

## THIRD PARTY CERTIFICATION IMPLEMENTATION

### ENERGY STAR® PRODUCTS

**SUBJECT:** Proficiency Testing and Inter-Laboratory Comparison Testing Requirements for Lighting Laboratories

DIRECTIVE NO. 2011-03

Date: 4/08/2011

All EPA-recognized lighting laboratories, including Supervised Manufacturers' Testing Laboratories (SMTLs) and Witnessed Manufacturers' Testing Laboratories (WMTLs), shall participate in traceable, rigorous proficiency testing (PT) and inter-laboratory comparison testing (ILC) to demonstrate photometric testing competency. Laboratories that are accredited by the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) for energy-efficient lighting testing methods participate in PT as part of their accreditation process. NVLAP-accreditation also requires bi-annual ILC. For EPA-recognized Accreditation Bodies (ABs) that do not carry out PT or ILC as part of their accreditation process, EPA supports efforts to make PT and ILC available for test methods used for ENERGY STAR products where needed. Furthermore, EPA requires that all EPA-recognized laboratories not accredited by NVLAP participate in both PT and ILC as described below.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has been offering PT for Solid State Lighting (SSL) products since April 5, 2011. NIST Metrology Services currently offers PT for IES LM-79 for sphere and integrated measures using an integrating sphere and goniophotometer (i.e., total luminous flux). PT is based on a laboratory's ability to accurately test a number of SSL devices (lamps or luminaires). PT for other lighting technologies and test procedures may be added as deemed appropriate by EPA.

To maintain recognition, laboratories currently recognized for solid state technology are required to submit documentation proving successful participation of PT to EPA. Laboratories applying for EPA recognition are required to submit proof of PT for LM-79-2008 and other required test procedures as part of their application for recognition. To apply to participate in NIST's PT, please contact Cameron Miller at [c.miller@nist.gov](mailto:c.miller@nist.gov), or via telephone at (301) 975-4713.