

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Civil Engineering Position Paper on Procurement and Effective Practice of Construction Materials Engineering and Testing Services**

WASHINGTON, DC, August 30 – ACIL Civil Engineering Section Executive Committee has approved a position paper on procurement and effective practice of construction materials engineering and testing services.

Construction Materials Engineering and Testing firms have been referred to for decades in construction project specifications as the “Independent Testing Laboratory,” yet their role on projects, the contractual arrangements under which their Professional Engineering services are provided and industry-recognized standards and practices for such firms are both highly variable and poorly understood. The related professions and industries are in need of clarifying definitions for the procurement and effective practice of Construction Materials Engineering and Testing firms.

For over 65 years, the American Council of Independent Laboratories (ACIL) has provided the industry-recognized voice for the independent testing profession. This position paper provides a compilation of statements from ACIL’s Civil Engineering Section regarding clarification, definitions and positions the Construction Materials Engineering and Testing profession believes are necessary for the advancement of the profession and to help protect safety, health and welfare of the general public.

Founded in 1937, ACIL is the trade association representing independent, commercial scientific and engineering firms. Its members are professional services firms engaged in testing, product certification, consulting, and research and development. Affiliated membership is available to manufacturers’ laboratories, consultants, and suppliers to the industry and related trade associations.

ACIL is committed to promoting and protecting the interests of independent scientific, engineering and testing firms. Its goal is a business environment where independence is valued and competition is fair.

The position paper is available for viewing on the ACIL Web site ([www.acil.org](http://www.acil.org)) under News and Press.

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