

**Microbiology Expert Committee (MEC)  
Meeting Summary**

**August 18, 2015**

1. Roll Call and Minutes:

Robin Cook, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30pm EST by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 4 members present. Associate Member present: Carl Kircher.

The minutes will be reviewed by email since there were not very many members on the call. Ilona will distribute them collectively and ask for comments through the end of the week. She will then distribute them for a vote next Monday.

2. Voting Draft Standard (VDS)

Ilona noted that there may be an issue with the VDS vote taken to move the MWDS to a VDS. The vote was originally taken by email without a motion and second. There were sufficient votes to accept the standard as the VDS. A motion and second were taken at the 5/12/15 meeting and the Committee members on the call re-voted (6 members).

Ilona has left a message with Ken Jackson and Jerry Parr. Any further actions that need to be taken will be taken to ensure this vote is acceptable. All committee members voted to approve the VDS, but there were some procedural issues. Their votes are confirmed by examining their electronic votes on the VDS posted on the TNI website.

*(Addition 8/18/15: Ken noted that Chairs have some flexibility on how voting is done. It is not critical that the motion and second were missing. Both voting episodes can be looked at and a tally of one vote per person can be reviewed to determine if the Voting Draft Standard was voted in by 2/3 of the committee. The VDS was approved by more than 2/3 of the Committee.)*

3. VDS Response to Comments Summary

The work Robin recorded in the table in Chicago did not save. Robin reviewed the minutes from the Chicago meeting and the responses were recreated and expanded upon during this call.

The responses are summarized in the summary table in Attachment D.

Robin actually talked to Dale in Chicago and he now has a better understanding of why the language in the VDS was used.

Robin will send a copy of the table to the Committee for review and a vote to accept the table and the disposition of all comments and written responses to the voters.

Once the table is finalized the Standard will be updated accordingly and the Committee will be asked to determine if the changes are non-substantial and the Standard should be moved on to an Interim Standard or if they are substantial and it should be moved on as a Modified VDS.

#### 4. Action Items

A summary of action items can be found in Attachment B. The action items were reviewed and updated.

#### 5. New Business

- None.

#### 6. Next Meeting and Close

The next meeting will be confirmed by email.

A summary of action items and backburner/reminder items can be found in Attachment B and C.

Robin adjourned the meeting at 2:38 pm Eastern.

**Attachment A  
Participants  
Microbiology Expert Committee (MEC)**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Balance</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>	
Robin Cook (Chair) <b>Present</b>	City of Daytona Beach EML	Lab	(386)671-8885	<a href="mailto:cookr@codb.us">cookr@codb.us</a>
Patsy Root (Vice-chair) <b>Absent</b>	IDEXX Laboratories, Inc	Other	(207)556-8947	<a href="mailto:patsy-root@idexx.com">patsy-root@idexx.com</a>
Karla Ziegelmann- Fjeld  <b>Present</b>	Microbiologics, Inc	Other		<a href="mailto:kfjeld@microbiologics.com">kfjeld@microbiologics.com</a>
Donna Ruokonen  <b>Absent</b>	Microbac Laboratories, Inc	Lab	(219)769-8378 Ext 110	<a href="mailto:druokonen@microbac.com">druokonen@microbac.com</a>
Colin Fricker  <b>Absent</b>	Analytical Services, Inc	Lab		<a href="mailto:colinfricker@aol.com">colinfricker@aol.com</a>
Deb Waller  <b>Present</b>	NJ DEP	AB	(609)984-7732	<a href="mailto:debra.waller@dep.nj.gov">debra.waller@dep.nj.gov</a>
Dwayne Burkholder  <b>Present</b>	Pennsylvania DEP	AB	(717)346-8213	<a href="mailto:dburkholde@pa.gov">dburkholde@pa.gov</a>
Mary Robinson  <b>Absent</b>	Indiana State DOH	AB	(317)921-5523	<a href="mailto:mrobinson@isdh.in.gov">mrobinson@isdh.in.gov</a>
Elizabeth Turner  <b>Absent</b>	North Texas Municipal Water District	Lab	(972)442-5405 Ext 535	<a href="mailto:eturner@ntmwd.com">eturner@ntmwd.com</a>
Po Chang  <b>Absent</b>	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	AB	(512)239-4876	<a href="mailto:Po.chang@tceq.texas.gov">Po.chang@tceq.texas.gov</a>
Gary Yakub  <b>Absent</b>	Environmental Standards, Inc.	Other	(610)935-5577	<a href="mailto:gyakub@envstd.com">gyakub@envstd.com</a>
Ilona Taunton (Program Administrator) <b>Present</b>	The NELAC Institute	n/a	(828)712-9242	<a href="mailto:Ilona.taunton@nelac-institute.org">Ilona.taunton@nelac-institute.org</a>

**Attachment B**

**Action Items – MEC**

	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Expected Completion</b>	<b>Actual Completion</b>
1	Review Method Codes and send comments to Robin for Dan Hickman.	Deb	TBD	
4	Review Handbook and Method Codes before next meeting.	ALL	5/7/13	Handbook Complete.
12	Research possible effects of using bromine and whether it needs to somehow be included in the standard. Does not look like it.	Deb	November 2013 Meeting	
19	Provide EPA interpretation on temperature readings to Ilona. She will have it posted on the website.	Robin	1/31/14	
49	Send Word version of current Handbook to committee members.	Ilona	7/31/15	
50	Send a copy of the VDS Response to Comments summary to committee members for review and vote.	Robin	8/25/15	



Attachment D: VDS Comment Summary – 8-18-15-v0

Comment #	Commenter	Standard / Module	Section Number(s) for Comment	Vote	Vote Comment	Disposition	Change/Reasoning
1	Dwayne Burkholder	V1M5	1.7.3.7.b.ii.1	Affirmative with comment	This section on autoclaves contains 5 separate bullet points. This should be revised to include letter designation for each bullet point (a, b, c, d, e) to allow for reference and citation separately.	Persuasive	Editorial in nature. Confirmed that suggested edit is possible and will be included. Does not change the intent of the std.
2	Cornelius Valkenburg	V1M5		Affirmative with comment	Under 1.7.3.1.b. Media ii. "...use all media within the expiration date or shelf life provided by the manufacturer." We change the expiration date of dehydrated powder media, once the container has been opened, to expire in 6 months per Standard Methods. Does this still apply? Am I reading this incorrectly?  Check filter funnels with non-selective growth media is new to me. Is this possible for labs which only do la limited list of procedures such as P/A?  Checking Labware (1.7.3 vi.) washed labware shall be tested at least once daily, each day of washing, for possible acid or alkaline residue by testing at least one piece of labware with a suitable pH indicator such as BTB. This seems excessive not needing to be specified if available monitoring data does not show this as a problem.	Non-persuasive	<p><u>1.</u> Yes and yes. The requirement you are addressing is method requirement and not a std requirement. Therefore for SM methods this applies.</p> <p><u>2.</u> If you are not using funnels then you would not need to do this. Even if you are reporting P/A, if you use membrane filtration, the funnel check will be required. <u>3.</u> This requirement has been in the std since 1999. It is also in the Lab Cert manual and in SM.</p>

3	Dale Piechocki	V1M5		Affirmative with comment	<p>This section requires monitoring reagent water for chlorine residual. Is this free residual chlorine or total residual chlorine?</p> <p>My request is that the standard clarify in all sections where chlorine residual is to be monitored that the standard specify if free or total chlorine residual should be tested.</p>	Non-persuasive	<p>The influent water to the DI system determines what type of disinfectant will be measured. Therefore, as not all systems use the same type of disinfection, this committee cannot specify for which type to test. However, based on our discussion, the committee has determined that an editorial change to disinfectant residual rather than residual chlorine would be more clear and appropriate. This change does not affect the intent of the std.</p>
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