

	<b>DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE</b> National Institute of Standards and Technology National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program	<b>ISSUE DATE:</b> August 17, 2010
	<b>LAB BULLETIN</b>	<b>NUMBER:</b> LB-52-2010
		<b>LAP:</b> Ionizing Radiation Dosimetry
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Proficiency Testing – Neutron Categories – ANSI N13.11-2009		

This bulletin announces the temporary suspension of proficiency testing for the neutron categories of ANSI N13.11-2009, *American National Standard for Dosimetry – Personnel Dosimetry Performance – Criteria for Testing*. The suspension is in effect until further notice.

ONLY the neutron categories are exempt from proficiency testing at this time. Laboratories are required to have satisfactorily tested against other ANSI N13.11-2009 categories that are on the scope of accreditation by the end of 4th quarter 2011.

The U.S. Navy has brought to the attention of NVLAP that NIST and PNNL have provided statistically significant different test results to laboratories when testing against ANSI N13.11-2009 for the neutron categories. The U.S. Navy, NIST, and PNNL are currently in collaboration to perform studies to determine not only the reason(s) for the statistically significant difference in test results, but also to provide a resolution so that the test results from both NIST and PNNL are reliable.

NVLAP will issue a lab bulletin to announce the resumption of neutron testing when NIST and PNNL have resolved the issue. Until that time, the ANSI N13.11-2001 neutron categories that are on the scope of accreditation will continue to be listed without further proficiency testing because PNNL is no longer testing against ANSI N13.11-2001 categories.

This bulletin has also been posted to the NVLAP website at <<http://www.nist.gov/nvlap>>.

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