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## **Certificate of Conformance - Instron's Quality Process for Partner® Materials Testing Software**

Dear Instron Customer,

Instron develops and maintains Partner materials testing software using a professional development and testing process. This process verifies and validates the final product and includes thorough design review and rigorous testing. To ensure that Instron's Partner software exceeds your data integrity requirements, we are providing you with the following testing details that are performed on every release of the Partner software.

A Partner software update will not affect the system calibration, accuracy, and/or repeatability. Since transducer calibration is performed outside of the Partner software, this testing is not required on 5500, 3300, IS-02, 59 Series or MarkIII controlled systems. Instron does however recommend (and international standards such as ASTM and ISO require) re-verification of the system on a regular schedule. In addition, re-verification is strongly endorsed for transducers or signal conditioning components that have been repaired or replaced.

Note: Although our tests indicate that the machine will experience no change in calibration, your own internal quality programs and procedures may still require a certified verification after installing a software update.

Partner Calculations are verified using the following methodology:

1. Results obtained with a previous version of Partner and verified as accurate are opened with the current version of Partner. The current version reads in the data associated with each test result and recalculates new results.
2. The results obtained with the previous version of Partner are compared against the new results generated after the update was installed. They are expected to be exactly the same value unless a design change was implemented for a given calculation that enhances and/or improves the Software Calculation.
3. If any result produces a different value than that of a previous version and is not deemed more accurate by a design change, the defect is reported back to the Software Design team for correction.
4. After the defect is fixed, the calculations are tested again.

Instron has developed Partner software to meet the requirements of a variety of ASTM, ISO, and many other international standards. Instron's primary focus is to ensure the software provides for the safe operation of your testing system and the integrity of your test data. While it is not possible to guarantee the correctness of every aspect of our software, Instron has endeavored to provide the most thoroughly tested package available in the materials testing industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert S. Barclay".

Robert S. Barclay  
Software Quality Assurance  
Instron® Corporation, High Force Applications  
Tel: 800-473-7838 Opt 3

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