

**Invitation to Tender**

***Testing of automotive batteries (lead-acid starters) for compliance with Capacity labelling of automotive batteries and accumulators legislation***

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**Enforcement Authority**

# Introduction

The National Measurement & Regulation Office (NMRO) is the appointed market surveillance authority, responsible for enforcing the **Capacity labelling of portable secondary (rechargeable) and automotive batteries and accumulators** Regulations within the UK.

For more information, visit the NMRO website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-measurement-office-enforcement-authority>

The NMRO will carry out a market surveillance project to determine the current levels of compliance in the automotive battery (lead-acid starters) sector in line with the Capacity Labelling requirements.

Tenders are invited for testing according to the requirements detailed below.

# Requirements

To test a selection of automotive batteries and accumulators (lead-acid starters) to verify compliance with the following Regulation:

* EU No 1103/2010 (Capacity labelling of portable secondary (rechargeable) and automotive batteries and accumulators).

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2010:313:0003:0007:EN:PDF>

The regulation states that the rated capacity and the cold cranking performance of automotive batteries and accumulators (lead-acid starters) shall be measured according to standard IEC 60095-1/EN 50342-1.

EN 50342-1:2006/A1:2011 includes specific amendments relating to the regulation and should be applied to this project.

## Test Reports

In addition to any requirements/format described in relevant testing standards, the following, NMRO specific content shall apply:

* Test reports should be generated for each individual product, in a form and format that is suitable for use in a UK court.
* The reports may be presented to persons with limited technical knowledge, so a clear and concise summary of the findings and the test results should be provided. Each report should therefore include a separate summary page containing the following data (for every regulation requirement tested):
	+ Test result
	+ Tolerances (if applicable)
	+ Statement of compliance/non-compliance with the requirements
* There shall be an additional separate report, collating the summary sheets from all the individual test reports. The data should be presented so as to allow easy comparison of results between the tested samples.

# Sample Details

A total of **seven** automotive lead-acid batteries will be tested.

A definitive list of sample products may not be available before the deadline date for receipt of bids. If a difference in pricing is envisaged for any specific type of battery (i.e. vented or valve regulated), please state this in the quotation.

According to the standard, seven samples of each battery type are required; six for test and one in case of failure etc. NMRO will supply seven samples of each battery type unless the supplier requests otherwise, in which case the number and reason should be stated in the response.

The supplier should also state any other requirements or preferences on the samples, including whether vented batteries should be supplied in a ready to use or dry-charged state.

# Laboratory Competency

Accredited test labs would be preferred, but other labs with equivalent quality management systems would be accepted.

Please describe the test methods to be used in the response to this ITT.

Testing may be used as part of a criminal investigation. Therefore the supplier must confirm that they can fulfil the evidential traceability requirements laid out in ISO 17025 for supplying evidence that may be used as part of a prosecution.

Testing is planned to start week commencing Monday 7th September 2015 with completion by week ending Friday 23rd October 2015. Suppliers not able to meet the completion date, should clearly state in the proposal a date by which the testing can be guaranteed to be completed. Test reports should be delivered to NMRO within one week of the testing completion date.