

CERTIFICATES OF CALIBRATION

ISSUED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM ACCREDITATION SERVICE

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Page 1 of 1 pages

Reference standards on UKAS accredited calibration certificates

The purpose of this note is to assist accredited laboratories with the discussions they may have with assessors from certification bodies about the content of calibration certificates.

Difficulties sometimes occur because assessors wish to see details of the reference standards used for calibration included on UKAS accredited calibration certificates (ie bearing the NAMAS logo or UKAS calibration mark).

Any calibration laboratory that holds UKAS accreditation has to operate in accordance with UKAS requirements. These requirements apply not only to the calibrations for which the laboratory offers a service, but also to all subsidiary measurements (for example, of environmental conditions) whose accuracy may significantly affect the accuracy or validity of such calibrations.

The laboratory has to have procedures for carrying out the calibrations and for the management and calibration of its reference standards of measurement and other measuring equipment. UKAS accredited laboratories meet the requirements of BS EN ISO 17025 (which replaces EN 45001 and ISO/IEC Guide 25), or the equivalent requirements of the *NAMAS Accreditation Standard*, M10. To satisfy these requirements, laboratories must hold all of the appropriate reference standards of measurement that they need, and maintain them in an appropriate state of calibration to ensure traceability of measurement.

UKAS checks that the above requirements are being satisfied. There is therefore no need for accredited calibration certificates to provide details of the equipment used, since UKAS calibration laboratory accreditation provides all the assurances that the user needs.