

What is NACLA?

The National Cooperation for Laboratory Accreditation (NACLA) is a nonprofit corporation whose mission is to provide coordination, recognition, and worldwide acceptance of competent laboratory accreditation in the United States. In pursuit of its mission, NACLA is supported by a number of private- and public organizations, including the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST – include link)

NACLA Vision

The NACLA vision is: “A test or calibration performed once and accepted worldwide.” Pursuit of this vision will benefit all those with a stake in laboratory accreditation. By using one standard to recognize competent accreditation bodies in the United States, NACLA hopes to promote mutual recognition within the accreditation community. This reduces the redundancy of multiply accreditations for the same laboratory and helps reduce costs to all parties. NACLA also aims to provide coordination and focus for laboratory accreditation programs in the U.S. and to become the U.S. point of contract for international accreditation efforts. Eventually, NACLA plans to expand to include Canada and Mexico, our trading partners.

Current Status

At the present time, Richard B. Pettit of Sandia National Laboratories is a member of the NACLA Board of Directors. He reports on NACLA activities to DOE personnel and has assisted NACLA in developing an accreditation body recognition process that is compatible with national and international standards. At the present time, several DOE laboratories and organizations are members of NACLA.

Support Statement

The DOE Accreditation Committee supports the NACLA mission and vision. Further, the DOE accreditation Committee resolves to encourage DOE laboratories and organizations to become users of the NACLA accreditation body recognition process to join NACLA as member organizations.

Additional Information

Additional information can be obtained by contacting Richard B. Pettit, Sandia National Lab., MS-0665, Albuquerque, NM, (505) 844-6242, rbpetti@sandia.gov or from NACLA web site (<http://ts.nist.gov/ts/htdocs/210/nacla/index.html> - have link), or by contacting the current NACLA President Fred Grunder, AIHA, Fairfax, VA, (703) 849-8888, FGRUNDER@aiha.org