



ISO/IEC 17025 – International Recognition of METAS Calibration Certificates

Calibration certificates issued by METAS are internationally recognized. This is expressed using the CIPM MRA logo shown below.



The Mutual Recognition Arrangement created in 1999 by the International Committee of Weights and Measures (CIPM MRA) (<http://www.bipm.org/en/convention/mra>) obliges the signatory national metrology institutes (in Switzerland the Federal Office of Metrology METAS) and other signatory institutes [the IRA Lausanne (<http://www.chuv.ch/ira>) and PMOD/WRC Davos (<http://www.pmodwrc.ch>) in Switzerland] to mutually recognize national standards and certificates (<http://www.bipm.org/utis/en/pdf/signatories.pdf>)

Calibration certificates from METAS bearing this logo therefore have comprehensive international recognition.

The international recognition of the Federal Office of Metrology (METAS) is based on the following measures within the framework of the CIPM MRA:

- The operation of a comprehensive, internationally audited and recognized quality management system for the field of metrology in compliance with ISO 17025 (Verification by international peer reviews, EURAMET TC-Q (<http://www.euramet.org/index.php?id=tc-q>)).
- International measurement comparisons (key comparisons): *Key Comparisons* are carried out in all specialist areas, in which the specialized knowledge required for that specialist field and the declared measurement uncertainties are checked and proven (<http://kcdb.bipm.org/AppendixC/default.asp>).
- Internationally published and verified measurement capabilities: the measurement capabilities stated on the website of the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (<http://www.bipm.org>) are subject to thorough investigation by international experts in the corresponding special fields before they are published in the database (<http://kcdb.bipm.org/AppendixC/default.asp>).

With these measures, the Federal Office of Metrology (METAS), like all national metrology institutes, subjects itself to a direct investigation of its declared measurement and testing capabilities by international experts, which is unusual to this extent for accredited or certified bodies. This very high cost to national metrology institutes is, however, necessary because the subsequent accredited bodies listed on the precision scales rely on the reference values from the national metrology institutes. The processes of the CIPM MRA ensure that all the demands placed on an accredited laboratory are met by the national metrology institutes involved.