

	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Institute of Standards and Technology National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program	ISSUE DATE: December 5, 2007
	LAB BULLETIN	NUMBER: LB-28-2007 LAP: Electromagnetic Compatibility and Telecommunications
SUBJECT: Release of NIST Handbook 150-11, 2007 Edition		

NIST Handbook 150-11, which presents the technical requirements and guidance for the accreditation of laboratories under the NVLAP Electromagnetic Compatibility and Telecommunications Program, has been revised. The new edition incorporates changes resulting from the release of NIST Handbook 150:2006, *NVLAP Procedures and General Requirements*, and was revised with the participation of technical experts in the field of electromagnetic compatibility and telecommunications testing. The 2007 edition of NIST Handbook 150-11 supersedes and replaces the 1995 edition, *Electromagnetic Compatibility and Telecommunications FCC Methods*, and the 1994 draft of the program handbook, *Electromagnetic Compatibility MIL-STD-462*. The major changes include:

- A new subsection (3.3.4.1) on assessor safety has been added.
- Specific requirements (3.3.4.3 & 3.3.4.4) have been added for (minimally disruptive) validations of Open Area Test Sites (OATS) as part of the on-site assessment.
- A cross-reference is now required if the management system is not numbered to correspond to Clauses 4 & 5, and Annexes A & B of NIST Handbook 150 (4.2).
- Interpretive guidance and emphases have been added on:
 - Requiring all standards that are part of the scope to appear in the master document list (4.3);
 - The assessor's reviewing a complete contract from beginning to end (4.4);
 - The implications of purchasing calibration services (4.6);
 - Reporting data outside the measurement uncertainty (4.9);
 - Internal audit requirements (4.14);
 - Accredited test method competency review for testing personnel (5.2);
 - Measurement uncertainty depending on the accredited test method (5.4.2 & 5.4.3); and
 - Source of data for FCC Equipment Authorization using a Declaration of Conformity (6).

Other changes to the previous edition of the handbook include:

- References to applicable standards and guidance documents have been updated;
- On-site assessment checklists are no longer included in order that they may be provided as separate documents, which may be updated at different intervals than the handbook; and,
- Annex A has been added to provide a list of major ECT standards-issuing bodies, the acronyms most commonly cited, and the national economies for which the standards have been issued.

The handbook is available for downloading (Adobe PDF format) from the NVLAP web site at: <http://ts.nist.gov/Standards/Accreditation/upload/NIST_HB_150_11_2007.pdf>. If you do not have Internet access, please contact NVLAP and specify whether you would like a paper copy of the handbook mailed to you or an Adobe PDF version e-mailed to you.

Questions or comments concerning the revised handbook or requirements for accreditation should be directed to Kurt Fischer at 301-975-6061 or <kurt.fischer@nist.gov>.