



November 17, 2005.

Canadian Lab Accreditor CAEAL to Become a Signatory to the ILAC Arrangement for Testing

The Canadian Association for Environmental Analytical Laboratories (CAEAL) today, as a result of international recognition granted by the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC), was declared eligible for Full ILAC Membership and invited to sign the multi-lateral, mutual recognition arrangement (the "ILAC Arrangement"). The effective date of joining the ILAC Arrangement will be November 17, 2005.

The international agreement is sponsored by the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and provides mutual recognition between 50 accrediting bodies in 40 countries in Africa, the Asia Pacific region, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East. The main aim of the agreement is increased worldwide use and acceptance by both industry and government of results from accredited laboratories – "a product tested once and accepted everywhere".

CAEAL was established in 1989 as a non-profit partnership between government labs and private labs. It has accredited 160 of the 400 laboratories that participate in its programs, and it also delivers a special program for 195 water treatment facilities in Alberta.