

**SUMMARY OF THE
TNI LABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING EXPERT COMMITTEE MEETING**

JULY 25, 2014

The Committee met by teleconference on Friday, July 25, 2014, at 11:00 am EST. Chair Shawn Kassner led the meeting.

1 – Roll call

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| Fred Anderson, Advanced Analytical Solutions (Other) | Present |
| Stephen Arpie, Absolute Standards (Other) | Present |
| Kareen Baker, Independent (Other) | Present |
| 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) | Present |
| Joe Pardue, P2S (Other) | Absent |
| Jim Todaro, Alpha Analytical (Lab) | Present |
| Lisa Touet, MA DEP (AB) | Absent |
| Ken Jackson, Program Administrator | Present |

Associate Committee Members present: Nicole Cairns, NYSDOH; Audrey Cornell, ERA; Bob O'Brien, Sigma-Aldrich

2 – Previous Minutes

It was moved by Scott and seconded by Judy to approve the minutes of June 20. All were in favor.

3 – Agenda for the Washington DC meeting

The committee would have a full day (Tuesday) at the meeting, and Shawn suggested dealing with the V1M1 and V2M2 Voters' comments in the morning. He said about 10 people had commented. In the afternoon, comments on the V3 and V4 Working Draft Standards would be considered. So far, only one comment had been received on V4.

4 – Comments on V3

Consideration of comments received on the V3 WDS was continued.

Hoffman and Villegas. Shawn had followed up from the previous call by speaking with Becky Hoffman so he could understand the homogeneity and verification testing required for Protozoans.

They count the number of parasites in each sample by pulling them off and counting during the PT sample preparation. The current standard says this is done at the end of the preparation, but that would be less accurate for them. However, Mitzi disagreed with their approach, since laboratories will have the variability by counting after the final packaging. She said laboratories cannot be compared without a bottle-to-bottle variability. The committee agreed a separate section would be needed for Cryptosporidium and Giardia homogeneity and verification testing. Shawn would invite Becky Hoffman and Leah Villegas onto a subcommittee with members of the PT Expert Committee. They would be asked to comment on Mitzi's statement and to write language for the standard. Stacie raised a fundamental question, whether the goal is to make proficiency testing of Cryptosporidium and Giardia TNI compliant, or to make them a TNI program. After some discussion, it was agreed Shawn would ask the TNI Board of Directors and EPA to answer this question before any work was done on the standard. It was noted that states are now performing on-site assessments for these analytes, EPA having stepped back.

Jeff Lowry (Lowry_0514).

Jeff had asked what criterion is being used to determine if the calibration standards are independent of the PT standards. The committee considered the note in Clause 5.6.1.3: "An independently prepared calibration material is one prepared from a raw material source independent of the source used to prepare the PT sample or one prepared and documented by a source external to the provider." Nicole suggested looking at language from the Calibration Interim Standard, that refers to an independently prepared lot or a second manufacturer. Shawn said he would ask Richard Burrows where that language came from. The committee considered if it should be a note, a definition, or a requirement in the standard, and agreed it should be a requirement. It was remarked that the Calibration standard language is similar to DOE/DOD requirements, but carried further. Scott reminded the committee he had circulated an e-mail on this topic in early May. Nicole drew the committee's attention to Clause 5.6.1.4, which also should be looked at. Judy suggested the committee also look at VIM2 Clause 5.9.1, where secondary reference materials are mentioned. Shawn said he would ask Paul Junio the status of the SIR on this subject.

Jeff Lowry (Lowry2_0514)

Jeff was concerned that PT Providers would have to be accredited to ISO 17025. However, the standard only says providers have to meet the requirements of ISO 17025, which is also in the 2009 standard. Shawn agreed to write a response to clarify this.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 pm EDT.