



BNQ



LABORATORY
ASSESSMENT
ISO/CEI 17025

LABORATO



One-Stop Laboratory Assessment

Due to an agreement reached between the BNQ and the SCC, it is now easier and less costly for laboratories in Québec to demonstrate their competence to their clientele. This agreement makes it possible for laboratories to obtain recognition from the BNQ and accreditation from the SCC, without having to be assessed several times or having to satisfy a series of different criteria.

Under this agreement, qualified personnel from the BNQ can now assess laboratories that wish to be accredited by the SCC through the *PALCAN Program*.

The Bureau de normalisation du Québec (BNQ) is a body that, among other things, acts as a third party to assess conformity to standards. It works closely with business, industrial sectors and government agencies. As a partner of the Standards Council of Canada (SCC), the BNQ is qualified to assess laboratories wishing to be accredited through the Program for the Accreditation of Laboratories – Canada (PALCAN).



The BNQ has implemented a program that makes it possible to assess laboratories wishing to obtain recognition of their conformity to the ISO/IEC 17025 standard (new edition of ISO/IEC Guide 25) and so gain accreditation under the PALCAN Program. The aim of the program is to assess a laboratory's competence to perform tests.

The SCC's accreditation programs are based on international criteria that contribute to laboratory recognition not only in Canada but also elsewhere in the world. This national and international recognition offered by the PALCAN Program has a substantial value-added component, since it fosters free trade of products and services on globalized markets.

The PALCAN Program specialty areas for laboratory assessment are varied, including, for instance, construction materials, mineral analysis, the agri-food industry, environmental management, biomedicine, electrical and electronic products, and calibration. Testing fields are also wide-ranging, often including, among others, biology, chemistry, physics, mechanics, optics and heat transfer technology.

PALCAN Accreditation: A Strategic Investment

Market realities are such that companies wanting to stay competitive, both in Canada and abroad, must adapt not only to their clientele but also to their suppliers, governments and regulatory bodies. Cooperation and compatibility have become the golden rule for doing business.

It may be time for your company to take a new and more promising road to success.

We, at the BNQ, in conjunction with our partner, the SCC, would like to help you embark on that road.

Although any company wishing to accredit its laboratory must naturally invest in the process, there is no doubt that **accreditation** can:

- increase your company's cost effectiveness, productivity and quality;
- enhance customer satisfaction;
- enable you to offer services that better meet customer expectations;
- facilitate access to markets (since numerous governments and bodies seek accredited suppliers);
- foster laboratory development;
- reduce risks through greater management of responsibilities;
- give your company a competitive edge;
- broaden your company's horizons.

In business, potential clients, whether from here or abroad, want some guarantee as to the quality of work. Accredited through the SCC's PALCAN Program, your company will be recognized as having the necessary technical competence to offer quality services.





Listening to Your Needs

We are attentive to your needs so that we can offer personalized service. Our team includes a network of experienced and highly professional auditors. We believe that good communication with our clients is the key to ensuring quality services.

The BNQ is a body that develops standards documents and certifies product and services. It is also a registrar for quality management (ISO 9000) and environmental management (ISO 14001) system registration.

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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