

18.8.3 Terms related to certification and issuance of reference materials

Certification of a reference material

Procedure that establishes the value(s) of one or more properties of a material or substance by a process ensuring traceability to an accurate realization of the units in which the property values are expressed, and that leads to the issuance of a certificate.

Reference material certificate

Document accompanying a certified reference material stating one or more property values and their uncertainties, and confirming that the necessary procedures have been carried out to ensure their validity and traceability.

Certification report

Document giving detailed information, supplementary to that contained in a certificate, e.g. the preparation of the material, methods of measurement, factors affecting accuracy, statistical treatment of results, and the way in which traceability was established.

Certifying body

Technically competent body (organization or firm, public or private) that issues a reference material certificate which provides the information detailed in ISO Guide 31.

Notes:

- (1) It may be the same as, or different from, the issuing body (i.e. the body from which the certified reference material is available) and the testing body (i.e. the organization that carried out the measurements leading to certification).
- (2) Unless or until nationally or internationally recognized accreditation procedures operate, the technical competence of a certifying body can only be judged on the basis of the information provided in reference material certificates and certification reports.

Certified reference material producer

Technically competent body (organization or firm, public or private) that produces certified reference materials in accordance with the general and statistical principles detailed in ISO Guides 31 and 35.