



National Cooperation for Laboratory Accreditation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NACLA GRANTS RECOGNITION TO LABORATORY ACCREDITATION BUREAU

Washington, DC - - December 23, 2004 - The National Cooperation for Laboratory Accreditation (NACLA) has granted recognition to Laboratory Accreditation Bureau (L-A-B), a multi-discipline laboratory accreditation body (AB), headquartered in Fort Wayne, IN. L-A-B is the seventh organization that has been recognized by NACLA. Recognition is an indication that L-A-B has demonstrated to a NACLA evaluation team that it complies with NACLA procedures and the international standard for a competent AB (ISO/IEC Guide 58).

L-A-B was recognized for a specific range of its accreditation services: In the Testing area, mechanical and dimensional measurement; in the Calibration area, mass, torque, force, hardness and length.

L-A-B, a Michigan corporation, was established in 1999 to provide laboratory accreditation services to independent and captive testing and calibration laboratories. In addition to its headquarters facility, L-A-B has offices in Pittsburgh and Chicago. The company was established by a group of investors consisting of industry leaders from the auditing and laboratory community. It has accredited more than 250 laboratories serving the needs of the automotive industry and other sectors of the economy.

NACLA-recognized ABs sign a mutual recognition arrangement (MRA), whereby they commit: to use equivalent procedures in the accreditation of laboratories; to recognize the operation of other signatory ABs as having met the same technical requirements for competence; and to accept the test reports and calibration certificates issued by signatory-accredited calibration and testing laboratories.

The roster of NACLA-recognized accreditation bodies and the scopes of accreditation services for which they are recognized are posted on the NACLA web site (www.nacla.net). Visit the site for other information about NACLA as well.

NACLA is a private-sector not-for-profit organization, incorporated in the District of Columbia, with offices in Orlando, FL and Arlington, VA. The NACLA mission is to coordinate and promote consistency in U.S. laboratory accreditation activities by evaluating all ABs that apply for recognition and inviting those found competent to sign the NACLA MRA.

Further information about NACLA will be found at www.nacla.net.