

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

One of the services provided by NBE is to assess and accredit the proficiency of Reference Material Producers. This Guidance states the rules and standards applicable to the accreditation of Reference Material Producers. This document has been issued to provide guidance and information for the relevant parties considering the experience from NBE's assessment processes and knowledge derived from international studies.

The purpose of accreditation assessments is to check whether Reference Material Producers comply with the requirements of ISO 17034 standard, relevant EA, ILAC and NBE documents. Accreditation assessments of Reference Material Producers are conducted by an assessment team including Assessors/Technical Experts with subject-matter expertise.

The confidentiality of all information obtained by the Assessment Team and Case Officer during the assessment process is guaranteed by the contracts and forms prepared by NBE. This Guidance introduces additional requirements to the assessment processes conducted according to Procedure for the Accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies (PR-7-01).

This document primarily includes the requirements on the application and accreditation process for Reference Material Producers, metrological traceability, measurement uncertainty, subcontracting, accreditation scope etc. according to ISO 17034 standard.

## **2. DEFINITIONS**

Terms and definitions used in the accreditation of Reference Material Producers are provided in ISO Guide 30 and Clause 3 of ISO 17034.

**2.1 Reference Material (RM):** Material, sufficiently homogeneous and stable with respect to one or more specified properties, which has been established to be fit for its intended use in a measurement process.

**2.2 Certified Reference Material (CRM):** Reference Material characterized by a metrologically valid procedure for one or more specified properties, accompanied by a Reference Material certificate that provides the value of the specified property, its associated uncertainty, and a statement of metrological traceability.

**2.3 Candidate Reference Material:** Material intended to be produced as Reference Material. To use a candidate Reference Material as a Reference Material, investigation should be made of

being sufficiently homogeneous and stable with respect to one or more specified properties, which has been established to be fit for its intended use in a measurement process.

**2.4 Reference Material Producer (RMP):** Body (organization or company, public or private) that is fully responsible for project planning and management; assignment of, and decision on property values and relevant uncertainties; authorization of property values; and issuance of a reference material certificate or other statements for the Reference Materials it produces.

**2.5 Reference Material Certificate:** Document containing the essential information for the use of a CRM, confirming that the necessary procedures have been carried out to ensure the validity and metrological traceability of the stated property values. Information on the content of a Reference Material Certificate is given in ISO Guide 31.

**2.6 Product Information Sheet:** Document containing all the information that is essential for using an RM other than a CRM.

**2.7 Homogeneity:** Uniformity of a specified property value throughout a defined portion of a Reference Material (RM)

**2.8 Stability:** Characteristic of a reference material, when stored under specified conditions, to maintain a specified property value within specified limits for a specified period of time.

**2.9 Characterisation:** Determination of the property values or attributes of a reference material, as part of the production process.

**2.10 Subcontractor:** Collaborating firm. Body (organization or company, public or private) that undertakes aspects of the processing, handling, homogeneity and stability assessment, characterization, storage or distribution of the reference material under its own management system on behalf of the reference material producer.

### **3. RELATED DOCUMENTS**

**3.1** ISO 17034 General requirements for the competence of Reference Material Producers

**3.2** ISO/IEC 17025 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories

**3.3** ISO 15189 Medical laboratories – Requirements for quality and competence

**3.4** ISO Guide 30 Reference materials - Selected terms and definitions

**3.5** ISO Guide 31 Reference materials - Contents of certificates, labels and accompanying

documentation

**3.6** ISO Guide 33 Reference materials - Good practice in using reference materials

**3.7** ISO Guide 35 Reference materials - Guidance for characterization and assessment of homogeneity and stability

**3.8** ISO/TR 10989 Reference materials - Guidance on, and keywords used for, RM categorization

**3.10** ILAC P10 ILAC Policy on Traceability of Measurement Results

**3.11** PR-7-01 Procedure for the Accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies

**3.12** PR-7-04 The Procedure for Proficiency Tests and Interlaboratory Comparison

Programs

**3.13** G-1-06 Requirements for Using NBE Accreditation Symbol by the Accredited Bodies

**3.14** G-2-43 Guideline on Accreditation of Laboratories

**3.15** G-1-12 Guideline on Traceability of Measurement Results

#### **4. APPLICATION**

A Reference Material Producer that seeks accreditation according to ISO 17034 may file its application for accreditation by “FR-7-1-80 Application Form for Accreditation for Reference Material Producers”. The producer shall submit, to NBE through the form, information on the purpose of application (initial assessment, scope extension, etc.), current accreditation if applicable, entity’s legal status, organizational structure, subcontractor, accreditation status of subcontractors and the scope for which it seeks accreditation; and mark the choice whether or not it wishes to have a pre-assessment.

A Reference Material Producer, which has filed an application by submitting the Application Form for Accreditation for Reference Material Producers and annexes to NBE and whose application has been accepted, should send the documents indicated in The Requested Documents For Reference Material Producers at Application According to ISO 17034 (FR-7-1-79) to the relevant field in NBE’s e-mail.

In the initial accreditation application, the reference material production should be completed within the scope of application in order to carry out the assessment after the application is registered. When an accredited reference material producer makes an application for scope extension for RMs with a matrix similar to the ones in which they are accredited, if the production process of the applied RMs has not been completed, NBE may decide to make reviews and to include them in the accreditation scope of RMP. However, in order to expand the scope from a new area by the RMP, the RM production process should be completed. The accreditation assessment of a Reference Material Producer is conducted through methods such as documentation review, on-site assessment by visiting the head office and branch offices if any,

and supervising the assessment of subcontractors by reference material producer in the context of the activity if any.

## **5. ISO 17034 REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER PROVISIONS**

Management requirements of ISO 17034 are generally similar to ISO/IEC 17025; however there are some significant differences in the technical requirements. Reference Material Producer has a couple of alternatives it can follow for producing the Reference Material and determining the assigned value. In addition, except for some activities, it may also be possible to use subcontractors in this process. Whichever way or method is chosen, Reference Material Producer is directly responsible for the adequate performance of the actions within the process. Therefore, NBE assesses the competence of a Reference Material Producer according to ISO 17034, and in case of laboratory activity, according to ISO/IEC 17025. It can be used ISO 15189 instead of ISO/IEC 17025 in the medical field.

### **5.1 Traceability of Measurements**

In the process of producing Reference Materials, all devices used for performing measurements and/or tests and have significant impact on the results must be calibrated in a manner to have metrological traceability. For ensuring metrological traceability, NBE's "G-1-12 Guideline on Traceability of Measurement Results" must be taken into account.

### **5.2 Measurement Uncertainty**

Measurement uncertainty in Reference Material Producer accreditation can be complicated due to many measurement uncertainty components of different nature. ISO 17034 requires that relevant clauses of ISO/IEC 17025 are met. ISO Guide 35 may be taken into account as an informative document. Where alternative methods are used, justification should be provided.

All contributions to uncertainty should be stated for the certified values of a Reference Material. ISO Guide 35 and ISO/IEC 98-3 provide detailed information on estimating uncertainties. In addition, ISO GUM provides information on assessing measurement uncertainty.

### **5.3 Proficiency Testing**

As well as meeting the relevant requirements of the ISO/IEC 17025 standard, Reference Material Producers which use the resources of their own laboratories shall also participate in the proficiency testing in accordance with their accreditation scopes. Guidance on this matter can be found in NBE's The Procedure for Proficiency Tests and Interlaboratory Comparison Programs

(PR-7-04).

If a Reference Material Producer does not perform all testing and measurement activities with its own resources and uses a subcontractor, it shall also demonstrate that its subcontractor also meets the criteria laid down in the first paragraph.

#### **5.4 Subcontracting**

A Reference Material Producer can use subcontractors for the activities except for production planning, selection of subcontractors, assignment of property values and uncertainties, validation of property values and uncertainties, and authorization of Reference Material documents as activities to be performed during the production process as expressed in ISO 17034 Clause 6.2.3. When a Reference Material Producer uses subcontractors, it must have all policies and procedures in order to demonstrate that it meets all the requirements of the standard for the relevant activity including the selection and assessment of subcontractors. It might be a significant record for demonstrating the technical competence of the subcontractor that it has accreditation according to ISO/IEC 17025; however it may not be sufficient for a Reference Material Producer's accreditation process. Reference Material Producer must keep records for all activities carried out by subcontractors showing that the Standard and the specifications stated by the producer are met adequately. A Reference Material Producer may consider the participation statues and results of the subcontractor to proficiency testing in order to show competence.

#### **5.5 Quality System Documentation**

A Reference Material Producer should establish its management systems by choosing any of Option A or Option B being more suitable for its structure. The primary purpose of both options is to establish a management system that enables the management of the requirements of the standard in a repeatable manner. Option B is expected to guarantee the minimum requirements indicated in Option A. There is no difference between the options in terms of accreditation assessments. For both options, the assessment team will assess whether a management system that at minimum complies with the requirements of Option A. In respect of Option B, it makes no difference for accreditation assessments whether the applicant entity is certified by a certification body or itself operating ISO 9001.

Reference Material Producers may submit, along with the Quality manual, the documentation to demonstrate the integrity of the quality management system and compliance with ISO 17034 standard. Reference Material Producers should establish their management systems in accordance with ISO 17034 and accreditation rules, and document their procedures to the extent

necessary to consistently implement their quality management systems pursuant to the standard. When determining the limits for documenting, entities should consider that the aforesaid compliance could be demonstrated to the assessors of the accreditation body and the assessment of the system is assured. Internal audits should be scheduled and conducted at periods of maximum 12 months. Management reviews should also be scheduled and conducted at periods of maximum 12 months.

## **5.6 Assessment of Risks and Opportunities**

Reference Material Producers should address, assess and document the risks and opportunities relating to its activities. The actions identified as a result of such assessment should be proportionate to the impact of the risks and opportunities on the Reference Material production and service quality. While the assessment of risks and opportunities is not restricted to any methodological requirement in the standard, the assessment should be conducted in accordance with the objectives of a Reference Material Producer, complexity of its management system, and the legislation and other mandatory documents to which it is subject. The assessment of risks and opportunities involves the identification, analysis and evaluation of risks and opportunities. The purpose of risk evaluation is to assist in making a decision whether, based on the results of the risk analysis, there is need to reduce risks and/or make improvement in priority. This is the most fundamental management approach expected of the assessment of risks and opportunities.

Reference Material Producers may operate an advanced risk assessment processes. At what depth the risks and opportunities are to be assessed or what situations are to be identified as risks relate to the organizational structure, the structure and competence of the personnel, infrastructure, Reference Material production processes of a Reference Material Producer, and thus may vary by entity. A Reference Material Producer may assess the risks and opportunities on the basis of accredited scope considering the quality management system as a whole. A Reference Material Producer may, when assessing the risks and opportunities, follow the clauses of the standard focusing on production activities.

There is no restriction on a Reference Material Producer to specify similar/same risk monitoring / prevention method for the common risks for the process approach or multiple production activities. Risk assessment process is required updating according changing circumstances, continuous monitoring of improvement actions and conducting re-evaluations. Risk management is a not a one-off activity. A Reference Material Producer should use the outputs from the risk management as inputs to production control activities.

### **5.7. RM Documents and Labels**

A Reference Material Producer should prepare a product information sheet for every Reference Material produced, and a certificate for every Certified Reference Material.

A Reference Material's document or certificate may only provide information on the materials under the accreditation scope. Non-certified values of the Reference Materials may be included in the Reference Material certificates provided that it is clearly marked by an asterisk (\*) and stated that these data must not be used for dissemination of metrological traceability. For Reference Material documents, it is necessary to comply with the accreditation body's rules on use of mark. Reference Material Producers accredited by NBE should comply with the requirements of Requirements for Using NBE Accreditation Symbol by the Accredited Bodies (G-1-06) for the use of accreditation mark on their Reference Material documents or certificates.

ISO 17034 Clause 7.14.2 provides information on the content of Reference Material certificates or product information sheets. In addition, Clause 7.14.3 specifies the additional information that should be included in Reference Material certificates.

The Reference Material label shall be firmly affixed onto the product container of each Reference Material unit and be so designed as to remain legible and intact under the defined storage and handling conditions for the lifetime of the Reference Material, or in other words, it should remain intact for the period starting from the supply of the Reference Material from the Reference Material Producer until the end of the expiry date of its certificate. The label shall denote the RMP, batch and other necessary information that helps identify the material uniquely, and where appropriate referring to the product information sheet or RM certificate (e.g. individual sample number etc.).

Where applicable, labels should comply with the requirements of health, safety and environmental regulations. If the material is classified as hazardous for transport and use, the label should include mandatory information as specified by the applicable regulation.

Where a Reference Material Producer is to make an amendment on the document, certificate or label of a Reference Material, the new document should include a correction in reference to the former. Once the correction is made, the updated certificates for non-expired Reference Materials should be transmitted to the customers.

ISO Guide 31 describes in detail the contents of the product information sheet for a Reference Material, or the certificate for a Certified Reference Material, and how the labelling should be effected.



## **6. ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

NBE verifies the information on various branches where a Reference Material is being produced and at which ones key activities are executed. Key activities generally cover policy making, process and/or procedure development including Reference Material production planning, reviewing the contract as applicable, planning conformity assessment activities, reviewing, approving and deciding the results of conformity assessment activities, monitoring the competence of technical personnel and subcontractors, data analysis, evaluating the assigned values and reporting which are processes that affect the competence of a CAB.

Before the assessment, a Reference Material Producer should inform NBE who among its personnel are competent for which activities. If the assessed entity undertakes work on homogeneity and stability of samples, Reference Material production, testing or calibration activities; the assessment team may also assess the assessed entity's competence in testing or calibration and participation in proficiency testing. NBE may observe the critical activities undertaken by a subcontractor through an on-site visit. Where the assessment team concludes that the subcontractor of a Reference Material Producer fails to meet the requirements, it may propose a suspension of the accreditation. All activities relating to each Reference Material in the scope will be subject to assessment.

In such cases, in order to see the compliance of the reference material producer using subcontractor, NBE may supervise assessments performed by the reference material producer receiving the service from the subcontractor in relation to assuring the compliance of the subcontractor.

The assessment team may, in line with Assessment Team Working Instructions (I-7-01-13), utilise the following forms to record the following matters of the assessment:

- Participants List of Assessment (FR-7-01-36) to record the persons interviewed during the assessment,
- List of Reviewed Documents and Records During the Assessment (FR-7-01-45) to record the documents and records reviewed during the assessment, and
- Checklist for Reference Material Producers (FR-7-01-81) to record the findings of the assessment.

### **6.1 Surveillance and Re-Assessment**

According to Procedure for the Accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies (PR-7-01) an accreditation cycle program is prepared for each CAB that will enable assessment in related



locations in a way to represent all activities in the scope of accreditation (scope in the annex to the accreditation certificate) together with the management system throughout the cycle. When the cycle program is prepared, information on CAB's management system, activities and performance is taken into account.

When preparing assessment of reference material producer within accreditation cycle program, risk factors to be considered may include, but are not limited to:

- The changes in personnel
- The changes in equipment used in production of reference material
- The changes in locations
- The non-conformities found in previous assessment, observation and / or focus of the subsequent assessment
- Subcontractor information (accreditation status, changes etc.)
- Unsatisfactory PT/ ILC results
- Revised standards related to RMP accreditation
- Changes in requirements of regulation, legislation etc. (if applicable)
- Corrective actions made by RMP for nonconforming work and preventive actions.
- Frequency of conformity assessment activities and number of RM / CRMs produced within the scope of accreditation
- Feedback or complaints from interested parties

The re-assessment will be conducted in content and format similar to the initial assessment to allow a comprehensive review of the activities and quality system of a Reference Material Producers.

## **6.2 Scope Extension**

Where possible, scope extension assessment conducts with surveillance assessment or re-assessment. A Reference Material Producer is required to be presently executing activities in the scopes for which it has requested scope extension and has already produced Reference Materials for such scopes. Scope extension on Reference Material may be taken up as new RM, new property value, new characterization technique or new site.

## **7. ACCREDITATION SCOPE**

During the application, Reference Material Producers specify in detail the information about the material subject to the accreditation request, characterized values and parameters and characterization procedures and techniques. When the abundance of the materials and properties to be characterized is considered, a very broad definition can be made. In order to avoid the confusion this situation will cause, Materials column in the "Requested Scope" section

of the Application Form for Accreditation for Reference Material Producers (FR-7-1-80) must be specified by taking into account the categories and sub-categories provided in Annex 1. Further, ISO/TR 10989 Reference materials - Guidance on, and keywords used for, RM categorization is a document that provides information on the categories of Reference Materials and can be used. Scope requested during the application shall be discussed and finalized with NBE. The relevant sections of the application form should indicate the information on the type (RM, CRM or both), matrix, characterized property values and information on characterization procedure of the Reference Materials produced in the area for which the application for accreditation is made. ISO 17034 is taken into account in evaluating the procedures/techniques. In addition, ISO Guide 35 provides detailed information on this issue.

## **ANNEX 1**

### **REFERENCE MATERIAL CATEGORIES**

#### **CATEGORY A: CHEMICAL COMPOSITION**

##### **A1: Metals**

###### **A1.1 Ferrous**

###### Steels

carbon steels

low alloy steels

high alloy steels

cast steels

speciality steels

###### Irons

white cast irons

ductile irons

###### Gases in metals

###### **A1.2 Nonferrous**

Aluminium alloys

Copper base alloys

Lead base alloys

Tin base alloys

Brasses

Bearing alloys

Titanium base alloys

Zirconium base alloys

Gases in metals

###### **A1.3 Special alloys**

###### **A1.4 Refractory metals and alloys**

###### **A1.5 Rare earth metals**

###### **A1.6 High purity metals**

Solid forms

Spectrochemical

materials

Spectrochemical solutions

##### **A2: Inorganic Reference Materials**

**A2.1 Ores and minerals**

**A2.2 Cements, clays and related products**

**A2.3 Ceramics, glasses and refractory oxides**

Carbides Glasses

**A2.4 Agricultural chemicals and fertilisers**

**A2.5 Solid fuels**

Coal and coke

mineral

content major

elements trace

elements

**A2.6 Pure chemicals**

Stoichiometry

standards primary

standards working

standards secondary

standards

Chromatography

standards Pharmaceutical

materials Cosmetic

materials

**A2.7 Stable isotope materials**

**A3: Organic Reference Materials**

**A3.1 Pure organic compounds**

Compounds for elemental

analysis Compounds for

molecular weight

Chromatography standards

Illicit drugs and their metabolites - (See also A8 Forensic Reference Materials)

Illicit drugs

delta-9-THC and other cannabinoids

amphetamine

methamphetamine

3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine

3,4-methylenedioxy-

methamphetamine 3,4-

methylenedioxyethylamphetamine

diacetylmorphine

morphine

cocaine

lysergic acid diethylamide and isomers

Therapeutic drugs  
Veterinary drugs  
Steroids  
Pesticides, herbicides, acaricides,  
etc Metabolites of any of the above  
Priority pollutants  
    PCBs, PAHs, etc  
Fine chemicals  
Pharmaceutical  
materials Cosmetic  
materials  
Isotopically labelled compounds

### **A3.2 Agricultural materials, fertilisers**

#### **A3.3 Foodstuffs**

Proximate analysis  
Nutritional  
properties Vitamins  
Other food additives  
    antioxidants emulsifiers

#### Toxins

    animal origin  
    plant origin  
    other biological origin

Trace elements

#### Trace organics

    pesticide residues  
    other organic contaminants

### **A3.4 Plastics and rubbers**

Hardness  
Natural rubber  
content Identity  
    copolymers  
    plasticisers  
    vulcanising agents  
    blowing agents  
    antioxidants fillers

### **A3.5 Petroleum products**

#### Fuels and lubricants

    lead  
    vanadium  
    nickel

#### Transformer oils

    moistur  
    e PCBs

Heat exchange fluids

moisture  
PCBs

**A3.6 Vegetable oils and fats**

Fatty acid profile  
Triglyceride composition

**A4: Environmental Reference materials**

**A4.1 Soils and sludges**

Trace elements  
Mineral content  
Trace organics  
TCLP leachate

**A4.2 Ashes**

Fly ash from coal and coke  
Incinerator ash

**A4.3 Waters**

Potable water

routine analytes  
trace elements  
organic pollutants  
other analytes

Fresh water

major elements  
trace elements  
other analytes

Sea water

major elements  
trace elements  
other analytes

Industrial waste water

routine analytes  
trace elements  
organic pollutants  
other analytes

Treated sewage

routine analytes

**A4.4 Plant material**

Trace elements

Mineral content

**A4.5 Marine**

Fish ) trace elements

Molluscs ) mineral content

Plankton ) organics

**A4.6 BOD reference compounds**

**A4.7 Miscellaneous biological materials**

**A5: Health and Industrial Hygiene**

**A5.1 Clinical laboratory materials**

**A5.2 Ethanol solutions**

**A5.3 Toxic substances in urine**

Toxic metals

Fluoride

Mercury

**A5.4 Drugs of abuse in urine**

**A5.5 Drugs of abuse in hair**

**A5.6 Materials on filter media**

**A5.7 Trace elements in blank filters**

**A5.8 Lead in paint (powder and sheet forms)**

**A5.9 Respirable silica**

**A6: Engine Wear Materials**

**A6.1 Metallo-organic compounds**

**A6.2 Wear metals in oil**

**A7: Analysed Gases**

**A7.1 Gas mixtures**

**A7.2 Trace volatile organic compounds**

**A8: Forensic Reference Materials**

**A8.1 Ethanol reference standards**

Ethanol

Ethanol, aqueous solutions containing 0.050, 0.150, 0.250 g/100mL

**A8.2 Drugs (individually named) and metabolites\***

In whole human blood and urine (\*metabolites to include glucuronides). See also A3.1 Pure Organic Compounds.

**A8.3 Glasses**

bottle



window  
automotive  
spectacle

**A8.4 Paints**

Automotive  
Architectural

**A8.5 Accelerants**

Flammable liquids and residues thereof

**A8.6 Explosives and primers**

**A8.7 Gunshot residues**

**A8.8 Noxious substances**

Crowd control agents  
capsaicin  
o-chlorobenzalmalononitrile (CS)  
chloroacetophenone (CN)

**A8.9 Document examination**

**A9: Ion Activity**

**A9.1 pH standards**

**A9.2 Ion selective electrode calibrants**

**A9.3 Conductivity standards**

**A9.4 Buffer systems**

**A10: Textile Reference Materials for Chemical Parameters**

**A10.1 Fibers**

**A10.2 Yarns**

**A10.3 Woven fabrics**

**A10.4 Knitted fabrics**

**A10.5 Nonwovens A10.6**

**Coated fabrics A10.7**

**Metal accessories**

**A10.8 Other polymeric textile reference materials**

**CATEGORY B : BIOLOGICAL AND CLINICAL PROPERTIES**

**B1 General Medicine**

B1.1 Human serum materials (powder and solution forms)

**B2 Clinical Chemistry**

B2.1 Proteins

B2.2 Apolipoproteins

B2.3 Enzymes

B2.4 Hormones

B2.5 Trace elements

lead and cadmium

**B3 Tissue Pathology**

**B4 Haematology and Cytology**

B4.1 Blood serum

**B5 Immunohaematology**

**B6 Immunology**

**B7 Parasitology**

**B8 Bacteriology and Mycology**

B8.1 Reference cultures

B8.2 Antibiotics

**B9 Virology**

**B10 Other biological and clinical reference materials**

**B11 Forensic Reference Materials**

Purified DNA of known and continuing genetic composition

Human, primate and animal blood

Animal hairs

Fibres (see also C7.1 to C7.3)

**CATEGORY C: PHYSICAL PROPERTIES**

**C1 Reference Materials with Optical Properties**

C1.1 Optical rotation

C1.2 Refractive index

C1.3 Spectral absorbance

visible

ultraviolet

infrared

C1.4 Specular reflectance

C1.5 Colour

white reference material (opal

glass) ceramic tiles

**C2 Reference Materials with Electrical and Magnetic Properties**

C2.1 Dielectric strength

C2.2 Resistivity

C2.3 Magnetic susceptibility

**C3 Reference Materials for Frequency Measurements**

**C4 Reference Materials for Radioactivity**

- C4.1 Radiation dosimetry
- C4.2 Radiopharmaceuticals
- C4.3 Labelled compounds
- C4.4 Natural matrix materials
- C4.5 Carbon-14 dating

**C5 Reference Materials for Thermodynamic Properties**

- C5.1 Calorimetry
- C5.2 Thermal conductivity  
metals  
pyrex glass  
resin-bonded fibre  
board
- C5.3 Vapour  
pressure
- C5.4 Thermal  
expansion
- C5.5 Thermal  
resistance
- C5.6 ITS-90 temperature fixed point
- C5.7 Curie point
- C5.8 Boiling point
- C5.9 Melting point
- C5.10 Thermal analysis standards

**C6 Reference Materials for Physicochemical Properties**

- C6.1 Density
- C6.2 Viscosity
- C6.3 Surface tension
- C6.4 Molecular weight

**C7 Textile Reference Materials for Physical Parameters**

**C7.1 Reference Materials for Fiber Identification**

**Natural Fibers**

- Animal fibers
- Plant fibers

**Synthetic fibers**

- Organic polymers
- Inorganic polymers

**Asbestos fibers**

- Raw fibers
- Samples for fiber counting

**C7.2 Yarns**

**C7.3 Woven fabrics**

**C7.4 Knitted fabrics**

**C7.5 Nonwovens**

**C7.6 Coated fabrics**

**C7.7 Metal accessories**

**C7.8 Other polymeric textile reference materials**

**C8 Reference Materials for other properties**

- C8.1 Shear testing of powders
- C8.2 Minerals for x-ray diffraction

**CATEGORY D: ENGINEERING PROPERTIES**

**D1 Surface Finish**

- D1.1 Surface roughness
- D1.2 Corrosion
- D1.3 Microhardness
- D1.4 Abrasive wear
- D1.5 Properties of films and surfaces
  - Nominal thickness
  - x-ray fluorescence
  - B particle backscattering
  - ion beam sputtering

**D2 Sizing**

- D2.1 Particle size
  - Particulate materials
  - Latex sphere suspensions
- D2.2 Surface area

**D3 Nondestructive Testing**

- D3.1 Dye penetrant test blocks
- D3.2 Artificial flaw for eddy current
- D3.3 Magnetic particle inspection

**D4 Hardness**

- D4.1 Rockwell hardness
- D4.2 Izod hardness

**D5 Impact Toughness**

- D5.1 Charpy V-notch test blocks

**D6 Tensile Strength**

**D7 Elasticity**

**D8 Creep**

**D9 Fire Research**

- D9.1 Surface flammability
- D9.2 Smoke density

**CATEGORY E : MISCELLANEOUS PROPERTIES**

(Sub-categories to be developed as required).