



ELEMENT POLICY ON REPORTING STATEMENTS OF CONFORMITY IN TESTING

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In the 2017 version of ISO/IEC 17025 there are requirements around reporting statements of conformity, the decision rules to be employed and how uncertainty of measurement is accounted for.

2.0 SCOPE

2.1 This policy applies to reporting statements of conformity. In the absence of an agreed alternative approach, Element will report test results and statements of conformity in line with this policy.

3.0 KEY TERMS

3.1 **Statement of Conformity:** a conformity statement or a statement of conformity is an expression that clearly describes the state of compliance or non-compliance to a specification, standard, or requirement

3.2 **Decision Rule:** rule that describes how measurement uncertainty is accounted for when stating conformity with a specified requirement

3.3 **Uncertainty (of measurement):** parameter, associated with the result of a measurement, that characterizes the dispersion of the values that could reasonably be attributed to the measurand

4.0 POLICY

4.1 Element policy is to provide statements of conformity that make use of decision rules only in response to either a customer specific request or where regulation or normative documents require and prescribe the decision rule to be employed. A decision rule describes how measurement uncertainty is used to report a numerical result simply as a pass or fail based on whether the result falls within the specification limits prescribed.

4.2 TEST METHOD CLASSIFICATIONS RELATING TO UNCERTAINTY OF MEASUREMENT

4.2.1 Category I

Decision rules are not applicable to qualitative or semi-quantitative test methods as the results are reported based on observation or estimation rather than precise quantification.

4.2.2 Category II

Well-recognised standard methods that are prescriptive with regard to the possible variables controlling uncertainty of measurement are regarded as consensus standards, having been developed by a broad cross-section of stakeholders. Examples are ASTM, BSI, ISO standards or those provided by government agencies or manufacturers with full regard for their subsequent application in material or product specifications accounted for. Standards that specify limits to the values of the major sources of uncertainty of measurement and how these are to be reported are regarded to have uncertainty of measurement embedded within the method.

4.2.3

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consideration of measurement uncertainty is required on the basis that the metho