

Application - Calibration Standards



‘Why do I need my calibration standards Certified Annually?’

Applications vary, standards should not!

Many factors can cause changes in calibration standards;

**Moisture
Oxidation
Magnetism
Temperature
Contamination
Natural ageing
Physical Damage
Normal Wear & Tear**

Operating any instrument naturally requires the operator to be completely familiar with the instrument. This level of proficiency is gained from any one of various sources. For simple instruments the operator's manual is often sufficient. For more complex instruments the operator usually seeks the help of others more familiar with the device in question.

It is fair to say that in the modern world of manufacturing a great deal of emphasis has been placed on making instruments more “user Friendly” this is obviously a good thing, but it can sometimes serve to obscure the complex nature of what the instrument it actually doing to give the observed result. Time pressures make us all want to achieve a result quickly in order that we may move on to the next task and it is this desire for speed of process that makes us overlook the basics, sometimes to our peril.

With the majority of instruments the most basic component is the calibration standard, possibly a lump of metal, a piece of plastic or some other expensive and innocuous piece of kit, however it is worthwhile remembering that this seemingly insignificant object is nearly always written into ISO for a company's operating procedure. The need to be able to back up any testing is critical.

There are many types of standard, those manufactured to specification agreed upon by Academia and the applicable industry, sometimes by the manufacturer of the instrument and others by the user themselves. In all cases they are designed to monitor the accuracy of the test instrument for which they were produced.

Next time you use an instrument take a look at your standard, are they still within the certification period? do they look to be in good condition? have they been stored properly? do they show signs of wear from repeated use? are you able to tell their condition?

Your calibration standard is the only thing between pass and fail, look after it and it will look after you.

Get your standards certified annually and you will be the better for it!

Have any questions or like re-certification, contact us now !

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