



National Cooperation for Laboratory Accreditation

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*Reliable Results through
Recognized Accreditation*

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Washington, DC – January 4, 2012 – The Board of Directors of the National Cooperation for Laboratory Accreditation (NACLA) amended the organization’s Bylaws to expand the scope of its recognition capabilities.

The change in the Bylaws wording allows NACLA to consider recognition in areas such as those covered by ISO / IEC 17020, *General Criteria for the Operation of Various Types of Bodies Performing Inspection (1998)*. This change provides for NACLA’s recognition expansion into critical recognition areas that closely parallel those in the laboratory community. NACLA’s Bylaws are available on the organization’s web site: www.nacla.net.

NACLA is a not-for-profit corporation established in 1998. It was founded by representatives of public and private-sector organizations to provide coordination and focus for accreditation programs in the U.S. NACLA’s primary mission is to evaluate U.S. accreditation bodies (ABs) and to grant recognition to those ABs found to be in compliance with NACLA procedures and the relevant international standards for competent ABs. NACLA also provides educational and training opportunities to persons interested in accreditation.

NACLA is a stakeholder organization. Accordingly, its leadership body, the Board of Directors/Operations Council is composed of balanced representation from the four key stakeholder groups: Industry, Government, Conformity Assessment Bodies (Laboratories, Inspection Bodies, etc.) and Accreditation Bodies.

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