

Dear INAB client,

Please note the following two items that are applicable for all applicant and accredited construction testing laboratories

Brexit and British standards for construction materials testing:

INAB has received some queries relating to Brexit and the accreditation of construction materials tests to British standards. We are currently developing a harmonised approach to facilitate the transition from British standards to their ISO equivalent, where applicable. Construction materials testing laboratories who are interested in transitioning from British Standards should inform their INAB assessment manager as soon as possible.

Verification of methods:

For the purposes of clarity of the requirements of ISO17025, please note that clause 7.2.1.5 shall apply to all accredited test methods in the area of construction testing. (Clause 7.2.1.5 is concerned with verification of methods).

Please also note participation in an appropriate external proficiency test is not sufficient, in isolation, to meet the requirements of ISO17025 in this area. It will form part of the verification, however it is not the only element required.

We do understand this may be a significant change in practice for some laboratories. It will require verification / validation records of methods to be available for all accredited test methods. Please refer to INAB policy PS24 to define the minimum requirements for verification.

INAB requires that all construction testing labs provide the following to their INAB assessment manager before the end of January 2021:

- Statement as to whether verification records, as defined above and in PS 24, are available for all accredited testing methods.
- If these records are not available, please provide a plan/ timeline to your INAB assessment manager as to when you will be in a position to comply with 7.2.1.5 above. This plan cannot exceed six months from issue of this notice (End June 2021).

Laboratories wishing to extend their scope for ISO standards equivalent to British standards will be required to provide evidence of method verification as part of the assessment. Method verification will be required for all extension to scope applications received from the date of this notification.