

June 30, 2016

For Immediate Release

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ACIL Defines Laboratory Role in Smart Grid Implementation

The American Council of Independent Laboratories (ACIL) continues to define the role of testing and certification bodies, ensuring that testing and certification in the newly released standard for Smart Grid (SG) process implementation requires accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025, denoting the competence of test and calibration laboratories used to validate the interoperability of SG devices and systems. ACIL member Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) test laboratories are virtually all assessed to meet this critical ISO/IEC standard for typical immunity tests called out in the standard.

As one of eight members of the Smart Grid Testing and Certification Committee (SGTCC) Editing/Working Group, ACIL played an integral role in developing this standard, the SG Interoperability Process Reference Manual (IPRM), just released by the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA). The IPRM defines requirements and recommendations for SG general test policies, test suite specifications, test profiles, interoperability testing and certification authority technical programs, governance, laboratory qualifications, and (process) improvements, and includes an implementation approach.

The ACIL Conformity Assessment Section's EMC laboratories contributed EMC information throughout the standard, particularly in the main body Clause 7.2, EMC Considerations, and Annex B, EMC Testing, succeeding in retaining EMC material from the early IPRM document transformed into the more meaningful national standard now readily available to the public.

To purchase this standard for \$108.00 go to:

<http://webstore.ansi.org/FindStandards.aspx?SearchString=SG-IPRM+1-2016&SearchOption=0&PageNum=0&SearchTermsArray=null|SG-IPRM+1-2016|null>

About ACIL

Established in 1937, ACIL represents 120 third-party, independent commercial scientific and engineering firms with over 1,000 facilities across the US engaged in testing, product certification, consulting, and research and development to enhance public health and safety. A trade association based in Washington, DC, ACIL provides opportunities for advocacy, education and cross-discipline synergy to its members, and also offers affiliated membership to manufacturer's laboratories, consultants and suppliers to the industry.

About the SGTCC

To address the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) responsibility under the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) of 2007, NIST devised a three-phase plan to rapidly establish an initial set of standards, while providing a robust process for continued development and implementation of standards as needs and opportunities arise and technology advances. This plan led to the creation of the SGTCC, which is responsible for the IPRM and the support of the Interoperability Testing and Certification Authorities (ITCAs), and the committee's Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP).