

	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation	
	P108 – Technical Consensus Decisions from the Materials Testing Advisory Committee (MTAC)	Document Revised: February 22, 2012
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MTAC - A Summary of Critical Decisions

This document has been created and reviewed by the A2LA Materials Testing Advisory Committee (MTAC). It provides a summary of consensus decisions voted on and approved by the Materials Testing Advisory Committee and A2LA Criteria Council for use by laboratories and assessors.

I. Traceability Decisions

- a. Density Beads – PT results may be accepted in lieu of traceability for density beads as long as the laboratory participates in available commercial PT annually. This exception is applicable to the following testing:

Density of Plastics - Gradient Column Method
ASTM D1505
ISO 1183-2

- b. Severn Engineering Instrumentation – Upon review it has been determined that the calibration of Severn Engineering Instrumentation including the Ferrite Indicator, Type I or II, and Low-Mu Permeability Indicator is traceable to an NMI, NIST.

Due to this all laboratories using such equipment must request an exception to the A2LA Traceability Policy, P102. If an exception is not granted by A2LA prior to an assessment, assessors are instructed to write a deficiency to A2LA traceability policy P102 section T1 which states that the laboratory must use accredited calibration providers.

However, laboratories requesting an exception will not be required to submit evidence that they have looked for an accredited provider or evidence of traceability to the SI. When requesting an exception, laboratories are instructed to provide a copy of their calibration certificate from Severn Engineering. This record will be compared to records maintained by A2LA and if needed, follow-up will be requested. This clarification is applicable to the following testing:

Determination of Low Magnetic Permeability
ASTM A342
MIL-I-17214B

Determination of Ferrite Content of Welds
ASTM A799 / A799M-04
ANSI / AWS4.2M / A4.2-2006

II. Requirements for listing SAE Standards on an A2LA Scope of Accreditation:

- a. Application of SAE J81
 - i. Upon review by the Materials Testing Advisory Committee it was determined that the following wordage found in *SAE J81 – Thread Rolling Screws*:

“by other suitable means in any ductility test for thread cutting screws”

be interpreted as meaning ‘any means by which the laboratory can make the required bend is acceptable.’ (Motion 9, MTAC meeting minutes dated 4/2/2011)

III. Requirements for listing ASTM Standards on an A2LA Scope of Accreditation:

- a. Application of ASTM E308
 - i. Upon review by the Materials Testing Advisory Committee it was determined that the following requirements must be met by a CAB in order to list ASTM E308 on their Scope.
 - 1. The laboratory must own a copy of the standard.
 - 2. The laboratory must own, lease or rent a color spectrometer capable of producing a printout of reflectance or transmittance spectra to the resolution needed for the testing they are performing.
 - 3. The laboratory must be able to provide objective evidence demonstrating that their color calculations used the formulae required by ASTM E308.
 - ii. CABs who use ASTM E308 as a reference when performing associated testing, but are unable to perform those tests outlined in the standard, may list ASTM E308 on the bottom of their accredited Scope with a footnote indicating that ASTM E308 is referenced when performing testing, but that the CAB is not accredited to perform ASTM E308 testing.

IV. Requirements for Mechanical and Chemical Scopes of Accreditation

- a. Failure Analysis
 - i. Upon review by the Materials Testing Advisory Committee it was determined that ASM Handbook 11 contained or referred to several test methods that may or may not be employed by a CAB to perform failure analysis. To clarify the full range of capability included as accredited work on a Scope of Accreditation it was determined that Scopes must list ASM Handbook 11 in one of two ways:
 - 1.

<u>Test</u>	<u>Test Method(s)</u>
Failure Analysis	Using the methods listed above in accordance with the AMS Handbook Volume 11



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2.

<u>Test</u>	<u>Test Method(s)</u>
Failure Analysis (Visual Examination, Coating Thickness, Photomicrography)	AMS Handbook Volume 11 (Pages xxx-xxx)

Document Revision History

Date	Description
2/22/12	- Revision of Section II – added title “Requirements for listing SAE Standards on an A2LA Scope of Accreditation” - Addition of Section III – “Requirements for listing ASTM Standards on an A2LA Scope of Accreditation” - Addition of Section IV – Listing AMS Handbook 11 (Failure Analysis) on Scopes of Accreditation