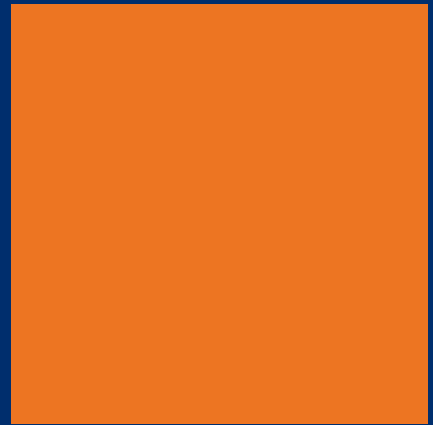


2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Thank You

For Picking Up A2LA's 2025 Annual Report

Whether you're an A2LA customer, assessor, vendor, staff member, or industry partner, you've played an important part in helping us to improve the quality and compliance industry in 2025. So, before you dive into this Annual Report, we want to thank you for your dedication to accreditation and your contributions to continual improvement in your profession, organizations, industries, and beyond.

In this Annual Report, we'll examine A2LA's organizational growth, the strategic plan we took to get there, the positive impacts we've made, and meet the leaders who have helped to pave the way.

Everything that we've accomplished—and everything in this report—is thanks to our united efforts in pursuit of A2LA's mission, vision, and core values.



MISSION

We embody the highest integrity and expertise to create trust, safety, and quality throughout the world.



VISION

We create a safer, healthier world.



VALUES

- Quality
- Integrity
- Community
- Accountability
- Leadership





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Board of Directors



Mary Kay Krogull
Chair



Brad Goskowicz
Ex-Chair



Robin Stompler
Vice-Chair



Mike Carter
Secretary & Treasurer



William Troy
Member



Tim Osborne
Member



Tony Lupo
Member



Allison Mackenzie
Member



Lonnie Spires
Ex-Officio



Darla J. McClure
Counsel

Executive Team

Meet Our Leadership Team



Lonnie Spires
CEO & President



Tom Tovey
Chief Financial Officer



Trace McInturff
Vice President,
Accreditation Services



Andrew Bohan
Executive Director,
Strategic Engagement



Jim Powell
Executive Director,
Organizational Excellence



Julie Bonebrake
Director,
Marketing



Randy Query
Director,
Governmental Relations



Chris Gunning
Director,
Operational Excellence



From the Chair of the Board

It has been my honor to serve as Chair of the A2LA Board of Directors in 2025. I remain deeply grateful for Brad Goskowicz's continued guidance, collaboration, and support as we transitioned into a new era of opportunity and growth. Reflecting on 2025, I am proud to say that our organization did more than persevere—we excelled. This year marked a period of significant momentum, fueled by strong strategic execution, a dedicated workforce, and the unwavering trust of our stakeholders. The foundation we have built

together allowed us not only to stabilize in the wake of recent global disruptions, but to accelerate our progress beyond expectations.

While 2024 brought lingering challenges from the post pandemic landscape, 2025 told a very different story. This year, we saw a resurgence across our key markets, stronger customer engagement, and meaningful expansion in both programs and partnerships. Notably, we surpassed our targets in audits and certifications, driven by continued market share gains and a renewed demand for high-quality accreditation services. These achievements are a direct result of our team's agility, strategic focus, and willingness to embrace change.

One of the standout accomplishments of 2025 was the record-setting Annual Conference. Building on last year's remarkable performance, we exceeded attendance, revenue, and exhibitor engagement once again—solidifying the conference as a premier event in our industry. The enthusiasm from participants, along with expanded collaborations with leading customers, federal agencies, non-profit partners, and industry associations, further strengthened our visibility and reinforced our role as a trusted leader in the accreditation community.

Another major milestone was the opening of our new West Coast office in Boulder, CO in September 2025. This strategic expansion represents far more than a new physical location—it marks a significant step forward in enhancing our national footprint, improving regional accessibility, and supporting customers with a growing presence in the western United States. The Boulder office has already generated excitement among our stakeholders, accelerated our engagement with emerging markets, and positioned us to respond more rapidly to regional needs. It stands as a clear symbol of A2LA's forward momentum and long-term vision.

Looking ahead, 2026 presents us with exciting new horizons. Our strategic priorities will center on scaling innovation, expanding globally, and enhancing our digital capabilities to better serve our customers. Investments in technology, automation, and process modernization will ensure we remain at the forefront of our industry. We will also continue advancing our sustainability and community stewardship initiatives, recognizing their importance in shaping both our long-term success and our responsibility as a mission-driven organization.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our outstanding employees—your passion, expertise, and dedication are the driving forces behind our success. To my fellow board members, thank you for your strategic insight and steadfast commitment to governance excellence. And to our stakeholders and partners, your trust, engagement, and collaboration have been invaluable, and we look forward to deepening those relationships in the years to come.

As we close out a year defined by achievement and momentum, I am filled with optimism for what lies ahead. Together, we will continue to seize opportunity, advance our mission, and elevate our impact.



From the CEO & President

As I reflect on 2025, I am most proud of the people who make A2LA's work possible every day. Our executive leadership team, dedicated staff, and exceptional assessors are the foundation of our success. Their expertise, professionalism, and commitment to excellence continue to strengthen A2LA's reputation for quality and trusted customer service across the accreditation community. Guided by our core values of Quality, Integrity, Community, Accountability, and Leadership, our team remains focused on delivering the highest level of technical expertise and support to the organizations that rely on A2LA.

A significant milestone in 2025 was the expansion of our national presence with the opening of our new office in Boulder, Colorado. This strategic step strengthens our ability to serve customers across the western United States, improving accessibility while reinforcing our commitment to responsive, high-quality service. As our programs and partnerships continue to grow, this expanded presence allows us to better support the evolving needs of our customers and stakeholders.

Partnerships remain a critical element of A2LA's success. Our collaboration with the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) represents an important example of how cooperative relationships can advance shared goals and broaden opportunities for organizations seeking trusted accreditation services. Partnerships such as these enable A2LA to expand its reach while maintaining the high standards that define our work.

Beyond our national initiatives, A2LA continues to play an active role on the global stage. Through our leadership and participation in organizations such as APAC, ILAC, Global AC, and NAAF, we contribute to the ongoing advancement of international accreditation frameworks. These efforts help strengthen global confidence in conformity assessment while ensuring that A2LA remains a respected voice within the international accreditation community.

We also continued developing future leaders within our organization through our NEXT Gen Leaders initiative, which cultivates leadership skills and prepares staff to guide A2LA into the future. In addition, A2LA hosted its Summer Internship Program for the ninth year, providing students with meaningful, hands-on experience and valuable insight into the accreditation field.

Our executive team and Board of Directors spent valuable time together during strategic meetings throughout the year. These discussions provided an opportunity to reflect on our progress, align on future priorities, and ensure that our long-term strategy remains focused on quality, service, and innovation.

As we look forward, our work remains guided by the principles that define A2LA. Our mission—to embody the highest integrity and expertise to create trust, safety, and quality throughout the world—drives our commitment to excellence in everything we do. Our vision of creating a safer, healthier world reminds us that accreditation plays an essential role in protecting people, products, and systems globally.

The achievements of 2025 reflect the strength of our people, the trust of our partners, and the shared commitment of our entire community. Together, we will continue building on this momentum, strengthening our impact, and advancing A2LA's mission in the years ahead.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in this important work.



From the VP of Accreditation Services

As we close 2025, I'm proud of how A2LA's community – our accredited organizations, assessors, members, volunteers, partners, and staff – came together to strengthen confidence in testing, calibration, and inspection across the markets we serve. In a year defined by rapid change and rising expectations for quality, our work remained focused on what matters most: competence, impartiality, and trust in results.

A highlight of the year was gathering in person for AnnCon25 in Dallas. The Annual Conference continues to be one of our most important forums for learning and connection – bringing together technical experts and quality professionals to share practical insights, discuss evolving requirements, and collaborate on solutions that improve outcomes for customers and communities.

In 2025, we also expanded A2LA's reach through meaningful program development and partnerships. Early in the year, A2LA and the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) introduced a dual accreditation pathway designed to streamline cross-border compliance for laboratories operating in both countries. By reducing duplicative effort while maintaining rigorous oversight, this collaboration supports laboratories pursuing broader market access and helps ensure consistent confidence in results across North America.

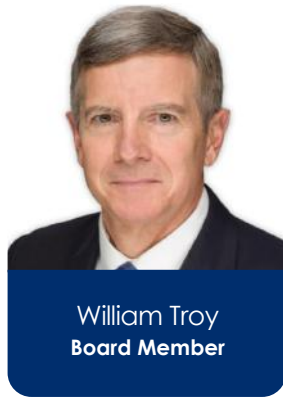
Later in the year, we launched the Industrial Hygiene and the Environmental Microbiology Laboratory Accreditation Programs, responding to increased demand for reliable microbiological analysis of environmental samples and the growing emphasis on indoor environmental quality and public health. These programs reflect A2LA's continued commitment to staying ahead of emerging needs while grounding new services in internationally recognized requirements.

To better serve stakeholders across the country, we also took a major step forward operationally by opening A2LA's office in Boulder, Colorado. This expansion strengthens customer support and positions our team to respond more effectively – especially for organizations in the western United States – while creating additional opportunities to grow and develop our internal expertise.

Throughout the year, we worked alongside specialized communities navigating important updates and heightened scrutiny. In forensics, we supported laboratories preparing for changes to the FBI's Quality Assurance Standards for DNA testing and databasing. In competition animal drug testing, we supported laboratories seeking to demonstrate competence against additional requirements through coordinated assessment approaches.

Behind every accreditation decision is a process – and behind every process are people. In 2025 we continued investing in assessor development and providing clearer guidance and practical educational resources that help organizations prevent nonconformities and build resilient quality systems. Just as importantly, we continued listening, using feedback to refine our service delivery, and improve the overall customer experience.

Thank you for the trust you placed in A2LA. Your work, and ours, contributes to a safer, healthier world. I look forward to building on this momentum in 2026, together.



Overview From William Troy

A2LA staff, led by CEO Lonnie Squires, took a fresh, unique approach to strategic planning in 2025. Guided by the organization's vision, mission, and core values, they took an outside-in look at A2LA. They first identified their key stakeholders: customers, members, staff, assessors, and specifiers. While the CEO and

staff had come to know these stakeholders well over many years, they temporarily put that knowledge aside and, instead of making assumptions about what the stakeholders wanted and needed, took the radical step of essentially starting with a blank sheet of paper. They appointed "ambassadors" for each stakeholder, and asked:

"What is the value proposition of A2LA to you?"

"When you look at A2LA, what do you see?"

"How can A2LA meet your needs better?"

The ambassadors dug deep to assess each stakeholder group's expectations, how A2LA met them, and where improvement was needed. They learned that simply asking the questions demonstrated their commitment to serving their stakeholders' needs and delivering results. Then, armed with these insights, they crafted A2LA's strategic plan to enhance the value proposition for each stakeholder group in ways that meet today's requirements and invest in the future.

As I consider how this approach took hold in 2025, I have three impressions.

First, there was a wholehearted embrace of a new, very different approach to strategic planning. That's never easy for an organization. The concepts, vocabulary, and processes are new. A2LA should be proud that its team was willing to take on something quite different, which has tremendous potential to reveal a strategy that will push the organization into the future.

Second, we learned that while the needs and desires of every key stakeholder must be considered, they cannot all be equally important at all times. Prioritization is a continuous process that should shift over time in response to each stakeholder's business case. In healthy strategic planning, there is an open, transparent, continuous, and productive competition for resources. A good strategy ensures the right stakeholders are resourced at the optimal time to advance A2LA's mission. This process is off to an excellent start.

Finally, I was proud to see A2LA fully embrace a radically different approach to strategic planning. It is a credit to the CEO and senior staff that there was no indication of a return to familiar ways. They have appropriately "burned the boats" and set a path that will pay off by revealing a strategy that strengthens relationships with every key stakeholder and advances A2LA's mission.

Staff

In 2025, A2LA Staff were hard at work building strong customer relationships, staying up to date on accreditation and quality standards, contributing to working groups and Technical Advisory Committees, and expanding their expertise in all areas of conformity assessment. Below are the impacts A2LA Staff made on the accreditation industry and the promotions we celebrated in 2025.

Promotions

Many of us were recognized for our growth and earned promotions.



Matt Mifsud
Staff Accountant



Daniel Hopp
Sr. Accreditation
Officer



Carley MacLaren
Sr. Accreditation
Officer



Tedi Shreeves
Chemical Program
Manager



Conor Morrissey
Accreditation Officer II



Jaime Le
Accreditation Officer II



Andy Randolph
Accreditation Officer II



Jaik Thompson
Accreditation Officer II



Spencer Torgerson
Accreditation Officer II



Melissa Smith
Accreditation Officer II



Zach Schmidt
Accreditation Officer II



Andrew Bohan
Executive Director,
Strategic Engagement



Jim Powell
Executive Director,
Organizational Excellence

2025 Summer Interns

A2LA's one-of-a-kind Summer Internship Program gives students the opportunity to learn critical business and career skills while gaining hands-on experience working with A2LA's expert staff. In 2025, we welcomed six promising interns to work alongside us at our headquarters in Frederick, MD. They left their mark on A2LA through data clean up and analysis, group projects, new ideas, giving back to the community, and more.

A2LA takes great pride in pouring into the next generation of professionals while helping them develop their dreams and skill sets to match. We know this batch of bright future leaders will get exactly where they want to go, and we're thankful to be part of their journey!

- Tyler Vierbuchen, UMBC
Quality
- Sophia Yarros, Penn State
Events
- Brandon Gladfelter, Pitt
Accounting
- Lauren Cooper, Bethany College
Marketing
- Bryce Johnson-Dendy, Penn State
Accreditation Services
- Dylan Speirs, Towson
Business Development



Kudos From A2LA Staff

“Michael Dominiski provided valuable support whenever questions arose during the process, and the assessment was an enriching professional experience.”

Doris Hernández, Lab Coordinator, Hanes Furniture

“Beginning with the first time we contacted A2LA, the staff was helpful and responsive. In particular, Forensic Program Manager Rachel Duke went above and beyond to help us. She was responsive and knowledgeable about how to navigate the process and solve problems we encountered. A true professional!”

Jim Parhan, Latent Print Examiner, Owensboro Police Department - Latent Fingerprint Laboratory

Industry Involvement

ACIL

Trace McInturff, Conformity Assessor Section (CAS)

Joe Appolonia, Cannabis Science Section (CSS) Member

Amanda Styers, Construction Materials Engineering & Testing (CMET) Section

Chris Gunning, Environmental Science Section (ESS), Food Science Section (FSS), CSS, Dietary Supplements Working Group

Randy Querry, Government Relations Executive Committee

Haley Benjamin, CSS Working Member

Stephanie Rippeon, ESS

Heather McLemore, FSS Committee

AFQAM

Rachel Duke, Associate Member

American National Standards Committee C63

Megan McConnell, Sub-Committee 6 Vice Chair

American Chemical Society

Tedi Shreeves, Member

AOAC

Heather McLemore, ALACC Committee, TDLM Committee

Cheyenne Lewis, PFAS-TOF Working Group Member

APAC

Trace McInturff, General Assembly Delegate, MRA Council Delegate, MRA Council Chair, MRA Management Committee Chair, Executive Committee, Treasurer

Adam Gouker, TC1 Chair, Technical Committee 1, MRA Council Alternate

Trace McInturff, Adam Gouker, Rob Miller, Randy Querry, & Chris Gunning, Lead Evaluators

Jordan Acton, Ashley Kamauf, Joe Appolonia, Nick Slawson, Team Evaluators

Marcela Shkolnik, AI Joint Working Group Committee

Andrew Bohan, Communications Committee, Digitization Working Group

Joe Appolonia, Biobanking Working Group Member

Carlyn Mathews, Medical Testing Working Group Member

AIQI Consortium

Ashley Kamauf, Representative

ASTM

Amanda Styers, C09 and E07 Committee

Rachel Duke, E30 Committee

Ryan Kidwiler, D35 Committee

Jenna Schoettker, E11, E12, and G03

Committee

Marcela Shkolnik, C28 and D01

Committee

Tedi Shreeves, D02 Committee

Haley Benjamin, D37 Committee and Technical Contact

Joe Appolonia, D37, E56, F24, F42, E62 Committee

Clinical & Laboratory Standards Institute

Carlyn Mathews, Expert Panel on Quality Management Systems

Anastasia Miller, US TAG to ISO/TC212 Member

Florida FSEA

Stephanie Rippeon, Committee Member

IAF

Rob Miller, General Assembly Delegate

ILAC

Trace McInturff, General Assembly Delegate, Arrangement Management Committee (AMC) Chair, Executive Committee, ILAC/IAF Joint Executive Committee, A-Series Working Group, ILAC-WADA Liaison Group Co-Convener

Lonnie Spires, Financial Audit Committee Member

Steph Morin, AIC WG Metrology Committee

Vincent Pugh: AIC WG Metrology Committee; ILAC G8 Writing Group

Haley Benjamin, AIC WG ISO 20387, G7 Working Group

Adam Gouker, Arrangement Committee; Accreditation Issues Committee; Pxx Working Group Convener

Carlyn Mathews, AIC WG ISO 15189

Nick Slawson, AIC WG ISO 17034; AIC WG ISO/IEC 17043

ILI

Chris Gunning, Board of Directors

ISBER

Haley Benjamin, Committee Member

ISO

Ashley Kamauf, WG31 (ISO/IEC 17020)

Rachel Duke, ISO/TC 272 Technical

Committee on Forensics Sciences

Brittney Rollison, ISO/TC 272 Technical

Committee on Forensics Sciences

Paul Kaylor, ISO/TC 272 Technical

Committee on Forensic Sciences

Nick Slawson, TC334 Working Groups

Carlyn Mathews, ISO/TC 212/WG,

Member to the US Tag to ISO/TC 212

ITAC

Trace McInturff, ITAC 15 – Standards and Technical Trade Barriers

Maryland Forensic Laboratory Advisory Committee (FLAC)

Brittney Rollison, Chair

NAAF

Lonnie Spires, Board Chair

NCSLI

Steph Morin, Committee Member; Accreditation Resources Committee; Standards Writing Group (Z540);

Calibration Systems Resource Committee

Vincent Pugh, Committee Member;

Legal Metrology Committee;

Measurement Information Infrastructure and Automation Committee;

Intrinsic Standards Committee

Jenna Schoettker, Committee Member;

Intrinsic Standards Committee;

Automotive Metrology Committee;

Healthcare Metrology Committee

Melissa Smith, Healthcare Metrology

Committee

SAE

Joe Appolonia, G19 Committee Member

Scientific Working Grp. on Dig. Evidence

Brittney Rollison, Committee Member

TNI

Nick Slawson, Board of Directors, Quality

Mngmnt. Systems Committee Member

Stephanie Rippeon, Chemistry

Expert Committee Member

Lauren Webb, Quality Management

Systems Committee, Field Activities

Committee Member

Cheyenne Lewis, Quality Mngmnt

Systems Committee Member

David Fricker, NEFAP Executive

Committee, Field Activities

Committee Member

Conferences, Meetings, and Trade Shows

In 2025, A2LA staff were on the road attending a wide range of conferences, trade shows, and meetings across a range of sectors, including environmental testing, forensic science, life sciences, calibration, food safety, materials technology, and more.

Being present at these events allows us to connect face to face with accredited organizations and industry partners, stay current on technical and regulatory developments, and better understand the challenges our customers are navigating. These conversations and connections help ensure A2LA remains engaged, informed, and well positioned to support the industries we serve. Below are the conferences, trade shows, and meetings we attended in 2025.



NELAC Institute's (TNI's) Forum on Environmental Accreditation

Jacksonville, FL | February 3-6

Inspection Expo & Conference (IEC)

St. Louis, MO | February 5-7

American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Annual Conference

Baltimore, MD | February 17-22

Pittcon Conference and Exposition

Boston, MA | March 1-5

ACIL Policies and Practices (P2) Meeting

Washington, DC | March 3-6

The American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) Annual Symposium

Denver, CO | April 4-8

California Water Environment Association (CWEA) Annual Conference

Palm Springs, CA | April 22-25

Annual Executive War College on Diagnostics, Clinical Laboratory, & Pathology Management

New Orleans, LA | April 29-30



Trade Shows

Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) Annual Conference

Portland, OR | May 5-8

Florida Society of Environmental Analysts (FSEA) Spring Conference

Clearwater, FL | May 21-23

110th National Council on Weights & Measurements (NCWM) Annual Meeting

Reno, NV | July 13-17

National Conference of Standards Labs International (NCSLI) Workshop & Symposium/CPM UAFP IAFP

Cleveland, OH | July 18-24

International Association for Food Protection (IAFP) 2025 Annual Meeting

Cleveland, OH | July 27-30

AOAC Annual Meeting & Exposition

San Diego, CA | August 22-28

2025 IEEE International Symposium

Raleigh, NC | August 18-22

The Advanced Materials Show USA

Columbus, OH | September 30-October 1

Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers (AFQAM) Annual Training Conference

Portland, OR | October 7-10

Future Labs Live

Philadelphia, PA | October 15-16

Automotive Testing (AutoTest) Expo North America

Novi, MI | October 21-23

87th ACIL Annual Meeting

Albuquerque, NM | November 4-6

ASQ Measurement Quality Division Conference

Novi, MI | September 16-19

The Battery Show

Detroit, MI | October 6-9

National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) Legislative Summit 2025

Boston, MA | August 4-6



WORK HARD PLAY HARD

Not everything at A2LA is serious business! Sometimes we like to let off some steam with cornhole tournaments, BBQ, relay races, visits from furry friends, and happy holiday gatherings

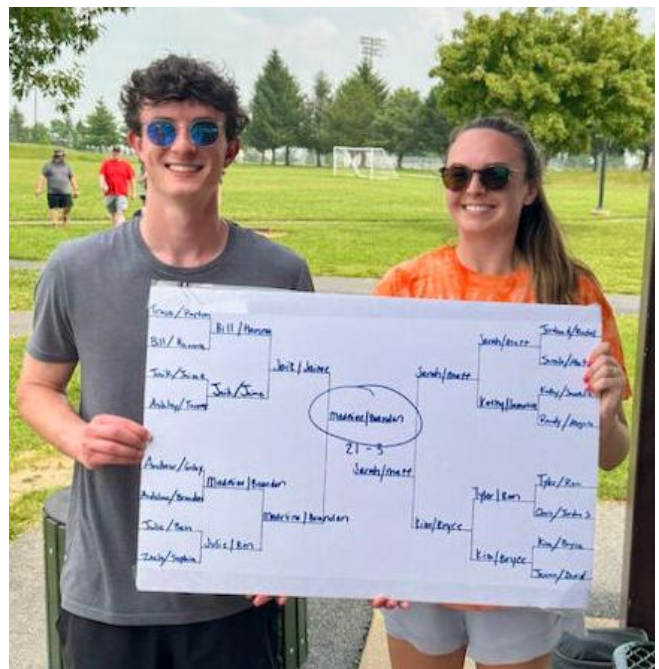


Annual Summer Picnic

A2LA headed to a local park in Frederick, MD to have some fun in the sun for the Annual Summer Picnic!

Staff enjoyed a delicious BBQ lunch, followed by a cornhole tournament, played baseball, lacrosse, and volleyball, and ended with mouthwatering snow cones on a hot day.

2025's cornhole champions were Executive Business Manager Madeline House and Summer Accounting Intern Brandon Gladfelter.



techfredrick

Another office-favorite is the techfrederick Games, and the A2LA crew of Nick Slawson, Jaime Le, Jaik Thompson, Kathleen Glancey, Tedi Shreeves, Jordan Shaffer, and Jenna Schoettker put on their capes of quality and masks of metrology to take this event by storm!

techfrederick is a network of local high-tech companies committed to connecting professionals through advocacy, education, communication, and networking opportunities. The techfrederick Games aim to strengthen the community and foster camaraderie through fun, friendly competition, where one team will ultimately emerge victorious—all while raising awareness of techfrederick and the participating companies.

This A2LA team played games like sitting down volleyball and relay races and took home the blue ribbon in the life-size superhero “Guess Who?” game!



Everlast, The Therapy Alpaca

In July, our office was visited by Everlast, an 11-year-old certified therapy alpaca from Wags for Hope, a non-profit also based in Frederick, MD.

Over 45 A2LA team members got to meet and get to know Everlast, and we can't thank Wags for Hope enough for sharing him with us!





Therapy Dogs

A2LA was also lucky enough to be visited by Go Team Therapy Dogs of Frederick, MD for a fur-filled break!

Pups Brady, Duncan, Aidy, and others conducted an exclusive 2-hour training about napping schedules, the best tricks for tastiest treats, and how to roll over for optimal belly rub exposure. A2LA staff enjoyed their company, and the pups sure seemed to enjoy the extra scratches.

Annual Holiday Party

For the 2025 holiday season, A2LA staff gathered at RAK Brewing in Frederick to celebrate the end of another successful year!





Membership

A2LA Membership

A2LA's Membership Program made great strides in 2025 by providing even more value to A2LA Members and their organizations.

The Professional Development Hub was added to the Members Only website, giving Members a centralized resource designed exclusively for quality professionals. Whether you are just beginning your career or are a seasoned expert, the Professional Development Hub is a one-stop destination for tools, events, and resources tailored to the many accreditation programs and ISO standards A2LA supports.

Several new sections graced the pages of the quarterly Members Only newsletter, The Scuttlebutt, in 2025. For example, a section was established for Member-contributed content, training, webinars, and trade shows. And, the Membership Spotlight was launched, a section highlighting the knowledge, experience, and successes of A2LA Members.

Throughout 2025, the value of membership was reinforced by reminding Members of existing benefits and resources through quarterly member email reminders and LinkedIn posts.

A2LA Top Member

At the 2025 Annual Conference Recognition Dinner, we added another special award to the docket: the A2LA Top Member Award. This award goes to the most engaged member within the Membership community who has logged into the portal most. Whether you log on to ask an internal calibration question in the forum, search the Professional Development Hub for an upcoming trade show, or watch an on-demand webinar about root cause analysis, you could be working your way to the Top Member spot. The designated winner is awarded with the coveted orange Top Member jacket.

At AnnCon25, Cecily Wood took the top spot! Bill called her up on stage to accept the honor of the first Top Member and she proudly sported her orange jacket for the rest of the conference.



The Benefits of Membership

A2LA membership offers numerous advantages that empower members to excel in their industries:

- Fostering Connections
- Comprehensive Networking
- Advancing Government & Global Affairs
- Setting Standards of Excellence
- Driving Global Recognition
- Global Promotion



Membership Type	Members
Accreditation Council	220
Individual	77
Organizational	674
Networking	1
Enterprise	21
Institutional	2
Honorary	3

The Secret Scuttlebutt Phrase

A2LA Members received a secret phrase in the issue of the exclusive Members Only newsletter, The Scuttlebutt, before AnnCon25. If they found Membership Manager Bill Vierbuchen at the conference in Dallas and uttered this phrase, they received a drink ticket for an extra beverage!

Throughout the conference, the buzz around the secret phrase grew, and more Members found Bill to claim their free refreshment. Members were careful to keep the phrase a secret and even came up with a few creative ways to get the message to Bill.

This exciting game was a great way to encourage Members to read The Scuttlebutt and entice non-members to consider signing up for this valuable program! What was last year's secret phrase, you ask?

*“I Got 99 Problems
But Accreditation Ain't One!”*

For the secret phrase of AnnCon26, become an A2LA Member and read the Spring 2026 newsletter, The Scuttlebutt!



**Want to learn more about A2LA Membership?
Scan the QR code or visit [A2LA.org/Membership](https://www.a2la.org/Membership) today!**

Assessors

Process Improvements

Part of 2025's strategic plan included continuing several initiatives to improve communications, onboarding, oversights, and processes for A2LA assessors, therefore, giving CABs a better customer experience.

The goal the team is working towards is to reduce overall turnaround time, from application to accreditation, by 10%. Some of these process improvements include simplified checklists and assigning assessors sooner in the process. The simplified checklists will reduce the administrative burden on assessors, allowing them to spend more time focusing on the observation of activities. And, the new batching process will allow for greater predictability of when assessments will occur. This will result in more effective assessor utilization, greater loyalty, assessment forecasting, and greatly reduce the need for extension on accreditation expiration dates.

Onboarding

The Operational Excellence team began to overhaul assessor onboarding in 2024 and continued this effort in 2025. They examined the entire process and made significant changes, including assigning new assessors staff mentors to mentor them through the preparation and assessment phases of the accreditation process.

Oversights

To ensure more consistent and thorough oversights, the Op. Ex. team improved evaluator training both for staff evaluators and veteran assessors. In addition, the team focused on finding ways to make oversights more time and cost effective with strategic planning.

Resources

The Operational Excellence team also worked closely with program managers to review available assessors and ensure adequacy of resources both for current and future needs—and identified areas where we needed to recruit new assessors.

Assessor of the Year

At AnnCon25 in Dallas, Texas, we honored Mr. CK Li as the 2025 Assessor the Year!

CK has conducted a significant number of assessments for A2LA, including critical for-cause assessments to investigate complaints, further showcasing his expertise and commitment to upholding industry standards and A2LA expectations. And, A2LA staff have consistently noted that his work is of the highest quality, characterized by thoroughness, accuracy, and keen attention to detail.

His bilingual proficiency further enhances his effectiveness as an assessor, allowing him to bridge communication gaps, facilitate clear and precise evaluations, and more effectively engage with conformity assessment bodies with different cultural backgrounds.



In addition, CK is also a committed member of the A2LA Accreditation Council (AC) and has volunteered his time to vote on assessment packages, ensuring the integrity and quality of the accreditation process.

Beyond his assessment and AC duties, he has played a vital role in evaluating fellow assessors in their field of expertise, serving both in the assessor evaluator role and as a mentor to foster continuous improvement and professional development within the field. His keen insights and constructive feedback contribute to maintaining high standards within the assessor community.

CK's active involvement in the A2LA Electro-Magnetic Advisory Committee (EMAC) and the A2LA Product Certification Advisory Committee (PCAC) highlights his dedication and influence in shaping accreditation policies and practices.

And, not only is he an effective assessor, but a diligent mentor and an ambassador of quality, making him a highly deserving recipient for the Assessor of the Year Award. Congratulations to Mr. CK Li on this well-earned recognition as the 2025 A2LA Assessor of the Year!

John Locke Award

The John Locke Award is the highest A2LA honor presented each year at the A2LA Annual Conference.

To achieve this honor, the recipient must achieve six out of seven of the following criteria:

- A commitment of their time and services to A2LA towards the advancement of accreditation
- Commitment to and furtherance of the A2LA mission and vision
- Extensive expertise in their industry, academia, and/or service sector
- Innovative ideas adopted by their industry, academia, and/or service sector
- Leadership in their industry, academia, and/or service sector, which has made an impact on accreditation
- A high degree of respect for their peers
- A reputation for statesmanship, diplomacy, and fairness

The 2025 John Locke Award winner is someone who has dedicated their decades-long career to quality and accreditation and has significantly contributed to the success of A2LA's Calibration Accreditation Program—Mr. Klaus Jaeger.

Klaus has performed over 150 assessments for A2LA and continues to be an active laboratory assessor. He has been, and currently is, very active in NCSLI, volunteering his time and expertise for multiple committees, including a long-running membership on the NCSLI intrinsic standards committee. On this committee, Klaus co-authored two Recommended Intrinsic Standard Practices. This past January, he was one of a three-member panel that gave a general account of the intrinsic standards committee during an NCSLI Metrology in Motion webinar.

In addition to The John Locke Award, his other accolades include the Wildhack Award from NCSLI in 1998, and A2LA Assessor of the Year in 2009.

Congratulations to Klaus, and thank you for your contributions to quality!



Assessor Highlights



40 New assessors trained to bolster our corps of conformity assessment professionals



Assessor attendance at AnnCon25 increased by **32%**



18 New forensic assessor to accommodate this rapidly growing program



341 Current assessors

Assessor Kudos

"I would like to acknowledge our assessor, Patrick Jester, for his passion for quality. He brings a wealth of practical knowledge to the table, resulting in immeasurable value. He is intentional and deliberate in his approach, ensuring that every interaction is meaningful and constructive. Patrick fosters collaboration, encourages open dialogue, and provides actionable insights that strengthen our quality systems. His ability to balance compliance with practicality makes him an invaluable partner in driving continuous improvement."

- Whitney Davis, Senior Quality Specialist, Thermo Fisher Scientific

"Our department was quite anxious going into our initial on-site assessment. However, starting with the first communication we had with our lead assessor and into the first few hours of our assessment, those fears and anxieties passed quickly. The assessors, Bethany Pridgeon and Tina Walthall, were very professional and provided a positive, relaxed atmosphere which allowed us to put our best foot forward. They provided very positive and constructive feedback which allowed us to strengthen and improve our quality management system even further. We couldn't be happier with how the assessment went and are much more confident for future assessments in coming years."

- Julie Carmody, Unit Supervisor, WY - P.D. Forensic Science Unit



"We just wrapped up our ISO 17025 audit with Klaus Jaegar, and he made the whole thing feel like a productive, professional conversation rather than an interrogation. Instead of just looking for 'gotchas,' he took a practical, risk-based approach that actually made sense for our lab's specific workflow. He was fair, unbiased, and a complete pleasure to work with."

- Brian Richter, President, GMW Associates

"Our Assessor, Richard Cover, was very thorough, asked good questions to understand our systems and was able to break things down to help us see what we needed when things were amiss. I appreciated his support and candor during the entire auditing process."

- Lonnie Lewis, R&D Pilot Center Manager, Avery Dennison Corp

"For the first time, I felt heard, and my questions were answered without feeling like I was being judged for the questions. Our assessor, Cassie Griffin genuinely cared about helping us succeed and continue making improvements to the quality system in our lab."

- Osdania Carvajal, QM for Analytical Services, Lepirino Foods

Customers

In 2025, A2LA focused on providing our customers with an enhanced customer service experience, from sharing informative industry updates and reducing turnaround times, to adding new accreditation programs that create operational efficiencies for our customers.

A2LA staff at all levels placed more emphasis on strengthening internal efficiencies and improving turnaround times throughout the accreditation process, including reducing the time between an application submission and an assessor assignment, as well as the time it takes for the Accreditation Council to review and approve accreditation applications.

Our marketing team worked closely with accreditation services staff, assessors, and industry experts to consistently create and publish relevant content, including articles, white papers, blogs, and webinars, so that customers could stay in-the-know on the rapidly changing accreditation industry.

This year, we also expanded our service offerings to allow organizations holding accreditation with multiple accreditation bodies (ABs) to transfer certain programs to A2LA, thus consolidating their accreditation with a single AB.

Last, but certainly not least, A2LA staff members focused on remaining active in industry organizations to advance the benefits of accreditation on behalf of accredited customers around the world.

Customer Highlights

66 New transfer customers

359 New accreditations awarded



New Accreditation Programs

A2LA added three new programs to our service offerings in 2025.

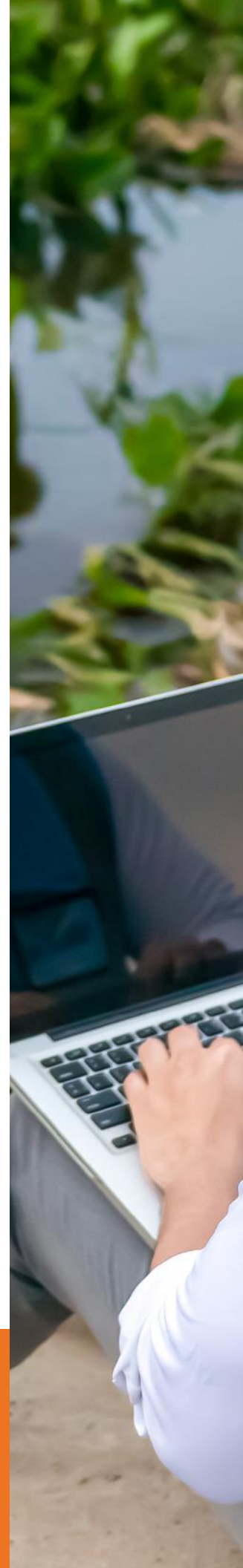
Industrial Hygiene

Industrial hygiene testing plays a vital role in protecting workers' health and ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements.

Industrial hygiene laboratories specialize in analyzing samples collected from workplace environments to assess potential exposure to hazardous substances. The results of these analyses are critical, as they inform decisions that directly impact worker health and safety. Therefore, it is essential that these laboratories consistently produce accurate, high-quality data.

Laboratories accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 within A2LA's new Industrial Hygiene (IH) Accreditation Program ensure accurate detection of harmful exposures, enabling organizations to mitigate risks, maintain safe working environments, and meet occupational health standards.

By working with an accredited laboratory, customers and clients can trust that results are reliable, traceable, and defensible, which is essential for regulatory reporting, litigation, and employee protection programs. The breadth of validated methods gives stakeholders confidence that workplace hazards are being measured and controlled with the highest degree of accuracy.





Environmental Microbiology

Environmental microbiology sits at the intersection of biological and environmental sciences. Unlike a standalone biological or environmental testing scope, an environmental microbiological scope provides the best of both worlds—combining the rigor of microbial detection with the practical applications of environmental monitoring.

A2LA's new Environmental Microbiology Laboratory Accreditation Program (EMLAP) provides organizations with a clear framework for demonstrating technical competence and compliance with rigorous quality standards in environmental microbiology testing. By earning EMLAP accreditation, laboratories can validate the accuracy and reliability of their analyses while reinforcing confidence among clients, regulators, and the public.



Architectural Testing, Inc. (ATI), an Intertek Company

Architectural Testing, Inc. (ATI), an Intertek company, is a leading provider of testing, evaluation, and certification services for the building and construction industry. With 14 laboratory locations across the United States, they are widely recognized in the building and construction sector for its technical testing expertise.

The company was founded in 1975 and became part of Intertek in 2013, and as it continued to grow, sought a new accreditation partner that could deliver not only technical expertise but also consistency, transparency, and strong customer engagement.

In 2024, ATI transferred the accreditation of six of its locations to A2LA to determine if our processes, assessor expertise, and customer service would be a better fit for their organization's needs. Throughout the accreditation process, the team at ATI built a strong partnership with A2LA staff at all levels of the organization—whether they were working with customer care representatives,

accreditation officers, assessors, or organizational leaders—and found A2LA's collaborative assessment approach to be exceptionally valuable to the company.

Staff benefited from working closely with assessors to illustrate how they operate, and rather than simply presenting the results of the assessment, assessors thoroughly explained their assessment findings in relation to the standards, proving their technical expertise.

Following the success of the initial transfers, ATI expanded the relationship with A2LA and decided to transfer its remaining 8 accredited locations. By October 2025, all ATI laboratories were accredited by A2LA.

We're proud to have built and strengthened this relationship with ATI in 2025. This partnership reflects a shared commitment to technical excellence, transparency, and continuous improvement—values that are essential to supporting trust in the building products marketplace.

Regulators & Specifiers

ENERGY STAR



When the ENERGY STAR program faced potential termination, A2LA's Government Relations team proactively engaged with a dozen congressional offices to highlight the critical value of this long-standing public private partnership. These advocacy efforts helped reinforce bipartisan support, resulting in the passage of legislation in early 2026 that sustained the program and included a funding increase compared to FY 2024.

Safety of Lithium-ion Batteries

In response to a series of devastating high-rise fires linked to defective or damaged lithium-ion batteries in personal mobility devices, such as ebikes and scooters, several states considered new safety focused legislation. In 2025, Colorado and Illinois enacted laws requiring these batteries to be tested by accredited laboratories. A2LA continues to engage with additional states and the U.S. Congress to support the adoption of consistent, evidence based safety requirements for lithium-ion batteries nationwide.



Testing Baby Food for Heavy Metals

Virginia joined California and Maryland in enacting legislation that requires manufacturers to test for heavy metals in baby food. Common baby food ingredients such as rice, carrots, and sweet potatoes are known to absorb heavy metals from the soil in which they grow, creating potentially serious health risks for infants and toddlers. The legislation mandates testing by ISO/IEC 17025 accredited laboratories and includes enhanced transparency requirements, such as QR codes on product labels that allow consumers to access testing results.

New Recognitions

USDA BioPreferred® Program

Managed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the goal of the BioPreferred Program is to increase the purchase and use of biobased products, which are products composed of biological products or an intermediate ingredient or feedstock.



The BioPreferred Program requires products to be

tested by an ISO/IEC 17025 accredited testing laboratory in order to qualify for the voluntary USDA Certified Biobased Product label. This label is designed to provide useful information to consumers about the biobased content of the product and build consumer trust.



NIST Measurement Services Division, Securities Technology Group

The NIST Measurement Services Division, Securities Technology Group maintains a list of industry verification programs for the Down-The-Road Radar, the most commonly used vehicle speed measurement device in the U.S.

The Safety Equipment Institute (SEI), a product certification organization affiliated with ASTM International, now handles the certification process, which is based on ISO/IEC 17065 product certification and ISO/IEC 17025 testing.

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation recognizes A2LA to accredit testing laboratories to ISO/IEC 17025 for mold analyses in buildings.

California Department of Toxic Substances Control



California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) regulates brake pads under the Motor Vehicle Brake Friction Material Law to reduce toxic, water-polluting substances.

Manufacturers are required to have their brake friction materials, or brake pads, tested by laboratories accredited under ISO/IEC 17025 for analysis of heavy metals and other toxic components such as asbestos.

Idaho Transportation Department

The Idaho Transportation Department requires that breath alcohol ignition interlock devices (BAIIDs) meet the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) model specifications and must include written documentation from an ISO/IEC 17025 accredited laboratory.



Indiana Department of Environmental Management

Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Office of Water Quality, requires laboratories conducting environmental and water testing to be ISO/IEC 17025 accredited.



General Updates



The Grand Opening of the A2LA Boulder Office

One of A2LA's shining moments from 2025 was the Grand Opening of our second office located in Boulder, Colorado! The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, on September 22, was hosted by A2LA Quality Manager Jordan Acton and Senior Accreditation Officer Anastasia Miller, both of whom have relocated from the original Frederick, Maryland office to the Boulder location.

They were joined by A2LA Board of Directors Secretary/Treasurer Mike Carter, who is local to the Boulder area, as well as A2LA President and CEO Lonnie Spires, Executive Director of Organizational Excellence Jim Powell, General Manager Adam Gouker, and Director of Marketing Julie Bonebrake. A2LA is also beginning to welcome new employees from the Boulder area to its second office.

Meet the Boulder Staff



Jordan Acton
Quality Manager



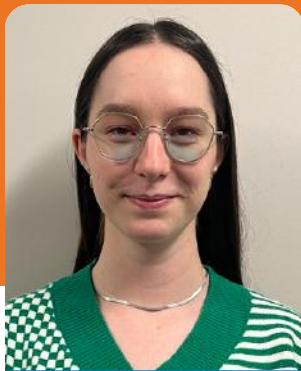
Anastasia Miller
Sr. Accreditation Officer



Cameron Quillin
Customer Care
Representative



Claudia Smelko
Customer Care
Representative



Heidi Kyler
Accreditation Officer



Michael Hallinan
Accreditation Officer



Samantha Boulter
Accreditation Officer

About the Expansion

This strategic expansion marked a significant step forward in A2LA's mission to create a safer, healthier world and to better serve customers across the United States.

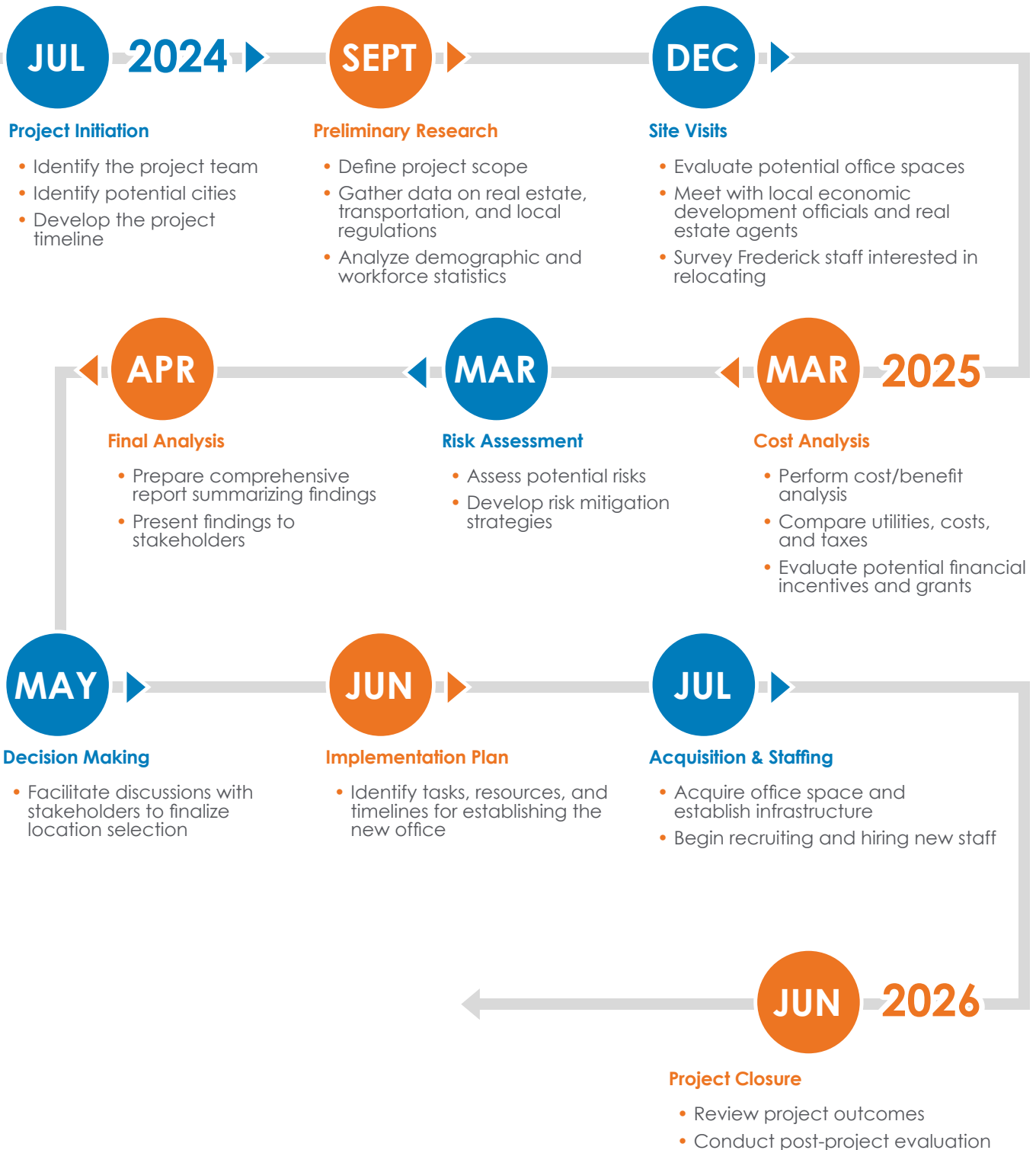
"Opening a location in Boulder demonstrates our commitment to meeting customers where they are," said Lonnie Spires, President and CEO of A2LA. "As demand for accreditation services continues to grow across the western U.S., this new office allows us to deliver even more responsive service and strengthen our connection with the industries we support."

The Boulder location serves as a hub for accreditation operations, technical staff, and customer engagement. It reflects A2LA's dedication to operational excellence and proactive service delivery.

"We've listened to our customers, and we understand the importance of accessibility and regional support," said Trace McInturff, Vice President of Accreditation Services. "Our Boulder office allows us to expand our access to resources and gives us the ability to work more closely with organizations in different time zones, offer faster response times, and build deeper partnerships throughout the western region."

A2LA remains committed to its Frederick headquarters, which continues to serve as the organization's primary base of operations. The Boulder office complements this presence, creating new opportunities for collaboration, talent development, and enhanced customer service.

Boulder Expansion Timeline



Red Rocks
Conference Room

Red Rocks
Dedicated September 2025

In 2025, A2LA expanded its physical footprint in Frederick, MD by opening its second office here in Boulder, CO. The expansion marked a significant moment in the organization's history, extending its reach and providing enhanced support to a growing customer base on the West Coast.

"A location in Boulder demonstrates our commitment to meeting customers where they are. As demand for accreditation services continues to grow, this office allows us to deliver even more responsive service and strengthen our connection with the industries we support."
- Lonnie Spires, President and CEO of A2LA

The Red Rocks conference room honors the extraordinary beauty of the natural landscape of our second home, while acknowledging the critical work and exponential growth of the company since its foundation in 1978. A2LA is proud to be a member of the Boulder business community and works to continuously build strong local connections while pursuing its mission to create trust, safety, and quality throughout the world.



The Red Rocks Conference Room

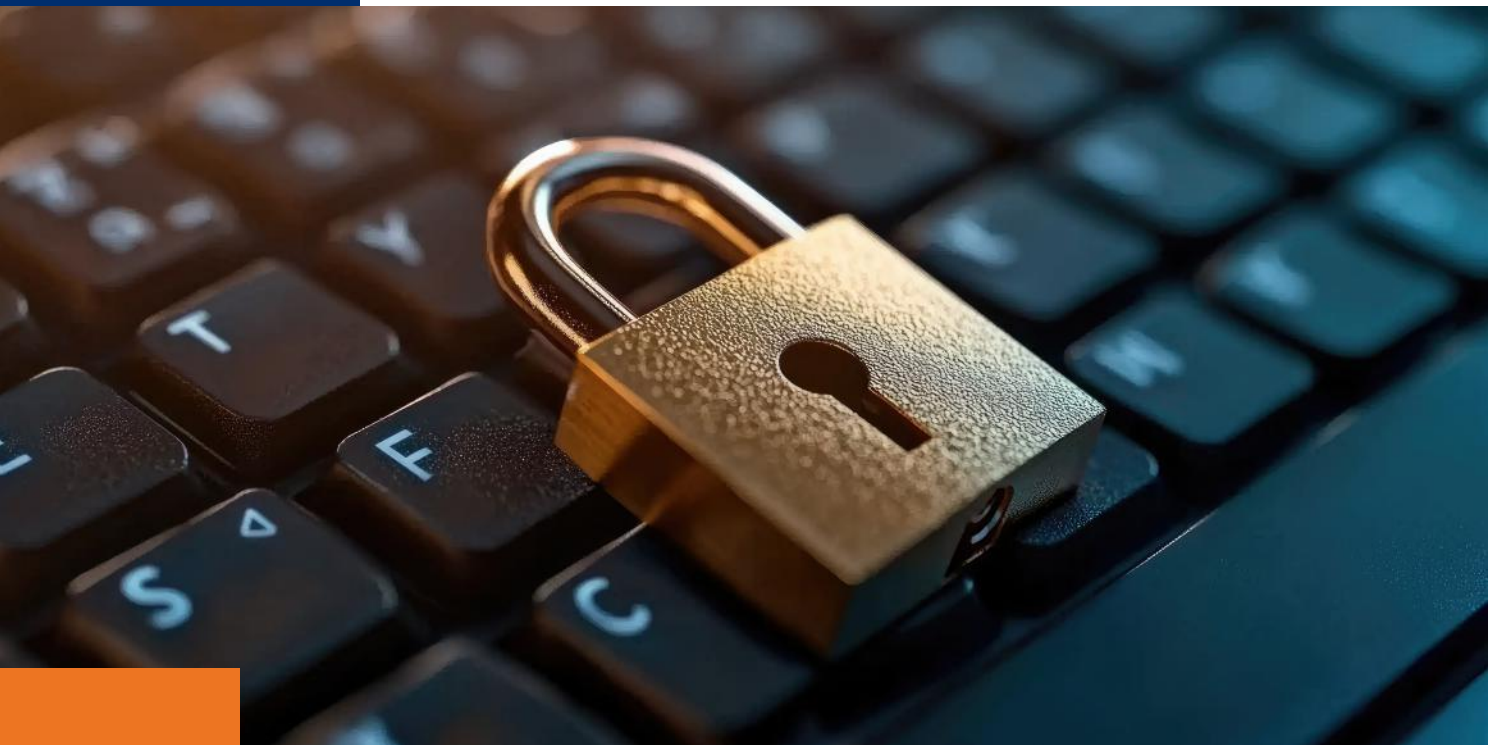
A2LA names each of its conference rooms after people and places that have had a significant impact on the organization's history. In keeping with this tradition, the conference room in the Boulder office has been named the Red Rocks Conference Room. The Red Rocks Conference Room honors the extraordinary beauty of the natural landscape of the organization's second home, while acknowledging the critical work and exponential growth of the company since its foundation in 1978.

A2LA is proud to be a new member of the Boulder business community and is working to build strong local connections while pursuing its mission to create trust, safety, and quality throughout the world.

Boulder Measurables

A2LA's goal was to establish a physical presence in the western U.S., maintain its existing customer base, and expand our customer base by the end of 2025's third quarter.

A2LA was able to transfer CCR staff hours from Frederick to Boulder to expand available customer service hours of operation.



Technology Systems Improvements

Over the past year, several key initiatives were undertaken to strengthen A2LA's operational infrastructure, enhance organizational integrity, and expand service capabilities.

In the area of cybersecurity, ongoing efforts remained focused on proactively identifying, evaluating, and addressing potential threats that could impact organizational systems and data. Emphasis was placed on strengthening preventative controls, improving visibility into network activity, and reinforcing a culture of security awareness across the organization.

Additionally, the Boulder, Colorado Office project supported A2LA's strategic expansion to better serve West Coast and international customers. The initiative involved defining requirements for the new location, coordinating capital improvements, and overseeing full technology and infrastructure setup.

This included internet and Wi-Fi installation, deployment of workstations, firewalls, and network switches, as well as implementation of the building security systems, phone systems, and conference room audio-visual capabilities.

Together, these initiatives reflect A2LA's commitment to customer service, operational excellence, security and strategic growth.

Industry Partnerships

As an active participant in the quality and accreditation industry, A2LA builds working partnerships with industry and trade associations to better understand the unique needs and challenges of the organizations we serve.

International Safe Transit Association (ISTA)

ISTA's mission is to empower organizations and their people to minimize product damage throughout distribution and optimize resource usage through effective package design. They help their members control costs, damage, and resources during the distribution of packaged-products by creating and publishing packaged-product test procedures, certifying packaging laboratories, packaged-products and professionals, and providing education, training, and support.

In 2025, A2LA began working with ISTA to learn more about the role testing labs play in the pursuit of their mission and how we can support the specific needs of packaging testing labs. We also serve as a resource to ISTA, who requires its certified test labs to meet certain quality standards.



Association for Rubber Products Manufacturers (ARPM)

The mission of ARPM is to provide programs and services that strengthen the effectiveness of rubber industry leaders and positively impact the success of their companies. These programs include waste reduction, benchmarking, networking, international management of product standards, and educational opportunities to member executives.

A2LA and ARPM began working together in 2025, and ARPM recognizes A2LA as an accreditation authority. A2LA Materials Program Manager Ryan Kidwiler submitted a white paper for ARPM members regarding root cause analysis and has plans to speak at future events.



N.E.X.T. Gen Leaders Program

In 2025, six young A2LA professionals participated in the N.E.X.T. (Nurture, Empower, Excel, and Transform) Gen Leaders Program, an independent, professional development program designed to prepare emerging leaders for future leadership roles. The program aimed to strengthen their technical and interpersonal skills, grow their accreditation and industry knowledge, and to develop a strategic, innovative perspective.

Throughout the year-long program, participants engaged in a variety of hands-on learning experiences and leadership-focused activities, including specialized training sessions led by three A2LA Board Members, an AI training experience at UC Berkeley, and a visit to West Point Military Academy, an elite leadership training academy.



2025 N.E.X.T. Gen Graduates

- Carley MacLaren, Sr. Accreditation Officer
- Sarah Cornwell, Contracts Manager
- Matt Mifsud, Staff Accountant
- Madeline House, HR Manager
- Stephanie Rippeon, Program Manager
- Amanda Styers, Program Manager

“Participating in the N.E.X.T. Gen Leaders Program was a highly impactful experience that helped me grow not only professionally but personally too. I am grateful for the opportunity to sharpen my leadership skills and have the chance to put them into practice.”

- Madeline House

“A2LA’s N.E.X.T. Gen Leadership Program really reflects its mission, vision, and values by giving us the tools, feedback, and support to grow into quality-driven, accountable, and trusted leaders. Throughout the program, we’ve had the chance to learn from and connect with a wide range of industry leaders, which helped me better understand the qualities that align with my own values. This program has built my confidence, encouraged multi-disciplinary communication, and strengthened my ability to lead with intention, adaptability, and empathy.”

- Sarah Cornwell

“I really enjoyed the N.E.X.T. Gen program and the opportunities it gave me to meet our board members, study effective leadership, and learn about AI’s use in business. Talking to successful leaders and working with the other participants gave me new experiences and valuable perspectives. I’m proud of my work in the program learning about leadership, myself, and I am eager to apply those insights as I progress in my career. “

- Matt Mifsudl

“The N.E.X.T. in N.E.X.T. Gen stands for Nurture, Empower, Excel, and Transform, and it absolutely represents the team’s growth over the past year. From spending time with A2LA board members to attending trainings filled with executives in Fortune 500 companies, we learned how to work together as a team and the many forms leadership can take on. Don’t be afraid to ask hard questions, show empathy, and celebrate wins with the people around you!”

- Carley MacLaren

2025 Overview

	2023	2024	2025
Revenue	\$26,078,309	\$26,647,120	\$28,228,698
% Gross Margin	53.5%	55.0%	55.1%
Operating Income	\$1,442,841	\$1,363,710	\$1,126,396
% Of Revenue	5.5%	5.1%	4.0%
Operating EBITDA	\$1,688,128	\$1,566,325	\$1,236,392
% Of Revenue	6.5%	5.9%	4.4%

Revenue in 2025 increased by \$1.6 million across multiple accreditation programs, driven not only by growth in major programs such as Calibration, Electrical, Chemical, and Mechanical, but also from contributions from Environmental, Clinical, and Forensic programs.

This broad-based growth across both core and emerging programs reflects expanded activity and participation across the organization's accreditation services.

A2LA generated \$1.2 million in EBITDA (Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation, and Amortization), driven by margin expansion and disciplined management of fixed expenses relative to budget.



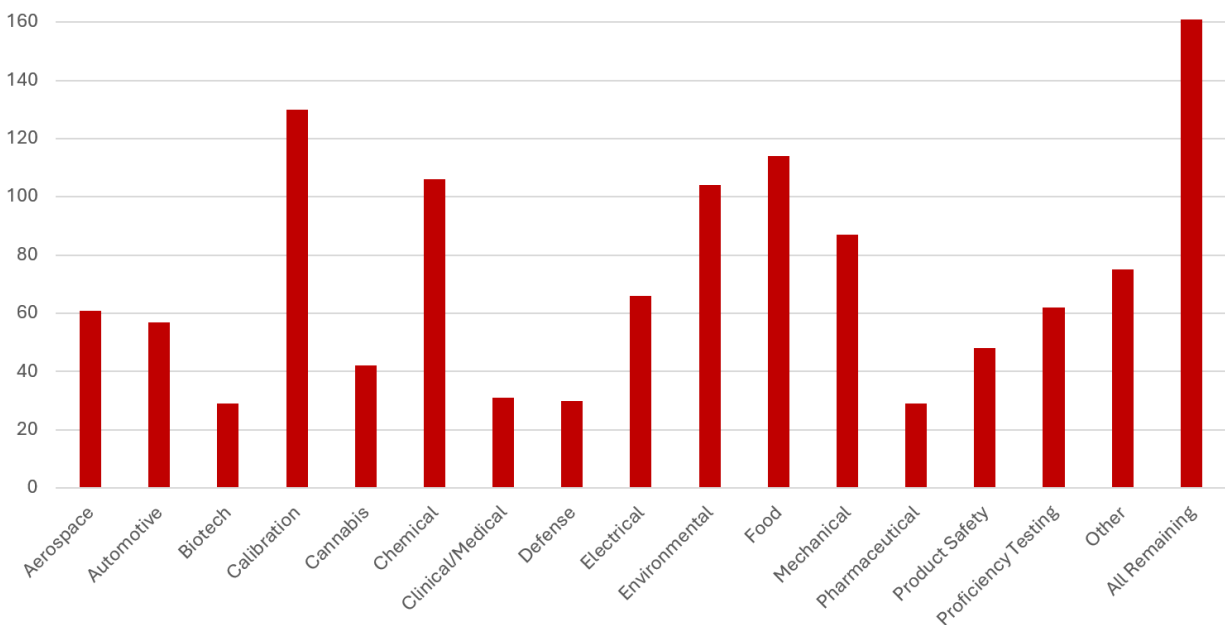


AnnCon25

In April 2025, A2LA welcomed the global accreditation and quality community to Dallas, Texas, for the A2LA Annual Conference 2025 (AnnCon25). Held at the Hilton Anatole, the conference brought together nearly 600 attendees, including A2LA staff, assessors, members, accredited organizations, exhibitors, sponsors, and professional partners—for a week of learning, networking, and collaboration across a wide variety of industries and sectors.

AnnCon25 delivered a packed agenda of technical sessions, industry discussions, and professional development opportunities focused on real world challenges and emerging issues facing accreditation today. From practical takeaways to forward looking conversations, attendees sharpened their skills, exchanged ideas, and returned to their organizations with new perspective.

Attendance By Industry*



*Most who were surveyed selected multiple industries.



Highlights

- Assessor Committee Meeting and Training
- Over 50 Sessions
- Opening Reception
- Exhibitor Happy Hour
- Keynote Speaker Jennifer Evans, NATA CEO
- Recognition Dinner
- Assessor of the Year Award Winner CK Li
- John Locke Award Winner Klaus Jaeger
- The Exhibitor Challenge Winner Erika Shields-House
- AnnCon26 Nashville Song Announcement
- A2LA Membership Top Jacket Winner Cecily Wood

So many great memories were made at AnnCon25 — we can't wait to see everyone at AnnCon26!



567 Attendees
AnnCon25 | Dallas, Texas



565 Attendees
AnnCon25 | Denver, Colorado



427 Attendees
AnnCon23 | Tucson, Arizona



356 Attendees
TechForum | Chantilly, Virginia

AnnCon Growth

A2LA's five core values were developed collectively by our staff to reflect the positive outcomes of A2LA's work: safety and quality throughout the world. One of A2LA's five core values is Community: Customer Focused, Service Driven, People First. To us, putting people first means going above and beyond for others in our community in meaningful ways.

A2LA is always looking for ways to give back throughout the year, whether it's through partnerships, volunteer opportunities, fundraisers, sponsorships, or more. Below are just a few of our favorite ways we gave back in 2025.

Polar Bear Plunge

In January, A2LA staff members braved the cold for a Polar Bear Plunge at Sandy Point State Park to raise funds for Special Olympics of Maryland. This event raises hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to support over 19,000 athletes of Special Olympics Maryland who train and compete free of charge.

Stream Clean Up

In April, 12 A2LA staff members teamed up with the Frederick City Sustainability Dept. for a stream clean-up. They volunteered their time, sweat, energy, and service together to collect garbage from Rock Creek Stream and Old Camp Recreational Area—part of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. This stream feeds into the Monocacy River, which feeds into the Potomac River, and eventually makes its way into the Chesapeake Bay.

Team Adams Golf Challenge

In May, A2LA staff traveled to The Bridges Golf Club to play in the 2025 Team Adams Golf Challenge. This event raises money in support of more than 110 Special Olympics athletes of Team Adams Special Olympics in Gettysburg, PA. To ensure a fun, competitive day despite the downpour, A2LA proudly chose the Gold Sponsorship level, which included competing with two teams of four.

Blessings in a Backpack

In November, A2LA partnered with the Frederick Chapter of Blessings in a Backpack, an organization that provides food on the weekends for school-aged children across the country who might otherwise go hungry. Our team packed 400 bags for local elementary school students to provide the nourishment needed to learn and grow!

Frederick County Rescue Mission

Around Christmas time, A2LA team members volunteered at Frederick Rescue Mission's Food Dist. Center, helping families and individuals take home free, fresh, and non-perishable food to nourish their households. This hands-on service reflects A2LA's commitment to creating a safer and healthier world, starting right here in our local community.

WFMD's Christmas Cash for Kids

Christmas Cash for Kids has been a favorite A2LA tradition for many years! In 2025, A2LA raised more than \$2,500 for Frederick County kids in need. Every single dollar raised goes directly toward gifts and clothing. Funds are spent right here in Frederick County, with strict oversight to ensure every penny is used wisely.

Looking to the Future of Accreditation



It's been an exciting and fulfilling year for A2LA, but we're still focused on the **future of accreditation.**

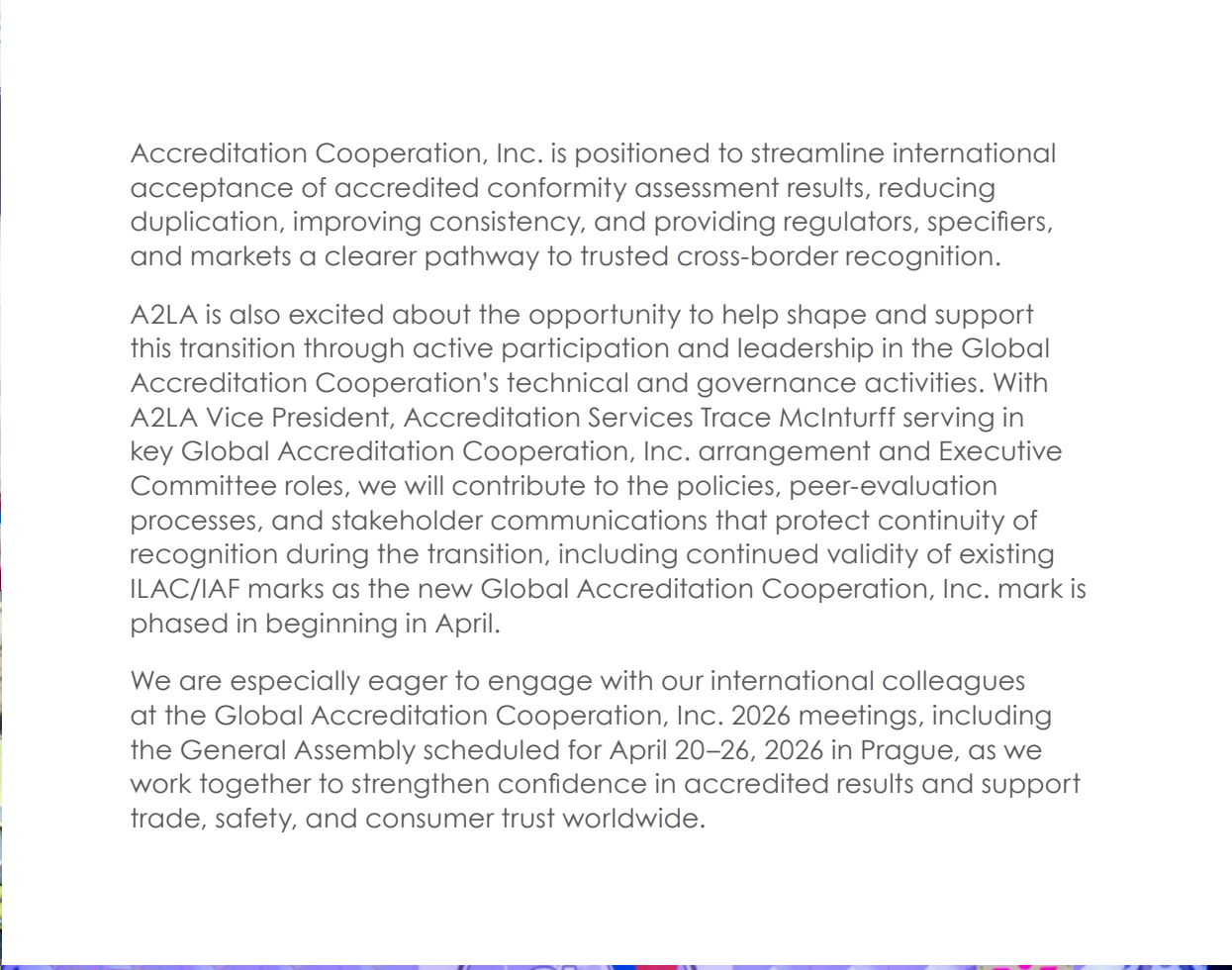
In April of 2026, A2LA will host AnnCon26 in Nashville, TN. More than 600 quality professionals will gather to attend technical sessions, network, and celebrate the contributions and achievements of the accreditation industry over the past year. This event is a valuable opportunity for A2LA members and assessors, accredited organizations, and anyone working in an industry that relies on accreditation, ISO, and quality and conformity assessment.

In June of 2026, A2LA will undergo our quadrennial APAC peer evaluation. This evaluation is part of APAC's routine oversight process to confirm that member accreditation bodies continue to meet international requirements and uphold confidence in mutual recognition arrangements (MRAs). This evaluation reflects A2LA's ongoing commitment to transparency, accountability, and alignment with globally recognized accreditation requirements.

In 2026, A2LA is also looking forward to the continued momentum of the Global Accreditation Cooperation, Inc., the new single global organization that commenced full operations on January 1, 2026, including the launch of its own Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA). By bringing together the work previously carried out through ILAC and IAF under one governance framework and one MRA, Global



Looking Forward



Accreditation Cooperation, Inc. is positioned to streamline international acceptance of accredited conformity assessment results, reducing duplication, improving consistency, and providing regulators, specifiers, and markets a clearer pathway to trusted cross-border recognition.

A2LA is also excited about the opportunity to help shape and support this transition through active participation and leadership in the Global Accreditation Cooperation's technical and governance activities. With A2LA Vice President, Accreditation Services Trace McInturff serving in key Global Accreditation Cooperation, Inc. arrangement and Executive Committee roles, we will contribute to the policies, peer-evaluation processes, and stakeholder communications that protect continuity of recognition during the transition, including continued validity of existing ILAC/IAF marks as the new Global Accreditation Cooperation, Inc. mark is phased in beginning in April.

We are especially eager to engage with our international colleagues at the Global Accreditation Cooperation, Inc. 2026 meetings, including the General Assembly scheduled for April 20–26, 2026 in Prague, as we work together to strengthen confidence in accredited results and support trade, safety, and consumer trust worldwide.

**To learn more about A2LA visit
[A2LA.org](https://www.a2la.org) or email info@A2LA.org.**

