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## **ICS Offers Abbreviated Benchmark Testing to NIJ 0101.06**

**Brunswick, Ohio** – As NIJ is soon to release a critically revised version of their standard for personal ballistic protection: NIJ 0101.06; timing and compliance is becoming critical to manufacturers, distributors and importers as ballistic resistant products and raw materials will be required to meet this new standard.

The new standard, utilized to qualify body armor for law enforcement and domestic tactical response use, is significantly more rigorous than the current (NIJ 0101.04) standard. A 10 day aggressive simulated wear procedure (prior to armor testing), increased threat velocities, and an 8 fold increase in test shots aim for improved performance and reliability in armor certified under the new NIJ standard.

To date, NIST/NLECTC has not accredited any independent test laboratory (including those whom are currently accredited under the 0101.04 standard) to test to the new NIJ 0101.06 standard. However, having already completed our NVLAP on-site assessment visit for NIJ 0101.06, ICS is ideally positioned to assist manufactures in preparation for the forthcoming NIJ 0101.06 standard.

Sensitive to the testing cost factors this new standard imposes, ICS has designed an abbreviated NIJ 0101.06 test protocol for manufacturers wishing to benchmark their product line against the new standard. The abbreviated protocol is outlined in the attached table. The reduction in shots and samples is significant from that which the complete test standard imposes (note: the full 0101.06 protocol requires up to 384 shots). However, ICS believes manufacturers will find the abbreviated benchmark protocol to be cost effective while remaining indicative of product performance to NIJ 0101.06 criteria. ICS is also taking orders for complete NIJ 0101.06 testing should manufacturers desire.

ICS is formally accredited by the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (a2La) to a wide range of ballistic protective standards including MIL-STD-662, STANAG 2920, CAN-CGSB 179.1 and NIJ 0101.04. The a2La is the default body in the U.S. for accrediting test laboratories and a U.S. signatory to ILAC and other foreign National Recognition Agreements.