

COMMUNIQUÉ

Change in Terminology Relating to Best Measurement Capability (BMC) and Calibration and Measurement Capability (CMC)

BMC (Best Measurement Capability) has been used by HOKLAS since 1985 to quantify the capability of accredited calibration laboratories. This term is also widely adopted by accreditation bodies in the world. However, it is different from the term CMC (Calibration and Measurement Capability) used by the community of national measurement institutes (NMI's). To reduce confusion that may arise in the dissemination of metrological traceability between NMI's and accredited laboratories, the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) has decided to adopt the term CMC. This is purely a change of term because both terms carry the same meaning.

HKAS Executive will implement the change on 1 April 2010. On that day, the term CMC will replace BMC on the scopes of accreditation of all HOKLAS accredited calibration laboratories. References to BMC in all HKAS publications will also be changed to CMC progressively. Laboratories are recommended to use the new term in their internal documents and operation starting from the same day. There is no need to re-do the calculations to support the CMC as the same calculations used to derive the BMC's can be reused without any change.

The change of term will not affect the competence of accredited calibration laboratories. You may continue to use their accredited service as before.

Further information on the change is available from Mr K W Chen of the HKAS Executive.

1 March 2010