Buehler receives ISO certification for Vickers, Knoop reference hardness testing blocks

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Buehler, Lake Bluff, Ill., announces that the Buehler Wilson Reference Block Laboratory in Binghamton, N.Y., has achieved accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 by A2LA (American Association for Laboratory Accreditation) for Rockwell, Knoop, Vickers, and Brinell hardness test blocks and indenters.

A2LA is in full conformance with the standards of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electro-Technical Commission (IEC), including ISO/IEC 17025. Buehler globally markets the reference blocks along with the Wilson hardness testers and DiaMet software.

The testers in the calibration process undergo a stringent monitoring process using NIST traceable devices, and Buehler conducts 100% inspection to ensure that every single test block meets the physical requirements of ASTM (thickness, flatness, parallelism, surface roughness and magnetism). The laboratory then uses specialized hardness testers to calibrate blocks according to Rockwell, Vickers, and Brinell scales that comply to ASTM and ISO standards for calibrating test blocks.

According to Matthias Pascher, Hardness Product Manager, “The hardness readings are taken and statistics calculated according to the applicable standards. Each test block will get its own certificate, thus achieving full traceability. In addition to in-house daily verifications, standards also require indirect verifications to be completed periodically by an accredited third-party. After the indent certification, the blocks are engraved with a laser to add a grid (if applicable) and the hardness value with tolerance according to the standards. All hardness test blocks ship with ASTM and ISO certificates. Buehler is the only global supplier in the metallographic solutions market that produces and calibrates hardness reference blocks.”

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