Chemical and biological references at the Federal Institute of Metrology METAS

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The Federal Institute of Metrology (METAS) serves as the federal centre of competence for all issues related to measurement, to measuring equipment and measuring procedures. It is the Swiss national metrology institute. As such, its mandate is to ensure the availability in Switzerland of measurement and testing facilities with the degree of accuracy needed to meet the requirements of the economy, research and administration. METAS stands at the cutting edge of measurement accuracy in Switzerland.

In chemistry and biology, the classical concepts of metrology (traceability and measurement uncertainty) are only partially established. Traceability of measurement values to the international system of units SI can make significant contributions to technical and scientific progress in various areas. At METAS we focus on the areas of environmental, health and life sciences that are relevant to the Swiss economy, administration and science. Results of four recent collaborative R&D projects advancing measurement science in chemistry and biology will be presented.

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