



Information

Federal Institute of Metrology METAS



On 1 January 2013, the Federal Office of Metrology has become the Federal Institute of Metrology. The abbreviation METAS will be retained.

The Federal Institute of Metrology (METAS) is the Swiss national metrology institute. In line with this role:

- it provides internationally recognised measurement units with the requisite degree of accuracy;
- it compares the measurement standards with those of other national metrology institutes or similar institutions at appropriate intervals;
- it promulgates the Swiss legal time;
- it conducts the necessary scientific-technical investigations and development work; in particular it does research into the impacts of new technologies and develops viable measurement methods that reflect the latest scientific knowledge.

METAS remains a part of the Federal Administration and undertakes the mandatory tasks assigned to it by virtue of the Federal Law on Metrology dated 17 June 2011. These include in particular:

- Granting of approvals for new measuring instruments;
- Carrying out of initial verifications and periodical verifications by METAS itself or authorised verification laboratories;
- Subsequent supervisory tasks (inspection and market surveillance);
- Supervision of the verification laboratories;
- Supervision of the implementation by the cantons.

METAS collaborates in the preparation of decrees relating to legal metrology.

METAS represents the Confederation in international organisations and associations in matters concerning metrology (Contract of 20 May 1875 regarding the establishment of an International Bureau of Weights and Measures, Agreement of 12 October 1955 on the Establishment of an International Organization of Legal Metrology).

METAS imparts internationally recognised measurement units with the accuracy required for Swiss industry through calibrations, tests and the sale of reference materials.

METAS operates a conformity assessment body for measuring instruments in the form of METAS-Cert.

METAS is entitled to render commercial services, provided it complies with the legal framework (Art. 25 of the Federal Law on the Federal Institute of Metrology dated 17 June 2011).

METAS is subject to supervision by the Federal Council. The latter defines the binding strategic goals for the institute for four years at a time.

METAS finances itself through:

- Payments by the Confederation;
- Fees and fee-sharing arrangements with the cantons and the calibration centre;
- Third-party funds.

The organs of the institute

Institute council

Professor Dr. Martina Hirayama, President, Director of the School of Engineering, member of the university administration of the Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW) and President of the funding area Micro and Nanotechnologies as well as Vice President of the Commission for Technology and Innovation (KTI).

Professor Dr. Ulrich W. Suter, President of the Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences (SATW). From 1988 until 2008, he was Professor of Polymer Chemistry at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich.

Professor Dr. Thierry J. L. Courvoisier, President of the Swiss Academy of Sciences (SCNAT) and Professor of Astrophysics at the University of Geneva.

Dr. Tony Kaiser, Senior Consultant at Consenec AG in Baden-Dättwil, and since 2004 President of the Swiss Federal Energy Research Commission (CORE).

Dr. Matthias Kaiserswerth, Director of the IBM Research Laboratory in Zurich and Vice President of Global Systems Management and Compliance Area Strategy of IBM Research.

Auditors

Swiss Federal Audit Office (EFK)

Management board

Dr. Christian Bock, Director
Dr. Philippe Richard, Deputy Director
Dr. Gregor Dudle, Deputy Director



Legal form and basic principles

Legally independent public body, established by law, whose purpose does not consist primarily of providing services in the marketplace (Art. 7a Para. 1c Ordinance on the Organisation of Government and Administration RVOV).

METAS is attached to the Federal Department of Justice and Police (EJPD).

Federal law dated 17 June 2011 concerning the Federal Institute of Metrology (EIMG; SR 941.27)

Ordinance concerning the Federal Institute of Metrology (EIMV; SR 941.272)

The personnel of METAS remain subject to the Federal Personnel Law. They therefore remain bound by the personal and criminal-law confidentiality obligations.

Federal Institute of Metrology (METAS)

Postal address:	Lindenweg 50, 3003 Bern-Wabern, Switzerland
Delivery address:	Lindenweg 50, 3084 Wabern, Switzerland
Telephone number:	+41 58 387 01 11 (reception desk)
Fax:	+41 58 387 02 10
E-mail:	FirstName.Name@metas.ch info@metas.ch (reception desk)
Internet:	www.metas.ch
Bank account: SWIFT/BIC-Code: IBAN (CHF-account): IBAN (EUR-account):	Swiss Post, Post Finance POFICHBEXXX CH60 0900 0000 6045 3071 1 CH87 0900 0000 9195 8758 3
Company identification number (UID) and VAT number:	will be published on www.metas.ch/institut
Certification body:	METAS-Cert (No. 1259)

Federal Institute of Metrology METAS

Lindenweg 50, 3003 Bern-Wabern, Switzerland, Telephone: +41 58 387 01 11, www.metas.ch