

**TNI Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee
Meeting Summary
September 24, 2013**

1. Roll call and Meeting Minutes:

Chair Carl Kircher called the meeting of the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee to order on September 24, 2013 at 12:06 EST. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A. There were 5 members on the call.

The following meeting minutes were reviewed:

5-14-13 – Carl reviewed this issue and found some problems with the table that have now been corrected. The minutes should be approved as originally distributed.

6-25-13 – No comments.

7-23-13 – No comments.

9-10-13 – No comments.

Melanie made a motion to approve the minutes for 5-14-13, 6-25-13, 7-23-13, and 9-10-13. The motion was seconded by Dan Dickinson and unanimously approved.

2. Update on TSS Issue

An emergency PTP EC meeting was called on 9-13-13 to review the subcommittee's recommendation. After reviewing the recommendation, additional e-mail votes and comments that came in after the recommendation, they decided to only forward a change for TSS. The NELAP AC is voting the change and more than 2/3 of the ABs have voted in favor. Stacie Metzler and Ilona met with the PT Providers and PTPAs to discuss implementation. The table will be updated with an effective date of 7/1/13 – Rev 1. Discussions surrounding this issue can be found in the PTP EC and NELAP AC meeting minutes.

PTP EC will likely ask this subcommittee to take a look at the FoPT Table SOP for possible updates. It will be looked at from a preventive standpoint and for other opportunities for improvement. There have also been a number of naming convention changes that need to be updated.

3. SCM FoPT Table

Carl provided a status update prior to beginning data review. He highlighted the information for cyanide and tin that was discussed in the July 9th meeting minutes.

Benzene

The study concentration was 1190 - 9860 ug/Kg. It did pass all the SOP criteria. It passed the fixed limit tests with a recommendation of 22.3%. The PDF is dated June 27, 2011. The current concentration range is 1000 – 10000 ug/Kg. The subcommittee discussed possible fixed limits – 20%? 30%? Do we need a coverage factor when considering data that does not include all data and that is not necessarily current? The concern expressed and discussed was avoiding situations like what was seen recently with TSS. It was highlighted that the failure rates for some PT Providers caused TSS to be looked at, but there were additional factors that influenced making the table change. It can be expected that failure rates might change when new limits are issued, but with TSS these changes were very significant for some providers.

A motion was made by Dan to use a concentration limit of 1,000 – 10,000 ug/Kg for Benzene on the SCM FoPT accreditation table and using a fixed limit of +/- 25% across the range for this analyte relative to the assigned value. The motion was seconded by Stephen and unanimously approved.

Ethylbenzene

The study concentration was 1510 - 9500 ug/Kg. It passed the SOP criteria. The current lower limit is 1000 ug/Kg. It did not pass one of the fixed limit tests (for b coefficient) as per the SOP criteria. The PDF for this analyte is dated 6/27/2011. Though it has not passed all the fixed limit criteria, it does appear that fixed limits have been set for similar analytes. If fixed limits were considered, Carl would recommend +/- 30%.

A motion was made by Dan to use a concentration limit of 1,000 – 10,000 ug/Kg for 1,1,1-Trichloroethane on the SCM FoPT accreditation table and using the new regression equation. There was no second made to the motion and it was removed from the table.

Melanie asked about how to approximate ranges using regression equation information. Carl described this process.

Stephen suggested cutting off the part that is not linear and start the concentration higher – above 2000 ug/Kg. Melanie expressed concern about leaving out consideration of the earlier points. Stephen emphasized that the lowest data point is above 1500 ug/Kg – the number is already being extrapolated.

No motion was made, so Carl held this open until the end of the meeting:

The subcommittee had a few minutes left at the end of the call.

A motion was made by Stephen to use a concentration limit of 1,000 – 10,000 ug/Kg for Ethylbenzene on the SCM FoPT accreditation table and using a fixed limit of +/- 30% across the range for this analyte relative to the assigned value. This is a departure from the SOP since it did not pass all the fixed limit criteria. The motion was seconded by Melanie.

Discussion: Dan feels this motion would be a mistake. Looking at the assigned value and predicted assigned value, there is a significant bias in the method being ignored. The limits are

essentially being widened at the higher concentration range. He feels strongly that use of the regression equation would be better.

Carl – Performed the calculations using the regression equation and found at low concentration the range would be about 75.7 – 138% and at high concentration it would be 79.9 – 124%.

Vote: For - 4 Against – 1 Abstain - 0

The motion passed.

Toluene

The study concentration was 1900 - 8910 ug/Kg. It passed the SOP criteria. The current lower limit is 1000 ug/Kg. It did pass the fixed limit tests as per the SOP criteria at 21%. If fixed values are being considered, Carl would suggest 25%. The PDF is dated June 27, 2011.

A motion was made by Stephen to use a concentration limit of 1,000 – 10,000 ug/Kg for Toluene on the SCM FoPT accreditation table and using a fixed limit of +/- 25% across the range for this analyte relative to the assigned value. The motion was seconded by Stacey and unanimously approved.

Xylenes, Total

The study concentration was 8020-16,400 ug/Kg. It passed the SOP criteria. The current lower limit is 2000 ug/Kg. It did not pass all the fixed limit tests as per the SOP criteria – it passed two of the three. PDF file dated December 3, 2010. Carl would recommend +/- 30% fixed limit or using the new regression equation.

A motion was made by Stephen to use a concentration limit of 2,000 – 20,000 ug/Kg for Xylenes, Total on the SCM FoPT accreditation table and using a fixed limit of +/- 30% across the range for this analyte relative to the assigned value. This is a departure from the SOP since it did not pass all the fixed limit criteria. The motion was seconded by Stacey. Vote: For – 4 Against – 1 (Dan) Abstain – 0. The motion passes.

m/p-Xylene and o-Xylene

They were proposed on a previous conference call and the numbers would be based on the data for Xylenes, Total. The low level m/p-Xylenes and o-Xylene were added to the summary table, but not at the mid-level for some reason. Carl and Dan expressed concern about doing something at the low level that is not being done at high level. It was questioned whether more data is needed or more current data is needed to evaluate this. There were no additional comments made, so this will be considered at a future conference call. (*Addition: 10/22/13*)

4. Action Items

See action item table in attachments.

5. New Business

- None.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee will be October 8, 2013, at 12:00 PM EST.

Action Items are included in Attachment B and Attachment C includes a listing of reminders.

Stephen motioned to adjourn the meeting and Melanie seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 1:32 pm EST.

Attachment A

Participants TNI Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee

Members	Affiliation	Contact Information
Carl Kircher, Chair Present	Florida DOH	carl_kircher@doh.state.fl.us
Joe Morotti Absent	Sigma-Aldrich RTC	Joe.morotti@sial.com
Melanie Ollila Present	Pace Analytical Services, Inc.	MOllila@pacelabs.com
Jeff Lowry Absent	Phenova	JeffL@phenova.com
Stephen Arpie Present (12:20pm)	Absolute Standards, Inc.	stephenarpie@mac.com
Dan Dickinson Present	New York, DOH	dmd15@health.state.ny.us
Stacey Fry Present	E.S. BABCOCK & Sons, Inc.	sfry@babcocklabs.com
Ilona Taunton, Program Administrator Present	TNI	

Attachment B

Action Items – Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
101				

Attachment C

Backburner / Reminders – Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee

	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments
4	Consider nomenclature differences between the analyte codes and the FoPT tables.	2-23-10	
10			