

Nomenclature of comparisons registered in the KCDB

Upon registration with the KCDB Office, each key or supplementary comparison is identified by a unique nomenclature.

The first part of the name identifies the comparison. A second part may be used to identify sub-sets of a particular comparison (see below).

- First, the body under the auspices of which the comparison is carried out. This can be:
 - Consultative Committee ‘**CC**’,
 - BIPM ‘**BIPM.**’,
 - Regional Metrology Organization designated by its acronym: ‘**AFRIMETS.**’, ‘**APMP.**’, ‘**COOMET.**’, ‘**EURAMET.**’, ‘**SIM.**’.The dot ‘.’ is added for the BIPM and for the acronym of a Regional Metrology Organization for clarity in the reading of the nomenclature.
- Second, the field of measurements, designated as in the titles of Consultative Committees:
 - ‘**AUV**’, for Acoustics, Ultrasound and Vibration,
 - ‘**QM**’, for Amount of substance,
 - ‘**EM**’, for Electricity and Magnetism,
 - ‘**RI**’, for Ionizing Radiation,
 - ‘**L**’, for Length,
 - ‘**M**’, for Mass and related quantities,
 - ‘**PR**’ for Photometry and Radiometry,
 - ‘**T**’ for Thermometry,
 - ‘**TF**’ for Time and Frequency.
- Third, which applies only when the comparison is specifically chosen by a given Working Group of a Consultatif Committee, part of the acronym of the Working Group preceded by a dot, for instance:
 - ‘**.RF**’ for the Working Group on Radio Frequencies of the CCEM,
 - ‘**.M**’ for the Working Group on Mass standards of the CCM,
 - ‘**.P**’ for the Working Group on Pressure of the CCM,
 - ‘**.F**’ for the Working Group on Force of the CCM,
 - ‘**.D**’ for the Working Group on Density of the CCM,
 - ‘**.H**’ for the Working Group on Hardness of the CCM.

This also applies to the three sections of the CCRI (without the dot):

- ‘**(I)**’ for Section I,
- ‘**(II)**’ for Section II,
- ‘**(III)**’ for Section III,

as well as to the CCAUV:

- ‘**.A**’ for Acoustics,
- ‘**.U**’ for Ultrasound,
- ‘**.V**’ for Vibration,
- ‘**.W**’ for Water.
- Fourth a hyphen ‘-’.
- Fifth a capital letter: ‘**K**’ for key comparison or ‘**S**’ for supplementary comparison.
- Sixth is a number, generally in the successive order ‘**1**’, ‘**2**’, ‘**3**’, etc.

The second part of the nomenclature may be omitted, but is useful to distinguish between several sub-sets of a particular comparison. It can take any form but should always be preceded by a dot ‘.’. The most usual cases are:

Last updated : 25 January 2010

- ‘.a’, ‘.b’, ‘.c’ for sub-comparisons, corresponding to different ranges of measurements of the same quantity,
- ‘.Xy- $\alpha\beta\gamma$ ’ which appears in the field of ionizing radiation for identifying the measurement of a specific radionuclide $^{\alpha\beta\gamma}\text{Xy}$,
- ‘.1’, ‘.2’, ‘.3’ for subsequent bilateral comparisons to a key comparison,
- the year in which the comparison is initially registered in the KCDB.

The second part of the nomenclature may also be built up by piling-up a number of such information, for instance ‘.a.1.2010’. Dots are then used as separators.

Two or more comparisons corresponding to the same description but carried out over two different time intervals must have different identifiers. Normally, these comparisons are identified with different numbers, in which case the second part may be kept unchanged. However, it is possible to keep the same number, in which case changing the second part is mandatory.