



December 6, 2002

Dear SRM User:

Subject: Expiration of Certification for SRM 2034 Holmium Oxide Solution Wavelength Standard from 240 nm to 650 nm

SRM 2034 is a sealed liquid wavelength standard with 14 certified band positions spanning the UV and visible spectral regime that has been issued in a number of "series" since 1985. The earliest standards carried no indication of the series or year of issue on the standard itself, and the date must be inferred from the accompanying certificate. Later batches of the SRM were issued with the series (date) indicated on the cell, as well as in the certificate.

Samples of the original 1985 vintage material have been maintained at NIST and examined for stability at the time of each new series production. For many years, the stability statement in the certificate was incremented each year by one year, corresponding to the time interval between the date of issue and 1985. In 1995, it was decided to adopt ten years as the conservative useful life for the standard.

Our current policy on the expiration of SRM 2034 is that the certification for any past or current series of SRM 2034 expires at the end of the calendar year ten (10) years after the year of issue, as determined from the cell or accompanying certificate. To avoid confusion, future certificates for the SRM 2034 will specify the calendar date of expiration on the certificate.

Because SRM 2034 is batch certified and has been shown to be stable for a period exceeding 10 years, it is not an effective use of NIST resources to recertify these SRMs individually as they expire. It is recommended that customers purchase a new unit of SRM 2034 several months before the NIST expiration date or customer-determined recertification schedule. To order a new SRM, the NIST Standards Reference Material Group (SRMG) sales office may be contacted by telephone at (301) 975-6776, by fax at (301) 948-3730 or by e-mail at srminfo@nist.gov. Technical questions concerning this SRM may be addressed to Dr. John Travis by telephone at (301) 975-4117 or by fax at (301) 977-0587.

Sincerely,

John Rumble, Jr.
Chief, Office of Measurement Services

NIST