

Question 10.4

Topic: Hands-off Requirement for QA Testing

Question: Please clarify what is meant by performing a QA test hands-off.

Answer: For daily calibration error tests, hands-off means that the zero and upscale calibrations are performed in succession, with no adjustments to the monitor. For linearity tests and RATAs, the hands-off requirement means that only *routine* calibration adjustments (as defined in Appendix B, Section 2.1.3) are allowed during the test.

For example, if the linearity test for a peaking unit extends over more than one day and a routine daily calibration error test is performed before completing the linearity check, the monitor may be adjusted after the daily calibration error test, but only in a routine manner (i.e., so as to match (to the extent practicable) the calibration gas tag value). For flow RATAs, hands-off also means that the polynomial coefficients or K factor(s) must not be changed, either during the test at a particular load level or in-between load levels. The rule requires a 3-load flow RATA if the polynomials or K-factor(s) are adjusted.

References: Appendix B, Section 2.1.3

History: First published in October 1999 Revised Manual