



What is NATA Accreditation to ISO 17025 and What Does It Mean?

ISO 17025 is an internationally recognised accreditation which sets out the requirements for the competence of testing and inspection laboratories, thereby allowing companies to identify reliable service providers. Closely aligned with the requirements of the ISO 9000 standard (both require a documented quality management system), ISO 17025 also demands regular audits of technical competence: an assessment of factors which determine the correctness and reliability of the tests and calibrations performed, and thus the ability to consistently produce valid results. Since the ISO 17025 standard evaluates technical expertise, accreditation is formal recognition (by an accreditation body such as NATA) of laboratory competence – which means that clients, other laboratories, regulatory authorities and the courts can have confidence in the test results.



Accredited inspection:

- improves safety
- minimizes risk
- enhances product reputation via accurate, reliable and impartial inspection
- adds value to businesses via global acceptance of evaluations i.e. international recognition of ISO 17025 accredited laboratory results

Note:

ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation for particular analytical techniques under a laboratory's 'scope of accreditation' means that laboratory has been evaluated and deemed competent to perform specific testing procedures.