

CCTF
WGMRA Guideline 9
(June 2017)

CCTF criteria for obtaining traceability in time and frequency

This guideline provides CCTF criteria for obtaining traceability in time and frequency referring to the document [CIPM 2009-24](#) (13 October 2009) on the “Traceability in the CIPM MRA”.

A number of NMIs and DIs contribute to the computation of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), which interval unit is the SI second. These institutes maintain local realizations designated by UTC(k), and are traceable to UTC via the key comparison CCTF-K001.UTC, the unique key comparison that has been defined by the CCTF.

NMIs and DIs have two ways for establishing their traceability route to the SI second:

a. By participating to the monthly key comparison CCTF-K001.UTC piloted by the BIPM and published in the BIPM KCDB;

b. Via another NMI or DI which participates to the key comparison CCTF-K001.UTC having relevant CMCs with appropriate uncertainty published in the BIPM KCDB. In this case, the involved time/frequency comparisons must be first submitted to a process of validation at least at regional level, with a communication to the CCTF WG on MRA for commenting. A fully documented report is to be presented for supporting the results of the comparison claiming for traceability, which shall include the comparison procedure and uncertainty budget.

No alternative paths have been recommended by the CCTF.