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# Calibration Corner

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Issue 9

May 2019



*A Distinguished Window into the Rough and Tumble World of Calibration*

## World Metrology Day

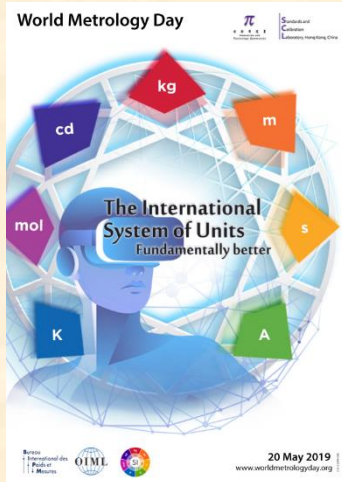
Grab your rescue inhalers and a spare pair of underpants, because do we have some wild news in store for you!

You've probably already guessed it, but Monday, May 20 is World Metrology Day! Finally, a holiday that all the world's religions can get behind!

We understand that this newsletter, to our collective shame, won't be sent out until after this joyous occasion has already passed. But we assume you've either already gotten your individual celebrations out of the way, or you're in the process of stocking up on Happy Belated World Metrology Day greeting cards.

World Metrology Day is an annual celebration that began on May 20, 1875, marked on the occasion of the signature of the Metre Convention by representatives from 17 countries in an effort to set a framework for global cooperation on the science of measurement.

The theme of this year's World Metrology Day is "The International System of Units – Fundamentally Better."



This theme came about to coincide with last November's General Conference on Weights and Measures, where the major shift for the definition of the Kilogram occurred (I'm sure you remember this from our December newsletter, which you almost assuredly have printed out and stuck to your office refrigerator).

Stay tuned for at least one interesting Metrology Day-related fact in upcoming issues!

### About This Issue

- After last month's article heavily referencing the first Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles movie, we probably needed to get down to business just slightly this month
- A significant (yet unspecified) portion of our local workforce also did not realize World Metrology Day was a thing.

## Lasers: A Follow-Up

In January, we discussed that in our last ISO 17025 surveillance audit, we added use of a laser as a measurement master on our scope of accreditation.

If that doesn't sound familiar, maybe the fact that we liberally used images and references to Austin Powers to explain lasers – like a half-wit might do – will ring a bell.

Well, we continue to use this capability! Below we see Nick using a laser to calibrate a 280" length measuring system (like, 23 feet!).

We also see him calibrating a 60" horizontal Universal Length Measuring instrument (ULM). Earlier this year, he performed a calibration on an 80" vertical ULM, as well.

So, if you ever need to measure something that's absurdly long, and don't want to stack a million gage blocks side by side to do it...you know a guy!



## Ask Kal, the Calibration Quokka



Hey Kal, I sent in equipment and was offered a "Report of Value" as an option on the cert. How does that differ from a normal calibration?

Most calibrations and certs report As-Found and As-Left measurements, and then assess whether the device passed or failed given allowable tolerances. Sometimes a customer might require that something be calibrated formally with a cert, but not actually need the item to technical "pass" or "fail." In an instance like this, the calibration lab can provide a Report of Value, or ROV, on the item, which simply lists what the objective measurements are for it. An ROV can also be useful when you would otherwise have an item "Fail" calibration, but would prefer a limited calibration cert with a ROV than a failing cert.

Additionally, an ROV calibration can be used for an instrument that fails by the manufacturer's specification – but for which a user chooses to apply their own, less stringent specification that still meets their own internal process requirement.

Have a general calibration-related question you'd like answered?  
Email [newsletter@dts-na.com](mailto:newsletter@dts-na.com) with "Ask Kal" as the subject!



For questions, comments, concerns, or to opt out of emails, please contact:  
[newsletter@dts-na.com](mailto:newsletter@dts-na.com)

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