



IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING TEST LAB ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS CURRENTLY STARTING JULY 13, 2016!!!

It is imperative to understand the upcoming changes and potential effects they may have on applicants and/or test facilities. If you have any comments for the FCC regarding the time line or meeting requirements, the FCC's deadline to submit comments for draft KDB 974614 is March 25, 2016 (more on this below).

As of July 13, 2016 test labs will have to be accredited for specific scopes for performing both DoC and Certification Filings under FCC regulations. Note there have been petitions to the FCC to extend this date, but so far that has not happened.

In order to test and submit applications for equipment certifications, the test lab(s) performing these services will be required to have obtained specific scopes of accreditation. If the test lab has not been accredited for the specific scope required for a type of equipment, TCB's and FCC will no longer be permitted to accept data from them for the missing scope. Test labs are not required to be recognized for all scopes, but partial scopes for a particular area will not be recognized by the FCC. In order for the full scope to be recognized, the lab must be capable of performing all testing covered by the scope in accordance with the listed Standards and KDB Publications. These may currently be found on the following pages of this document, or links below.

FCC KDB 974614

(Accredited Test Firm Roles, see pages 7, 8 and 9 of the attachment document found under Attachment List.):

<https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/kdb/forms/FTSSearchResultPage.cfm?id=44684&switch=P>

NOTE: draft version of the next revision of KDB 974614 that can be commented on may be found at:

<https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/kdb/reports/PublishedDocumentList.cfm>

Additional related KDB Publications

FCC KDB 853844

(Accredited Testing Laboratory Checklist)

This checklist needs to be completed by the accreditation body and must be submitted to the designating authority as part of the application for obtaining a designation as an accredited lab under the US-EU MRA):

<https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/kdb/forms/FTSSearchResultPage.cfm?id=44615&switch=P>

FCC KDB 349827

(Test Laboratory Qualifications):

<https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/kdb/forms/FTSSearchResultPage.cfm?id=33872&switch=P>

All labs seeking designation should read the information available at the links above and contact their designating authority to find out how they should prepare their application for obtaining a designation as an accredited lab (including those under an MRA, such as the US-EU MRA). They should also contact their accreditation body of choice to find out how they should prepare their application for getting accredited for the purpose of obtaining a designation as an accredited lab (including those under the US-EU MRA).

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Regarding the proposed draft KDB Publication:

(1) The FCC has posted a draft Accredited Labs Program Roles and Responsibilities document (February 23, 2016). **It is available for public comment. The public comment period is ending on 3/25/2016:**

<https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/kdb/reports/PublishedDocumentList.cfm>.

Labs anywhere in the world, and any other stakeholder, may submit comments.

(2) Table 1 lists the scopes. It is “all or nothing” within each box (scope). There is some wording in the draft implying that organizations may be able to address a full scope (within a box) using multiple labs. It is not clear how this procedure will be handled organizationally, if implemented.

Under the current timing, FCC recognized accredited laboratories need to: (1) update their Scopes of Accreditation to include the full set of standards (including KDB Publications) for each applicable scope under which they are interested in performing testing, and they need to (2) apply or re-apply through their designating authority to the FCC for a specific scope of recognition. For the EU, this may mean that (3) the designating authority (notifying authority) in each member state needs to funnel the updated designations to the EU Commission, and the EU Commission needs to send them to the FCC.

This same process needs to be followed by US labs (obtain accreditation and/or reapply for items of interest in Table 1) and labs in other countries covered by MRA’s that allow for DoC and Certification Testing starting July 13, 2016.

The FCC is working on the development of a database that will identify the specific scope of recognition of each FCC recognized accredited lab.

As of July 13, 2016 (if there is no delay in implementation of the new rule), TCBs may only accept data from labs that are listed in this database for the appropriate scope that relates to the product being certified. Each TCB will be required to develop a process for this. (See TCB Roles and Responsibilities, Section O).

FCC KDB 641163

TCB Roles and Responsibilities

<https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/kdb/forms/FTSSearchResultPage.cfm?switch=P&id=44683>

Note: TCBs can continue to accept test data from 2,948 listed labs for a short period after the July 2016 deadline, as long as the testing was performed before the deadline.

Please remember, just because you are in the USA, Europe, Japan or other MRA partner, unless you are already prepared to meet the deadlines mentioned, you should provide comments to the FCC for consideration. Your voice in this process is important.

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FROM KDB 974614 V03 Pages 7, 8, 9 (Subject to changes noted separately in draft KDB)

Certification Testing. A testing laboratory performing tests in support of the FCC’s Certification requirements shall be accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 with a scope of accreditation covering the regulations and measurement procedures listed in Table 2. A testing laboratory is not required to be assessed and recognized for all scopes, but for each scope in table 2 that a testing laboratory is recognized for they must be assessed and compliant with all requirements within the scope. The accredited testing laboratory shall have the applicable standards included in their scope of accreditation from the list in Table 2.

TABLE 2: Scope of Accreditation for testing performed in support of Certification

Scope	Test Method(s)
Part 15 Intentional Radiators below 26.5 GHz – except Part 15D and Part 15E (non-DFS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intentional Radiators 	ANSI C63.10-2013, <i>American National Standard for Testing Unlicensed Wireless Devices</i> ²¹ KDB 789033
Part 15 Intentional Radiators above 26.5 GHz – except Part 15D and Part 15E (non-DFS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intentional Radiators 	ANSI C63.10-2013, <i>American National Standard for Testing Unlicensed Wireless Devices</i>
Part 15, Subpart D <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlicensed Personal Communication Systems devices. 	ANSI C63.17-2013, <i>American National Standard Methods of Measurement of the Electromagnetic and Operational Compatibility of Unlicensed Personal Communications Services (UPCS) Devices</i>
Part 15 Subpart E <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dynamic Frequency Selection (DFS) Devices 	KDB 905462
Part 18, Industrial, Scientific, and Medical Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consumer ISM equipment 	FCC MP-5 (February 1986), <i>FCC Methods of Measurements of Radio Noise Emissions From Industrial, Scientific, and Medical Equipment</i>
Licensed Radio Service Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial Mobile Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Part 20 ○ Part 22 (cellular) ○ Part 24 ○ Part 25 ○ Part 27 	ANSI/TIA-603-D (2010), <i>Land Mobile FM or PM Communications Equipment Measurement and Performance Standards</i> KDB 971168 ²²
Licensed Radio Service Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Mobile Radio Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Part 22 (non-cellular) ○ Part 90 ○ Part 95 ○ Part 97 	ANSI/TIA-603-D (2010), <i>Land Mobile FM or PM Communications Equipment Measurement and Performance Standards</i>
Licensed Radio Service Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 96 Citizens Broadband Radio Service 	ANSI/TIA-603-D (2010), <i>Land Mobile FM or PM Communications Equipment Measurement and Performance Standards</i> KDB 971168
Licensed Radio Service Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maritime and Aviation Radio Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Part 80 ○ Part 87 	ANSI/TIA-603-D (2010), <i>Land Mobile FM or PM Communications Equipment Measurement and Performance Standards</i>
Licensed Radio Service Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microwave Radio Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Part 27 ○ Part 74 ○ Part 101 	ANSI/TIA-603-D (2010), <i>Land Mobile FM or PM Communications Equipment Measurement and Performance Standards</i>

²¹ FCC 14-208 allows the use of ANSI C63.10-2013 on or after July 13, 2015 and § 2.950 applies transition requirements that allow the currently accepted older version of the standard to be used for a limited time.

²² KDB Publication 971168, <https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/kdb/forms/FTSSearchResultPage.cfm?switch=P&id=47466>.



Licensed Radio Service Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadcast Radio Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Part 73 ○ Part 74 	ANSI/TIA-603-D (2010), <i>Land Mobile FM or PM Communications Equipment Measurement and Performance Standards</i>
RF Radiation Exposure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devices subject to MPE or SAR requirements 	IEEE Std 1528™-2013, <i>IEEE Recommended Practice for Determining the Peak Spatial-Average Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) in the Human Head from Wireless Communications Devices: Measurement Techniques</i> KDB 865664 KDB 447498 ²³
Part 20 Hearing Aid Compatibility (HAC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial mobile services 	ANSI C63.19-2007, <i>American National Standard for Methods of Measurement of Compatibility Between Wireless Communication Devices and Hearing Aids</i> ANSI C63.19-2011, <i>American National Standard for Methods of Measurement of Compatibility Between Wireless Communication Devices and Hearing Aids</i> Note: Testing laboratories must be assessed and compliant with both versions of C63.19 to be recognized by the FCC for this scope. KDB 285076 ²⁴

²³ <https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/kdb/forms/FTSSearchResultPage.cfm?switch=P&id=20676>

²⁴ <https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/kdb/forms/FTSSearchResultPage.cfm?switch=P&id=36388>