

Briefing on draft SP4 (version May 2013)

Forum bersama Makmal SAMM
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Brief Introduction

- ❖ STANDARDS MALAYSIA is signatory to ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement.
- ❖ Current SAMM Policy 4 (SP4) dated 28 Feb 2007 is issued based on ILAC – P9:2005 which has been revised.
- ❖ Revision of SP4 is now undertaken to align SAMM Policy to **ILAC P-9:2010 - ILAC Policy for Participation in Proficiency Testing Activities.**

Brief Introduction

ILAC –P9:2010 Policy for Participation in PT Activities.

Clause 4.1

Accreditation bodies (ABs) seeking to sign or seeking to maintain their status as a signatory to ILAC Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA) shall demonstrate the technical competence of their accredited calibration and testing laboratories. **One of the elements by which accredited laboratories can demonstrate technical competence is by satisfactory participation in PT activities where such activities are available and appropriate.** Where applicable, this holds true for accredited inspection bodies (IBs).

Major changes in draft SP4

1. New Title of SP4

Policy for Participation in Proficiency
Testing Activities

Current Title:

*Policy on Proficiency Testing Requirements for
SAMM Laboratories*


Major changes in draft SP4

2. Applicant laboratory

Shall participate in **at least one** available PT activity relevant to its applied scope for **each field**.

Major changes in draft SP4

2. Applicant laboratory (*contd.*)

- ❖ Definition of 'field' is based on SAMM (and MIBAS where applicable) classification for testing and calibration. 
- ❖ PT activities include Proficiency Testing (PT), Interlaboratory Comparison (ILC), External Quality Assessment (EQA) and Measurement Audit (MA) programmes.

Major changes in draft SP4

3. Accredited laboratory

Shall participate in **at least one** available PT activity relevant to its scope of accreditation for **each field within one accreditation cycle**.

Major changes in draft SP4

4. Extension of scope

Minimum requirement of one PT participation :

- i. in a new field(s);
- ii. in the same field of testing or calibration or inspection (where applicable) but that involves different materials/matrices/product types, parameters or technique and/or that requires a significantly different level of technology/skill/competency.

Major changes in draft SP4

5. PT Participation

Laboratory **shall plan and participate in as many PT activities as possible** in the same field based on material or parameter tested or technique used or level of skill / competence required for better representation of PT participation within one accreditation cycle.

Major changes in draft SP4

6. Selection of PT Activity

The participation of a laboratory/inspection body in a PT activity shall be selected depending on its availability and according to the following decreasing order of preference:

- i. **International/Regional/National PT programmes** This includes Measurement Audits.
- ii. **Formal interlaboratory comparison programmes** involving several independent laboratories,
- iii. **Less formal interlaboratory comparison programmes** between two or more accredited laboratories.
(For a calibration laboratory, the laboratory shall select participating laboratories with accredited Calibration and Measurement Capability (CMC) better than or of equivalent to its own).

New Requirements in draft SP4

7. PT participation plan

- ❖ Applicant laboratory
 - submit during compliance assessment
- ❖ Accredited laboratory
 - shall prepare a PT participation plan for the next accreditation cycle during reassessment

New Requirements in draft SP4

7. PT participation plan (*contd.*)

- ❖ The plan shall cover all the PT activities the laboratory intends to participate/undertake over the accreditation cycle. The PT participation plan will be reviewed and endorsed by the assessment team to ensure its suitability.

New Requirements in draft SP4

8. Level and Frequency of PT participation

The laboratory shall define its level and frequency of participation in PT activities to ensure its suitability taking into consideration:

- ❖ the material or parameter tested or technique used or level of skill / competence required for all fields under the scope of accreditation;
- ❖ the level of risk presented by the laboratory, the sector in which they operate or the methodology they are using.

The laboratory/inspection body shall cover all fields within one accreditation cycle.

8. Level and Frequency of PT participation (*contd.*)

Considerations for determining level of risk:

- Number/Type of tests/calibrations/measurements undertaken
- Turnover of technical staff
- Experience and knowledge of technical staff
- Source of traceability (e.g. availability of reference materials, national standards, etc.)
- Known stability/instability of the measurement technique
- Significance and final use of testing/calibration data (e.g. forensic science represents an area requiring a high level of assurance)

Other Requirements

- ❖ Obligations of laboratories/inspection bodies;
- ❖ Consequences of poor performance;
- ❖ Confidentiality;
- ❖ Participation fees.

Basically remain the same as in current document of SP4.



Fields Offered in Testing

1. CHEMICAL
2. BIOLOGICAL
3. ELECTRICAL
4. THERMAL
5. MECHANICAL
6. NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING (NDT)
7. RADIOACTIVITY TESTING
8. BIOEFFICACY OF HOUSEHOLD PESTICIDE
9. TOXICITY
10. EMC
11. VETERINARY
12. GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISM (GMO)
13. NUCLEIC ACID TESTING
14. DNA PROFILING FOR FORENSIC SCIENCE TESTING (FST)
15. ANALYSIS OF ACCELERANTS OF FIRE DEBRIS FOR FST
16. DOCUMENT EXAMINATION FOR FST
17. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY EVALUATION AND TESTING: COMMON CRITERIA
18. SOFTWARE TESTING

Fields Offered in Calibration

1. HEAT AND TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENT
2. ELECTRICAL MEASUREMENT
3. MASS AND RELATED QUANTITIES MEASUREMENT
4. OPTICAL AND PHOTOMETRIC MEASUREMENT
5. LENGTH & DIMENSIONAL MEASUREMENT
6. ACOUSTIC & VIBRATION MEASUREMENT
7. RADIOACTIVITY MEASUREMENT

