
CHANGE IN DISSEMINATED VALUES

Purpose

The purpose of this Guide is to outline the steps to be taken when any aspect of the testing or calibration work is changed, resulting in a change to the currently disseminated calibration or measurement values.

Scope

The Guide applies to any change in the measurement facility, system or method, procedures, processes or controlled parameters that results in changes in currently disseminated calibration and measurement values.

Definitions

N/A

Protocol

1. The responsible party shall investigate to determine the root cause of the change and complete the first and second section of the Change in Disseminated Value(s) form (Appendix RBPD-G-12.A).

NOTE: Depending on the nature of the change, the Division Chief, Group Leader or Quality Manager may delegate the investigation to any staff member. The Group Leader and/or the Quality Manager may be required to conduct or assist in the investigation.

2. Corrective actions appropriate to the root cause and designed to eliminate the problem and prevent recurrence shall be selected. Guide RBPD-G-08, Corrective Action, should be consulted and applied if the root cause relates to nonconformances in the work or departures from the policies and procedures in the quality system.
3. The Group Leader shall review and declare acceptance (by signing the corrective action section) of the Change in Disseminated Value(s) form.
4. The responsible party shall notify the affected organization(s) in a timely manner.
5. If appropriate, a replacement report of calibration or certification shall be issued. It shall be uniquely identified and contain a reference to the original that it replaces. To identify the reissue, Rx (where x = 1, 2, 3...) as a suffix to the original test folder number must be added. The report should also contain a reference to the original that it replaces.

CHANGE IN DISSEMINATED VALUES

6. Standard Reference Material (SRM) certificates must retain their original number. A revised certificate shall contain a revision history. Changes to SRM certificates that do not affect certified values may be made in the form of an addendum to the certificate. Current owners of the SRM affected by this change shall be sent a new certificate accompanied by the addendum and any other relevant information. These changes will also be posted on the NIST SRM website.
7. The impact of the change in disseminated value should be documented in the Change in Disseminated Value(s) form (Appendix RBPD-G-12.A).

Acceptance Criteria

Quality should be demonstrated as restored to the calibration or SRM services (through an appropriate corrective action) prior to resumption of regular calibration and testing services.

After it is determined that the corrective action has succeeded, the investigator, the Group Leader, the Quality Manager, and the Division Chief shall acknowledge by signing the Change in Disseminated Value(s) form. This acknowledgement authorizes the resumption of services.

References

N/A

Documentation

Change in Disseminated Value(s) form
Logbooks

Filing and Retention

The Quality Manager files the original Change in Disseminated Value(s) form in the Change in Disseminated Value(s) folder. Copies may be made as needed.

Logbooks are kept with the individual calibration services and are maintained indefinitely.

Change in Disseminated Value(s) forms are retained indefinitely.

