

TNI Stationary Source Audit Sample (SSAS) Expert Committee Teleconference on October 27, 2014 - final

Attendance:

Tom Widera – Chair ERA (Provider)	Committee member	Present
Charles Simon – Vice Chair VOC Reporting, Inc. (Laboratory)	Committee member	Absent
Mike Hayes Linde (Provider)	Committee member	Absent
Michael Klein New Jersey DEP (State Government)	Committee member	Present
Theresa Lowe, Golden Specialty (Stationary Source Tester)	Committee member	Present
Paul Meeter, Weston Solutions (Stationary Source Tester)	Committee member	Present
Bob O’Brien Sigma-Aldrich (Provider)	Committee member	Absent
Gregg O’Neal North Carolina DAQ (State Government)	Committee member	Absent
Michael Schapira Enthalpy (Laboratory)	Committee member	Present
Jim Serne TRC Environmental Corp (Stationary Source Tester)	Committee member	Present
Katie Strickland Element One, Inc. (Laboratory)	Committee member	Absent
Stanley Tong EPA Region 9 (Federal Government)	Committee member	Present
Maria Friedman – Test America (Laboratory)	Associate Member	Present
Rob Knake – A2LA (Accreditor)	Guest	Present
Brandy Hughes Alliance Source Testing (Stationary Source Tester)	Guest	Present

Tom Widera called this meeting to order at 14:10 HRS EDT. Initially there was not a quorum present. (Need 7 voting members) Theresa Lowe later joined the call.

- The October 14, 2014 meeting minutes were reviewed.
 - Michael Klein's comments were sent in by email Tom made his corrections.
 - Jim moved to accept the minutes with the modifications discussed and Michael Schapira seconded the motion. The meeting minutes from October 14, 2014 were approved by the 6 members present at the time on the call. Other voting members can vote by email.

Several committee members term as voting members will reach the 6-year term limit and therefore expire on December 31, 2014. (Expiring members include: Michael Klein, Gregg O'Neal, Michael Schapira, Jim Serne, Stan Tong).

Michael Klein has identified a potential replacement and asked Maria to describe the process for joining the SSAS Expert Committee as a voting member. Maria will provide a link to the TNI website and noted that after joining TNI individuals can submit their resume and request to be considered for election to the committee. The Expert Committee members then vote on the applicant. The SSAS Committee Chair then sends/notifies the TNI Chair Person.

The SSAS Expert Committee may have a minimum of 5 voting members and a maximum of 15 voting members. Tom encouraged everyone to find replacement committee members to fill the seats of members that expire on December 31, 2014.

Volume 1 Module 1 and Volume 1 Module 3 are currently Voting Draft Standards (VDS). Everyone in TNI are encouraged to vote before November 30, 2014. Tom to send a reminder.

William was absent from the call and there was no SSAS Central Database Update.

Tom reiterated that if audit results are received from a test method not listed in the SSAS table, that the Providers will report the outcome as "Not Evaluated". The Providers will add a note to the Instructions and Order Form indicating that this is how audits analyzed by a method other than those listed in the SSAS table will be reported.

Rob Knake of A2LA received a potential complaint regarding confusion over who at Regulatory Agencies are contacted to approve audit sample orders. Multiple people at the regulatory agencies are receiving requests from the Providers to approve audit orders.

Jim noted that the TNI Central Database has 125 registered agencies and that from this list TNI could give the Providers a list of preferred regulatory agency contact names.

The confusion on who at the agency to contact may result from the audit order forms filled out by facilities and testers. Facilities and testers may not know who at the agency is knowledgeable about the SSAS program and may identify an inappropriate contact person.

Tom recommended that the Providers get the list of 125 registered regulatory agencies from TNI (William Daystrom) and use this list. As changes in the contact person occur, the regulatory agency should update the preferred contact person and if the Providers determine that the contact person information needs to be updated, the Providers will update the preferred agency contact list.

Tom will investigate what percentage of the audit orders are not acted on by the agencies during the 15 days agency review period. This may help identify agencies that have not listed or selected a preferred agency contact.

Stan and Michael K will bring this issue on during the next EPA OAQPS call scheduled for November 3, 2014.

Tom will revisit this topic during the next SSAS call.

The final topic discussed was Method 8 Sulfuric Acid Mist Analytical Testing. This topic was talked about during the previous SSAS call in mid-October. Method 8 audits have the highest failure rate. Some labs are having trouble passing Method 8 audits. Tom wants to explore why some labs are having trouble with Method 8 audits.

Mike S pointed out that the M8 titration endpoint is very difficult to spot. Often the endpoint is missed and the results are biased high.

Many labs analyze the samples and audits using IC (HPLC) rather than titration.

Method 8 field samples are collected in 80% IPA solution
Method 8A field samples are in 100% water.
Method 13B are in 100% IPA.

Paul noted that actual Method 8 field samples can have wide variations in the % IPA due to the moisture content of the stack gas.

These differences in sample matrix may be impacting the results.

Providers prepare Method 8 audits using weights and measures by adding H₂SO₄ to water. The audit instructions specify that the lab take an aliquot of the SSAS audit. IPA is added to the sample as per the Method before analysis. The Providers verify the SSAS audit concentrations using IC rather than performing a titration.

Tom reiterated that when an audit is analyzed by a method that is not listed in the SSAS table, then the results will be reported as "Not Evaluated". Eventually these "not evaluated" data may be useful for determining acceptance criteria for the analytical methods being used, but not currently covered by the SSAS table.

The next SSAS Expert Committee Call will be Monday, November 10, 2014 at 2:00 PM Eastern

Meeting was adjourned at 15:15.