

QUALITY ASSURANCE BULLETIN 008

Ambient Air Monitoring Equipment Requirements for Communication with Laboratory Hardware and Software

August 2022

Introduction

This bulletin is intended to notify the ambient air monitoring organizations within the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Primary Quality Assurance Organization (PQAO) of digital compatibility requirements for ambient air monitoring equipment certified by CARB's Standards Laboratory.

Issue

Data integrity can be compromised during manual data entry.¹ The conventional method of using analog signals and hand-entry for data collection suffers from many losses such as distortion, interference, noise, as well as misentry of data values during manual entry of data.

Policy

The Standards Laboratory has changed the practice of hand-entry and analog methods for data collection during the verification testing procedure. Clients using the certification services must ensure that newly purchased equipment are digitally compatible with the Standards Laboratory's digital communication protocol. The types of digital connections used for each verification station are listed in the Standards Laboratory Calibration and Measurement Capabilities (CMC) document. The CMC has an effective date posted in the footer of the document and when new methods of digital communications are obtained, the Standards Laboratory will update the CMC and effective date. The most current CMC is available on the [Standards Laboratory website](#).

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¹ U.S. EPA Good Automated Laboratory Practices, [Good Laboratory Practices Standards Compliance Monitoring Program | Compliance | US EPA](#).