chile (testing, ISO 15189, calibration)
- ECA – Costa Rica (testing, calibration, inspection, product certification)
- ONAC – Colombia (testing, calibration)
- ONAC – Costa Rica (testing, calibration, inspection, product certification)
- ONARC – Cuba (testing, calibration)
- OAE – Ecuador (testing, calibration, inspection, product certification)
- OGA – Guatemala (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection)
- JANAAC – Jamaica (testing)
- ema – Mexico (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection, product certification)
- ONA – Paraguay (testing, inspection, product certification)
- INDECOPI-SNA – Peru (testing, calibration, inspection, product certification)
- A2LA – USA (testing, ISO 15189, calibration, inspection, product certification)
- AIHA-LAP – USA (testing)
- ANSI-ASQ dba ACLASS and dba FQS – USA (testing, calibration, inspection)
- ASCLD/LAB – USA (testing)
- NVLAP – USA (testing, calibration)
- OUA – Uruguay (testing)

By signing the arrangement, all organizations listed agree to formally recognize and promote the equivalency of each other’s accreditations.
International Accreditation Forum (IAF)

The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) Multi-Lateral Arrangement (MLA)

The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) is an association of accreditation bodies interested in conformity assessment in the fields of management systems, products, services, personnel and other similar programs. A2LA is a signatory to the IAF Multilateral Arrangement (IAF MLA) as of May 16, 2011 for the main scope, Product Certification. Accreditation body members of IAF are admitted to the IAF MLA only after a stringent evaluation of their operations by a peer evaluation team which is responsible for ensuring that the applicant member complies fully with both international standards and IAF requirements. The primary function of the MLA is to develop a single worldwide program of conformity assessment which reduces risk for business and its customers by assuring them that accredited certificates may be relied upon.

As of April 24, 2014 signatories to the IAF MLA for product certification are:

- A2LA - USA
- AA - Austria
- ACCREDIA - Italy
- ANSI - USA
- ATS - Serbia
- BELAC - Belgium
- BoA - Vietnam
- CAI - Czech Republic
- CGCRE - Brazil
- CNAS - China
- COFRAC - France
- DANAK - Denmark
- DAkkS - Germany
- ECA - Costa Rica
- ema - Mexico
- ENAC - Spain
- ESYD - Greece
- FINAS - Finland
- HKAS - China
- IAJAPAN - Japan
- IAS - USA
- INAB - Ireland
- INDECOPI - Peru
- IPAC - Portugal
- JAB - Japan
- JAS-ANZ - Australia & New Zealand
- KAN - Indonesia
- KAS - Korea
- NA - Norway
- NABCB - India
- NAT - Hungary
- NCA - Kazakhstan
- NSC - Thailand
- OAA - Argentina
- OAE - Ecuador
- OLAS - Luxembourg
- PCA - Poland
- RENAR - Romania
- SAC - Singapore
- SNAS - South Africa
- SAS - Switzerland
- SCC - Canada
- SNAS - Slovakia
- Standards Malaysia - Malaysia
- SWEDAC - Sweden
- TAF - Chinese Taipei
- TURKAK - Turkey
- UKAS - United Kingdom

By signing the arrangement, all organizations listed agree to formally recognize and promote the equivalency of each other’s conformity assessment activities.