

## **The RABQSA Laboratory Assessor Certification Scheme Launch: Increased International Recognition For 17025 Assessors**

**Sydney, Milwaukee, Athens:** RABQSA has today launched its newly developed Laboratory Assessor Certification Scheme designed to meet the requirements of Assessors working with the assessment and accreditation of laboratories to ISO/IEC 17025: General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories.

The Scheme will provide third party recognition of the qualification of Laboratory Assessors and will enhance the professional recognition of RABQSA Certified Assessors. The Scheme ensures that Assessors meet or exceed the competencies for Assessors of laboratories.

The Scheme has been developed by RABQSA in liaison with the Mexican accreditation body Entidad Mexicana de Acreditacion (EMA), the Canadian Association for Environmental Analytical Laboratories (CAEAL), the Institute for National Measurement Standards National Research Council of Canada and the American-based International Accreditation Service (IAS).

The Scheme provides international recognition for Assessors of laboratory competence, including assessments using national or International laboratory standards, or other laboratory standards recognized by RABQSA.

"Our accrediting body is a believer in the value of personnel certification, and that preparing for certification elevates the knowledge and professionalism of the individual," commented Hersh C. Brewer, Accreditation Officer, International Accreditation Service. "We are pleased to have been involved with this effort."

Ned Gravel, Manager Training & Quality, CAEAL said "The biggest attraction of this program is to show the laboratories that those assessing them have also gone through some hoops for someone other than the accreditation body. Our labs now believe they are not alone in having to go through a 'credentialing' process. They can see that the Assessors do too!"

"RABQSA finds invaluable the input and guidance from organizations working within the international laboratory accreditation community" stated Peter Holtmann, Director Business Development & Marketing, RABQSA, "we look forward to seeing this Scheme grow and contribute to the value of accreditation."

More information can be found on the RABQSA website at [www.rabqsa.com](http://www.rabqsa.com)

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