



# VCAP

## Verified Conformity Assessment Program

### *Ensuring Equity in NTEP Certificates of Conformance*



The National Conference of Weights and Measures has mandated that devices with NTEP Certificates of Conformance be subject to a third-party VCAP audit process in order to ensure that device performance is periodically tested to the appropriate environmental requirements per NIST Handbook 44, per the test protocols of NCWM Publication 14.

The intent of VCAP is to provide a level of assurance to manufacturers and customers that such devices perform to the original expectations and requirements which were accepted for NTEP Certification.

#### VCAP:

- ▶ Applies to NTEP Certificate of Conformance holders
  - Required for Load Cell Manufacturers (Dec. 09)
  - Other device types to follow
- ▶ Protects the Integrity of the NTEP Cert of Conformance
- ▶ Provides a focused review on device testing performance
- ▶ Includes many aspects of quality management systems
  - Organizations may leverage existing ISO 9001 processes and procedures

#### Benefits

- ▶ Ensures equity and assurance for on-going NTEP Certification
- ▶ Provides management system structure for business continuity and growth
- ▶ Provides accountability for device testing and performance
- ▶ Drives consistency, competence and control
- ▶ Creates a competitive advantage for organizations

#### Requirements

- ▶ Identify Metrologically Significant Components (MSC's)
- ▶ Sample & Test devices, and Calibrate test equipment
- ▶ Control Nonconforming devices & Issue Corrective Action
- ▶ Control Production and external Sub-Contractors
- ▶ Manage Engineering Changes
- ▶ Document requirements and Control documentation
- ▶ Train Personnel
- ▶ Conduct Internal Self-Assessments

#### Why Choose NOA?

- ▶ NCWM Member Organization
  - Industry-based VCAP experience
- ▶ Client-tailored programs designed to fit your needs
  - ISO 9001 and ESD S20.20 add-on services available
- ▶ "Interactive Audit" process
- ▶ Professional, competent, personable auditors
- ▶ Locally based auditors
  - Global operations in over 50 countries

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