

The Prospects for Application of the “Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement” in Russia

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It has to be admitted that presently in Russia, in the field of evaluation of accuracy of measurement, there is a double norm. On the one hand, written standards and technical specifications for general technical requirements on measuring instruments, methods of verification, procedures for carrying out measurements, on methods for performing tests do not practically use the concept “uncertainty of measurement”. On the hand, the process of Russia’s integration into the world community calls for application of this concept. The discussion, which is still in progress, among specialists of high school and metrologists of major institutes has not yet culminated in a consensus of opinions on the matter concerning the expediency of introduction the Guide in Russia into metrology practice. The following two main reasons among many other ones are worthy of noting: firstly, the drawbacks in presentation of the outlined concept in the Guide, and secondly, a fully-developed and well-operated system of evaluating errors of measurements. As the way out of this difficulty, the VNIIM’s specialists developed the normative document “Recommendation on Application of the Guide”.

The authors of the report present the content of the given document for consideration, and give their appraisal of the prospects for application of the Guide and the concept “measurement uncertainty” to fit the different levels of metrological activities, such as: standard base facilities of the country, outstanding metrology institutes, lower levels of a measurement traceability system, metrology science for institutions of higher education.