

TO: Tinius Olsen Customers  
FROM: Laurie Mart, Quality Manager  
Shawn Byrd, Technical Manager  
DATE: March 29, 2021  
RE: Decision Rule Information per ISO 17025:2017sec. 7.1.3

Dear Tinius Olsen Customer,

As your calibration provider, we are contacting you to clarify our position regarding **Decision Rule** and our UKAS Scope of Accreditation. From ISO 17025 sec. 7.1.3, "When the customer requests a statement of conformity to a specification or standard for the calibration, the specification or standard and the decision rule shall be clearly defined. Unless inherent in the requested specification or standard, the decision rule selected shall be communicated to, and agreed with, the customer."

When sending out our Reminder Letters for equipment that is due to be calibrated, we typically include a 'Scope Summary sheet' based on our UKAS Scope of Accreditation. The summary sheet includes a column that calls out the applicable standard or specification to which your testing machine or instrument is calibrated.

- **Tinius Olsen's accredited calibrations determine pass/fail compliance status (Decision Rule) based on factors inherent within the applicable published standard and our own documented uncertainty budget(s).**
- Please note, some calibrations do not call out "pass" or "fail" but instead list **classification status (Decision Rule) which is based on factors inherent within the applicable published standard and our own documented uncertainty budget(s).**

\*Customer should specify requested class requirements or Tinius Olsen will provide best achievable classification.

#### **From ILAC G8:09 – Guidelines on Decision Rules (Sec. 4.2)**

"A decision rule can be either be binary or non-binary. This means either "pass" or "fail" only for binary conditions and some "conditional" terms for non-binary." When determining decision rule, measurement uncertainty must also be accounted for. If you have questions regarding risk analysis, determining Decision Rule, or need additional information we refer you to **ILAC G8 09:2019**.

We have updated and revised the UKAS Scope Summary sheets to provide clarity regarding our accredited calibration services and to better define the standards on which each procedure and the Decision Rule is established. The revised form now includes the following information:

- Applicable Tinius Olsen procedure # used for the calibration/verification
- Description of the verification
- Applicable standard(s) on which Decision Rule is established
- Whether the resulting certificate will report pass/fail or a classification

The updated UKAS Scope summary is included here for your reference.



| UKAS SCOPE SUMMARY     |  |                                 |           |
|------------------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Tinius Olsen Procedure | Calibration/Verification                     | Standard/Specification          | Pass/Fail |
| 1000                   | Force (Universal or other testing machines)  | ASTM E4:2016, &                 | P/F       |
| 1100                   |  | ISO 7500-1:2018                 | *Class    |
| 2000                   | Strain (Extensometers, Deflectometers, etc.) | ASTM E83:2016                   | *Class    |
| 2100                   |  | ISO 9513:2012 and ISO 5893:2002 | *Class    |
| 2600                   | Displacement on a testing machine            | ASTM E2309:2016                 | *Class    |
| 2800                   | Crosshead Speed Rate                         | ASTM E2658:2015                 | *Class    |

\*Customer should specify requested class requirements or Tinius Olsen will provide best achievable classification.

As the customer, it is your responsibility to request a statement of conformity. We realize there is no single decision rule that can cover all situations applicable to statements of conformity. Please inform us if you would like to request an alternate specification or standard for your calibration. You may direct your request to the quality department where it will be reviewed for technical approval.

Sincerely,

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