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Ministry  
of Defence

**JSP 886**  
**DEFENCE LOGISTICS SUPPORT CHAIN MANUAL**

**VOLUME 7**  
**SUPPORTABILITY ENGINEERING**

**PART 8.17**  
**CALIBRATION POLICY**

| <b>VERSION RECORD</b> |                     |   |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---|
| <b>Version Number</b> | <b>Version Date</b> | <b>Details of Change</b>  |
| 1.0                   | 05 Nov 12           | Published version   |
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|                       |                     |   |

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## **CHAPTER 1: CALIBRATION POLICY**

### **CONTEXT**

1. This part provides detailed policy and guidance on the Calibration of Test Equipment (TE) and certain Support Equipment (SE) within MOD, required for the effective Through Life Support (TLS) of equipment, in accordance with MOD Integrated Logistic Support (ILS) policy.
2. Within JSP 886 Volume 7 the policy requirements for Support and Test Equipment (S&TE) are covered in two parts, Part 8.06 which relates to TE including Automatic Test Systems (ATS) and Part 8.07 which relates to SE.
3. During acquisition of S&TE the calibration requirements should be considered as the location of the equipment, location of the calibration lab and the periodicity of calibration will have an impact on the operational capability and may increase logistic burden to the Supply Chain during operations.
4. Procedures and processes for calibration are detailed in JSP 509 'The Management of Test and Measuring Equipment'.

### **POLICY**

5. The following policy applies to the calibration of TE:
  - a. All S&TE used for measurement, testing or calibration purposes shall be calibrated to an agreed specification via an unbroken chain of calibrations which are traceable to the National Measurement Standards. Guidance is to be sought from JSP 509, which specifies the relevant Calibration Statement of Requirement (CSOR) to ensure that S&TE complies with the manufacturer's claimed performance specification and any additional requirements unique to MOD.
  - b. Equipment shall be calibrated at laboratories holding an appropriate system certification provided that the scope of the certification covers the work to be done. For contracts where delivered products include a requirement for calibration DEFSTAN 05-55 Part 3 shall be invoked.
  - c. The Defence Community shall consider the use of MOD calibration laboratories, Engineering Support Services within the Warship Support Maintenance Initiative (WSMi) and [Defence Support Group \(DSG\)](#).
  - d. All measurements, whether made for purposes of calibration or product characteristic assessment, are to take into account the expanded uncertainty of measurement of the measurement process for each parameter measured. This will include errors attributable to the standard or measuring equipment, personnel, procedure and environment. The expanded uncertainty of measurement is to be no more than 25% of the tolerance for each specified measurement. Where this cannot be achieved, the equipment sponsor is to be notified to enable a decision to be made regarding selection of an alternative calibration laboratory or acceptance of the level of service offered. For a detailed explanation of Calibration terminology refer to UKAS publication M3003.
  - e. All measurements are to have an associated uncertainty at a confidence level of 95% or better.

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- f. TE shall be calibrated at periodic intervals to preserve the integrity of the measurements performed. The responsibility for mandating Calibration Intervals will lie with the owner of that TE,. All GPTME listed in JSP 509 Volume 2 database will have the relevant Calibration Interval mandated by DES LE OSP- OIP- GPTME Operational Infrastructure Programme (OIP), and all SPTME will have the Calibration Interval mandated by the PT who owns it.
- g. The calibration status and serviceability of all measurement standards and TE shall be identified by means of a suitable calibration label signifying compliance to an agreed specification. All labels shall comply with MOD Form 1775: The Standard System of Colour Coded Calibration Labels used on MOD Test Equipment as defined in JSP 509.
- h. TE whose calibration date has expired shall not be used. In exceptional circumstances and to support operations, a specialist engineering officer may grant an extension up to a maximum of 25% of the declared calibration interval, provided that the application is made prior to calibration due date. For further guidance refer to JSP 509 "Concessions to Use TME Beyond Calibration Validity Dates".
- i. Calibration of all Strategic related TE carried out at Northern Calibration Facility (NCF) Faslane is governed by US/UK programme specific policy outlined in Polaris/Trident II Technical Arrangement Part 29 and other relevant policy documents. JSP 886 Volume 7 will not therefore be applicable to this specific programme.
- j. All calibration/testing activities carried out outside of a calibration facility (previously known as on-site calibration, verification, cross-checking, qualification or unit/user level testing) are now referred to as Unit Level Tests, and are to be conducted in accordance with relevant Unit Level Test Procedures contained in. JSP 509 Volume 5.
- k. Certain items of SE also require periodic testing or calibration, and are therefore subject to MOD policy as above:
  - (1) Hand tools such as micrometers, verniers, torque wrenches.
  - (2) Instrumentation or indicators such as pressure gauges, flow meters, panel meters.
  - (3) Armament gauges and certain jigs and fixtures.

## **PROCESS**

- 6. Refer to JSP 509.

## **ASSOCIATED STANDARDS AND GUIDANCE**

- 7. The following documents are associated with Calibration:
  - a. [UKAS Publication M3003 The expression of uncertainty and confidence in measurement.](#)
  - b. [Support Solutions Envelope \(SSE\) Key Support Area \(KSA\) 2: Supportability Engineering.](#)

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- c. Governing Policy 2.4: S&TE
- d. [JSP 509: The Management of Test and Measuring Equipment.](#)
- e. [DEFSTAN 05-55: Measurement and Calibration System Requirements for Ministry of Defence Test & Measurement Equipment](#), Part 3: Sub Contract of Calibration. Part 1 and Part 2 have been deleted and are now contained in JSP 509
- f. MOD Form 1775: The Standard System of Colour Coded Calibration Labels used on MOD Test Equipment.

**OWNERSHIP AND POINTS OF CONTACT**

8. The owner of this Part is Director Joint Support Chain (D JSC). Head of Supply Chain Management (Hd SCM) is responsible for the management of JSC policy on behalf of D JSC. The policy sponsor for this document is DES JSC SCM-TLS-TL.

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**ORGANISATION**

**Figure 1: Organisation of Support Equipment, Test Equipment and Calibration**

