PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

A2LA Will Begin Accepting Applications for Accreditation to ISO/IEC 17065 Beginning March 31st

February 26, 2013, Frederick, MD – A2LA will begin accepting applications for the newly published standard, ISO/IEC 17065:2012, on March 31, 2013. A2LA is implementing this aggressive schedule to allow organizations to become accredited to the new standard as quickly as possible in order to meet any customer or regulatory requirements that may arise.

The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) has required that all Multi-lateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) signatories accredit their Product Certification Bodies (currently accredited to ISO/IEC Guide 65) to ISO/IEC 17065:2012 no later than September 15, 2015. As an IAF MLA signatory, A2LA will adhere to this deadline.

A2LA also understands that some organizations may be required to maintain their current accreditations to ISO/IEC Guide 65 to meet similar customer and regulatory requirements until the mandated transition deadline. As such, A2LA had published an official transition memorandum (R307 – Transition Memorandum to ISO/IEC 17065) outlining their plans for transitioning from ISO/IEC Guide 65 to ISO/IEC 17065:2012. This transition was intended to provide a level of flexibility for all certification bodies interested in accreditation to the new standard.

Additional documents generated in response to the release of this standard are intended to be made publicly available by A2LA no later than February 28, 2013. This information can be found on the A2LA website at www.A2LA.org.

About A2LA

The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) is a non-profit, nongovernmental, public service, membership organization dedicated to operating a nationwide, broad spectrum accreditation system. Accreditation is defined as a formal recognition of competence that an organization can perform specific functions, tests or calibrations. A2LA offers training on and accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025, ISO/IEC 17020, ISO Guide 34, ISO/IEC Guide 65, ISO/IEC 17065, ISO/IEC 17043 and ISO 15189.