Forensic Quality Services - International

Forensic Requirements for Accreditation

FQS-I Policy Based on Guidance Documents

FRAP-3 Uncertainty of Measurement

REVISION LOG

Version	Issued	Changes
May 2004	May 2004	First issue of document
2006/1	June 26, 2006	Delete verbiage from ILAC G17:2002 and simply reference it as guidance in the policy; reference TN 1297; retain clear statement that FQS-I currently requires UM for quantitative testing only; added revision log; updated document footers; revise document id to FRAP "3" for consistency with other FQS-I accreditation policy documents.
2008/1	January 24, 2008	Deleted FQS-I address and phone numbers from cover sheet.

FQS-I POLICY AND GUIDANCE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCEPT OF UNCERTAINTIES

ISO 17025 introduces the concept of uncertainty of measurement as an integral part of accreditation of testing laboratories.

Many forensic tests are purely qualitative and consideration is still being given as to how uncertainty of measurement applies in such cases. The issue of estimating uncertainty of measurement in regard to qualitative results is recognized as an area in which further guidance is required. ILAC will, as a first step, concentrate on the introduction of uncertainty of measurement for quantitative testing results.

Therefore, only uncertainty of measurement in <u>quantitative</u> testing is currently required by FQS-I.

FQS-I follows ILAC G17:2002 in regard to guidance on Uncertainty of Measurement. Additional guidelines on compliance are found in NIST Technical Note 1297 "Guidelines for evaluating and expressing the uncertainty of NIST measurement results" and ISO Technical Standard 5725, "Accuracy (trueness and precision) of measurement methods and results", copies of which are held by FQS-I.