

# TNI Information Technology Committee Meeting Summary

## April 18, 2013

---

### 1. Roll Call

Participants	Present
Caldwell, David	X
Clark, Arthur	X
Daystrom, William	
DiRienzo, Bob	
Fitzpatrick, Tim	
Friedman, Maria	
Hickman, Dan	X
Kuhn, John (Chair)	X
Morgan, Judy	
Parr, Jerry	X
Pierrot, Rebecca	X
Shepherd, Mei Beth	
Starr, Rip	X
Varner, Pam	X
Ward, Keith (Vice Chair)	X
Wlodarski, Jan	X

March 2013 Meeting Minutes: Ok to post

### 2. Methods Compendium Database Discussion

The Methods Compendium Database, as discussed in the grant proposal was to a place where anyone could find any methods, whether EPA or Standard Method or ASTM methods, etc., that you could link to it and get it. Some may need to be purchased. That was the goal.

NEMI already has a methods compendium (500 – 600 methods) – but we have 3000 or so, therefore there are thousands missing. William pointed out that their search engine is a little bizarre because it focuses on sensitivity as an overall criteria. First step may be to collect all the methods. Dan is collecting all the methods he can – has been doing that for LAMS. Issue: Method source and the method that are available on the EPA's website sometimes do not match. Cannot get copies of Standard or ASTM methods; can get copies of all the others. Need something up front like NEMI, besides the search function, that lists methods by different parameters.

William has a lot of insight into “what not” to do in building the database. Look at NEMI.gov. Not sure if it's being kept up to date. Not all EPA approved methods are listed in NEMI. Can TNI partner with NEMI? We sort of said that we would maintain contact with them but to partner with them may be awkward. Budget cutbacks – NEMI would be the first thing to go. Ours: how comprehensive is it? How far back do we go? How often do we update? How much work would it be? We would also need to have an analyte list, but not necessarily all the detail that NEMI goes into. All the same info as in LAMS plus the analytes that may not show up in LAMS.

We need William to be part of this discussion. We just want people to be able to get a copy of the method easily. We will discuss again at next month's meeting.

### **3. LAMS Update (Dan)**

Jerry to talk with Stephanie in NY. Dan working with MN as a peer review for technologies to make sure they are correct. When he is done, he will send it out for someone else to look at as well.

Also putting a list together of all the analytes attached to methods both for the compendium and maybe as a possibility for LAMS. Will also need to use it in the general application database.

Received a communication from a lab that wants to know the possibility of increasing the number of matrices in the matrix table. We are limited in the matrix table to the original 5 matrices in the 2005 NELAC Standard called Field of Accreditation matrix: Air/emissions, non-potable water, drinking water, solid/chemical, and tissue. May need to make this a new Field of Accreditation matrix and Quality System matrix.

We should ask for input on this from the ABs and PT Providers. Dan will do this.

### **4. Other Business**

David: EPA Charles Feldman – EPA ID #'s – going to cause havoc with the AC committee as well as PTPs, when the laboratory changes hands or moves, they get a new EPA ID number. What does this mean for LAMS? Proficiency Testing is tied to the EPA ID number. A couple of problems to solve: none of the ABS all agree what this means; if the EPA ID number changes, it becomes a new lab. Others say we'll just update the ID number but lose history associated with the original ID#; others can use multiple ID numbers.

The EPA ID# is only in LAMS if they gave it to Dan. Proprietary info and not allowed to report it? Charles is being invited to come to the next AC teleconference to explain what is happening. Dan may want to sit in on the call to explain the difficulties of changing the ID# as well as Keith from PT Provider point of view.

Jerry: There was also a Method codes inquiry this week from a PTP talking about somebody was requiring them to use the 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of Standard Methods. Our method codes go through 21<sup>st</sup> edition but we did not move to the 22<sup>nd</sup> edition because EPA is moving away from showing the edition number and just going with the approval year. Suggested to Dan that maybe we do need to continue to show the edition number as well in case people are looking for it in addition to year. We need to go ahead and add the 22<sup>nd</sup> Edition.

Draft Charter: 2009 Charter – update of the committee roster. Effort underway to get all committee charters update. Next month agenda – to review/discuss the IT Committee charter.

Next Agenda: Add further discussion for the Work Group for General Application. Looking for volunteers to work with the Accreditation Body Committee to develop a general application for labs to use to apply to multiple accrediting bodies.

### **5. Adjournment**

Next call will be Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm EST.