

**SUMMARY OF THE
TNI LABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING EXPERT COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2015**

The Committee met by teleconference on Friday, January 9, 2015, at 11:00 am EDT. Chair Shawn Kassner led the meeting.

1 – Roll call

Fred Anderson, Advanced Analytical Solutions (Other)	Present
Stephen Arpie, Absolute Standards (Other)	Present
Kareen Baker, Independent (Other)	Absent
Yumi Creason, PA DEP (AB)	Present
Rachel Ellis, NJ DEP (AB)	Present
Scott Hoatson, Oregon DEQ (AB)	Present
Shawn Kassner, Phenova (Chair; Other)	Present
Roger Kenton, Eastman Chemical Co. (Lab)	Present
Stacie Metzler, Hampton Roads San. Distr. (Lab)	Present
Mitzi Miller, Dade Moeller Assocs. (Other)	Present
Judy Morgan, Env. Science Corp. (Lab)	Present
Virgene Mulligan, Amrad (Lab)	Absent
Joe Pardue, P2S (Other)	Absent
Jim Todaro, Alpha Analytical (Lab)	Absent
Lisa Touet, MA DEP (AB)	Present
Ken Jackson, Program Administrator	Present

Associate Committee Members present: Nicole Cairns, NYSDOH; Thekkekalathil Chandrasekhar, FLDEP; Rob Knake, A2LA; Brian Miller, ERA; Bob O'Brien, Sigma-Aldrich; Shari Pfallmer, ESC; Brian Stringer, ERA; Ella Rae, WA State Dept. Ecol.

2 – Previous Minutes

It was moved by Scott and seconded by Judy to approve the minutes of December 19, 2014. All were in favor.

3 – Committee Membership

Shawn reported the Consensus Standards Development Executive Committee had approved him to extend his term on the committee in order to complete the current round of standards development. Roger's term was complete, but he indicated his willingness to continue if no other laboratory person wants to join the committee. Joe had been renewed last year for a second term. Steve said he would rotate off if another PTP person could be found. Stacie indicated her willingness to serve a second term. Chandra and Nicole both indicated their willingness to join as Committee Members.

The charter would need to be updated and Shawn said he would start working on it.

4 – Volume 3 and Volume 4

The data ownership concerns, raised by Jeff Lowry, had not yet been addressed for **V4**. Shawn said Maria Friedman was scheduled to meet with both PTPAs that day, and it was expected to be resolved.

Resolution of the equation required for the calculation for standard deviation between samples for homogeneity testing in **V3** was not that simple. Clause 5.6.2.2 had been drafted to delete the statement referring to Appendix A for homogeneity testing, with the criteria being put into the standard text. Shawn suggested leaving the criteria in, but eliminating the contentious equation which was only a recommended equation. There was general agreement with this approach. Nicole then questioned if even the statement was needed, because it is already in ISO 17043. However, that would remove the requirement for approval by the PTPA, and Rob Knake said they (A2LA) do check that. It was agreed, therefore, to leave the statement in. On Nicole's recommendation it was agreed to remove the specific criteria for conformance with ISO 17043. Shawn said he would draft the language and circulate it to the committee.

The goal at the next meeting would be to go through V3 and V4 and prepare them as Voting Draft Standards.

5 – Volume 1 Module 1, and Volume 2 Module 2 comments.

Brian Miller had joined the call to help with the issue, raised by Virgene on the previous call, that PT providers were calibrating their check instruments with a standard other than the method-required calibration standard. Brian said Cs-137 was being used instead of Sr-90 for Gross Beta, and this was causing a discrepancy. He said ERA could change to Sr-90, and Nicole said she would check if the New York DOH could do so. Mitzi said she would check with other providers. Nicole would also talk to Richard Sheibley who is on the Radiochemistry Expert Committee. Apparently, the chair of that committee, Bob Shannon, had already recommended switching to Sr-90. Brian added that most laboratories were now calibrating with Sr-90 instead of Cs-137. Shawn said he would prefer this going into the FoPT tables rather than the standard. Brian added if the FoPT tables are changed for Gross Beta, it should also be done for Gross Alpha.

Shawn set a target of the Crystal City meeting in February to present the completed comments on V1 and V2.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 pm EST.