



Exceptions to the A2LA™ Traceability Policy

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One of the particular embodiments of the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) (1) certification for ISO 16494 and ISO 17025 is that laboratory apparatus calibration must be performed by an A2LA accredited laboratory (2) or the calibrator must provide detail documentation of the measurement traceability to a National Metrology Laboratory (NML).

TA Instruments is a manufacturer and supplier of thermal analysis and rheology scientific test apparatus. As such an Original Equipment Manufacture (OEM) supplier, we are prepared to service and calibrate apparatus of our own manufacture and design according to ISO 9001:2000 procedures. Since TA Instruments calibrates and services only products of its own manufacture and is not a general calibration or service organization, TA Instruments is not an A2LA accredited laboratory.

According to A2LA's *Exception to the Traceability Policy* (dated 06/05/2002), users of such OEM suppliers may request an exception to the Traceability Policy provided there are no accredited laboratories available for the calibration services.

This is to certify that TA Instruments is the only organization authorized to service products for which TA Instruments is the OEM supplier. Specifically, TA Instruments has proprietary knowledge and components required to calibrate and to service such apparatus. There are no other OEM-approved vendors of such service, A2LA accredited or otherwise.

The apparatus covered by this certificate is outlined in table 1.

Users needing to satisfy A2LA's Traceability Policy should purchase traceable reference materials from TA Instruments or some other supplier for this purpose. A TA Instruments' Service Engineer, upon request, will use your traceable reference materials to calibrate your apparatus to A2LA requirements.

REFERENCES

1. The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation, 5301 Buckeytown Pike, Suite 350, Frederick, MD 21704
2. A2LA also accepts laboratories accredited by one of their Mutual Recognized Arrangement partners including the Asia-Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC), the European Cooperation for Accreditation (EA), the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC).

Table 1

Model	Acronym	Description
Q1000	DSC	Differential Scanning Calorimeter
Q100	DSC	Differential Scanning Calorimeter
Q10	DSC	Differential Scanning Calorimeter
2920	DSC	Differential Scanning Calorimeter
2910	DSC	Differential Scanning Calorimeter
2010	DSC	Differential Scanning Calorimeter
Q5000SA	MSA	Moisture Sorption Analyzer
Q5000IR	TGA	Thermogravimetric Analyzer
Q500	TGA	Thermogravimetric Analyzer
Q50	TGA	Thermogravimetric Analyzer
2950	TGA	Thermogravimetric Analyzer
2050	TGA	Thermogravimetric Analyzer
Q600	SDT	Simultaneous Differential Scanning Calorimeter/Thermogravimetric Analyzer
2960	SDT	Simultaneous Differential Scanning Calorimeter/Thermogravimetric Analyzer
Q400	TMA	Thermomechanical Analyzer
2940	TMA	Thermomechanical Analyzer
2970	DEA	Dielectric Analyzer
Q800	DMA	Dynamic Mechanical Analyzer
2980	DMA	Dynamic Mechanical Analyzer
ARES		Rheometer
AR2000		Rheometer
AR1000		Rheometer
AR550		Rheometer
AR500		Rheometer
CSA II		Rheometer
ACR II		Rheometer
G2		Rheometer

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