

	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Institute of Standards and Technology National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program	ISSUE DATE: May 22, 2012
	LAB BULLETIN	NUMBER: LB-66-2012
		LAP: Cryptographic and Security Testing
SUBJECT: Addition of TWIC® Card Testing to the NVLAP Cryptographic and Security Testing LAP		

Overview

At the request of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), working with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), NVLAP announces the addition of the TWIC® test method to the NVLAP Cryptographic and Security Testing (CST) Laboratory Accreditation Program (LAP). This method is for the testing of a credential reader (referred to as a TWIC® card reader) as prescribed by the TSA (see <http://www.tsa.gov/twic>).

NVLAP is accepting applications for accreditation from any laboratory that meets the requirements of NIST Handbook 150, NVLAP Procedures and General Requirements, NIST Handbook 150-17, Cryptographic and Security Testing, Annex F, and the technical requirements for the testing prescribed by TSA. (See <http://www.nist.gov/nvlap> for the 2006 edition of NIST Handbook 150 and the 2012 edition of NIST Handbook 150-17.)

Background

The United States Congress mandated the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC®) in the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 (MTSA) as amended by the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act of 2006 (SAFE Port Act). The mission of the TWIC® Program is to design and field a common credential for all transportation workers requiring unescorted physical access to secure areas of the nation's transportation system and their associated information systems. More specifically, this program provides a credential (referred to as TWIC® Card) to maritime workers requiring unescorted access to secure areas of port facilities, outer continental shelf facilities, and vessels regulated under the MTSA, and all U.S. Coast Guard credentialed merchant mariners. In this regard, card reader products that are deemed to be compliant with the TWIC® specification will be placed on a list referred to as the TWIC Qualified Technology List (QTL), which can be used by owners and operators of the port to make TWIC® card reader purchasing decisions.

Conditions for a laboratory already NVLAP-accredited in CST to apply for addition of the TWIC® method (DHSIPCM) to its scope of accreditation

In order for a laboratory already accredited in the CST LAP to add the DHSIPCM test method to its scope of accreditation, the laboratory shall:

1. currently maintain NVLAP accreditation for PIV testing under its CST scope of accreditation;
2. request expansion of the scope of accreditation for DHSIPCM testing by submitting the program-specific application pages and the applicable fees;
3. provide management system documentation to NVLAP, including the procedures and instructions written to conduct DHSIPCM testing;

4. successfully participate in any proficiency tests;
5. undergo a one-day on-site technical assessment by NVLAP; and
6. provide a corrective action response(s) along with supporting objective evidence for resolving any nonconformity identified.

Questions concerning the DHSIPCM accreditation procedures should be directed to Dana Leaman, dana.leaman@nist.gov, 301-975-4679.