

Reference Material Producer Accreditation

IS-18

INAB offers reference material producer's accreditation to **ISO Guide 34** "*General requirements for the competence of reference material producers*". This guide contains requirements for the competence of reference material producers and is used in developing a management system for quality, administrative, production, and technical operations.

Laboratories rely on the assigned property value of reference materials to produce reliable results and accreditation of reference material producers to ISO Guide 34 underpins the national measurement system by ensuring the reliability of the assigned property values and competence of these providers. Traceability to national and ultimately to international standards is a vital cog of any economy operating in the international sphere.

INAB applicant and accredited reference material producers are required to implement in full the requirements of ISO Guide 34 and associated EA, ILAC¹ and INAB mandatory documents, which can be accessed from the INAB website at www.inab.ie

Reference material producers are accredited in compliance with ISO Guide 34 for a defined range of activities and these are detailed in a scope of accreditation which is annexed to the organisation's accreditation certificate.

A directory of these scopes of accreditation is maintained by INAB and is available from the INAB website.

Once the reference material producer has all of the organisational and technical measures in place, and has been operating a producer service for a period of time sufficient to have historical records built up, and to be able to demonstrate that the operation is stable, it can apply to INAB for accreditation.

The process for the accreditation is described in INAB Publication P7, also available from the INAB website.

For further information please contact INAB at:

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¹ EA is the European Co-operation for Accreditation
ILAC is the International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation