



# First Accreditation for Gloss Measurements

The first accreditation for gloss measurements was recently awarded to Aerospace Metrology & Electromechanical Calibration Ltd, a company based in Newcastle Upon Tyne. The company's scope of UKAS accredited calibrations has recently been extended to include this optical property.



Gloss is a difficult quantity to describe let alone measure; everyone has their own idea of what gloss is. It is essentially related to the reflection of highlights and is an important factor in quantifying the appearance of a product in many industries from plastics to cosmetics. In fact, anywhere the perception of a product is dependent on its reflective properties.

The importance of being able to quantify gloss, when in the past it has been simply subjective, has led to a large number of different instruments being produced to measure gloss, but often these are sold without traceability.

The emergence of an accredited laboratory able to calibrate both the instruments and reference standards will ensure that many more of these instruments will be calibrated in the future.

Accredited calibration of instruments is gradually becoming more important to the optical industry as new requirements dictate that traceability and competent measurements are demonstrated by accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025:2005.

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