	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Institute of Standards and Technology National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program	ISSUE DATE: 2012-01-03
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SUBJECT: Amendment to NIST Handbook 150:2006, Annex D		

The purpose of this Policy Guide is to publish revisions to the requirements for laboratories located outside of the United States as found in NIST Handbook 150, Annex D, D.1.1. Policy Guides augment NIST Handbook 150 in between its formal revisions and are included in a laboratory's management system documentation.

Effective immediately, NIST Handbook 150, Annex D, subclause D.1.1 is amended as follows:


D.1 Additional requirements for laboratories located outside of the United States

D.1.1 General

Laboratories shall provide all documents to NVLAP in English including, but not limited to, applications, quality manuals, internal audit and management review records, nonconformity responses, and records serving as objective evidence of compliance with NVLAP requirements. During an on-site assessment, if the laboratory personnel do not speak English, the laboratory shall provide an interpreter(s), subject to NVLAP approval. The interpreter(s) will assist the assessor(s) with conversing directly with laboratory management and technical staff and with reviewing laboratory documentation.

Please retain this Policy Guide with your copy of NIST Handbook 150 for future reference.

Questions concerning this revision should be directed to the NVLAP Program Manager assigned to your program. For a listing of NVLAP program staff, visit our website at <http://www.nist.gov/nvlap>.

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