



SCIENCE & ENGINEERING • SCIENCE ET INGÉNIERIE

## **Why use an accredited lab for your breathing air testing? Accreditation is a recognition of competency**

An accredited designation is the recognition of competency for labs that perform tests, analyses, measurements and calibrations. In Canada, compressed breathing air is to be analyzed by a lab accredited to CSA Standard CAN/CSA Z180.1-13.

Accreditation addresses standard operating procedures, internal audits, external audits, proficiency testing, calibration requirements, and training requirements. The accredited designation provides confidence to clients that the lab is maintaining the rigid standards required, verified through independent audits and proficiency testing.

Obtaining and maintaining accreditation is time consuming and expensive so there is a temptation to make misleading or false accreditation claims. To be certain if a lab is accredited, ask for a scope of accreditation from the accrediting body; that is an official listing of the parameters and test procedures the lab is accredited to perform. RPC is accredited for CAN3-Z180.1-13 and our scope is available here [http://palcan.scc.ca/specs/pdf/28\\_e.pdf](http://palcan.scc.ca/specs/pdf/28_e.pdf). Breathing air accreditations are on page 15 of our scope of accreditation.