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Reference materials — Vocabulary

Matériaux de référence — Vocabulaire

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 334, *Reference materials.*

This first edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO Guide 30:2015), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

— order of presentation of the terms and definitions has been revised and regrouped;

— definitions of certified reference material and certified value have been revised;

— definition of indicative value has been revised to be more consistent with the typical characteristics and intended uses of such values.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user’s national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Reference materials (RMs) are widely used for the calibration of measuring systems, for the evaluation of measurement procedures, and for the internal or external quality control of measurements and laboratories. They can also enable the expression of functional properties in arbitrary units, for instance in certain cases relevant for biology or material sciences. RMs play an important role in national and international standardization activities and in the accreditation of laboratories.

This document defines terms used in connection with the production and use of RMs and certified reference materials (CRMs). It aims to ensure use of consistent terminology by organizations worldwide that work with RMs and CRMs.