

TNI PT Executive Committee Meeting Summary

August 16, 2011

1) Roll call and approval of minutes:

Chairman Eric Smith called the TNI PT Executive Committee meeting to order on August 16, 2011, at 1:30 PM EST. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 7 Executive Committee members present in Bellevue, WA.

2) Review

Eric reviewed the committee's progress (see slides – Attachment B).

3) Review of NPW FoPT Table Update

The effective date will be October 3, 2011. Eric reviewed the changes to the table and highlighted how the color coding in the new table works. He pointed out the new analytes. It was just the experimental and new analytes that have been added to this table. The other analytes are still being reviewed by the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee. They have completed about 2/3 of the analyte reviews.

Comments:

Kirstin – Asked about the effective date. The date is the day that the PT needs to be made available. We would like to ask that the table be posted as soon as possible, but that it be clear that it is not effective until October 3rd.

Footnote 3. Is the footnote missing some information that is included in the solids table? Eric will review this and make sure is correct.

4) Chloral Hydrate

This analyte (chloral hydrate) is on the DW FoPT table – code 4460. (See slide.)

Michella added that this analyte was not incorporated into a National Primary Drinking Water regulation.

Carl asked if there would be any issue with removing this analyte? Michella is not aware of any issues. There were no objections from other members of the committee or PT Providers in the audience.

The DW FoPT table is still being reviewed for finalization by the NELAP AC. Eric will update the table with this change and forward it to the NELAP AC. It will be effective January 3, 2012.

5) FoPT Table Structure

Kirstin McCracken, Chair of the PT Expert Committee, raised an issue with the structure of the tables. She commented that working on the standard and looking at the FoPT table was confusing. The 2003 standard has two different definitions for FoPT. We need to ensure we are using the correct definition. (See slide for additional information.)

Carl commented that if enough data is collected for multiple technologies, PT acceptance criteria can be given for separate technologies.

Stephen Arpie: Should limits be set by a data quality objective only? Do we really want to continue to use the same technique for establishing FoPTs?

Kristin: When requests come in for analytes – doesn't technology need to be considered? If sufficient data is not available, a PT should not be developed.

Stacie: FoPT tables should match the definition in the standard.

Curtis: PT needs should consider the regulatory need. He also commented that maybe data should be looked at to see if there really are issues between two technologies and the result obtained on a PT.

Mitzi: Would prefer to see PTs by method as EPA requested sometime ago.

Andy: Appreciates the statistical control limits that have been used historically.

Kirstin: Wanted to emphasize that PT samples are different than real world matrix samples. PTs may not be the best way to demonstrate what methods work best.

Stephen: Put the information in front of the labs to confirm that the methods and limits work for PTs. Carl reminded everyone that there are 3 laboratories and 2 ABs included in the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee.

Kirstin: Commented that labs would be happy to participate in Round Robins to produce enough data – instead of what was done historically with the experimental PTs.

Eric summarized that the feedback received during the meeting indicates that the preference is to go towards technology.

6) PTPA Reports

A2LA –

In 2010 A2LA conducted the full renewal assessments of the proficiency testing providers to the 2009 TNI requirements. Under the approval of the PT Executive Committee we agreed not to assess the providers to several clauses relating to scoring including (TNI V3) 6.3.5, 7.3.5, 7.1.11, 10.1.2, 10.3.1, 10.3.1, 10.3.1d, 10.3.2 and 10.3.2c because the laboratories were not implementing the 2009 TNI standards as of yet.

The proficiency testing providers were to begin implementing these specific requirements in July 2011. We required the providers to submit their plans and procedures for implementation this summer. All A2LA Accredited providers have responded to our request with plans/procedures. We will verify the effective implementation of these plans/procedures through the database uploads and subsequent reviews.

ACLASS – Announcement of a 2011 accredited PT provider – Absolute Standards, Inc. Eric asked ACLASS whether their PT Provider audit checklist included references to the SSAS Standards, where necessary. ACLASS said it would begin to work on adding references to SSAS Standards, where necessary, into their PT Provider audit checklist.

7) Reviewed Pb in Paint FSMO FoPT Table

The final table recommendation was presented to NEFAP on August 9, 2011. The effective date is set for January 3, 2012. Eric reviewed the FoPT Table with the audience. Eric indicated that Marlene said NEFAP AC approval is granted. Justin verified this.

8) Discussion on FoPT Table Management SOP and Application

The FoPT Table Management SOP and Application were reviewed with the audience. Comments from the audience were received.

Comments from the audience included –

- a) Language should be added on document control of FoPT tables, including Revision history.
- b) Ensure consistency in FOPT tables with ISO 17043 language on Assigned Values
- c) Submit a public notice request for comment on proposed FoPT table updates
- d) In Section 7.6, post on TNI website when table finalized, do not wait until two weeks before effective date. Indicate the implementation is pending.
- e) Have a separate system for implementing tables needed for regulatory purposes, but not for accreditation purposes.
- f) What published methods can be used to trigger the need for a PT?
- g) Need to discuss/allow for analyte group requests using the SOP.

9) New Business

- Carl discussed dual purpose PTs and the use of certain concentration ranges for different technologies. This is something the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee considers when they review and update the limits.

10) Next Meeting


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

The meeting was adjourned at 5 pm PST.

Attachment A

Participants TNI Proficiency Testing Executive Committee

Members	Affiliation	Contact Information
Eric Smith, Chair (2010) Present	TestAmerica Laboratories, Inc.	615-726-0177 x1238 eric.smith@testamericainc.com
Ilona Taunton, Program Administrator Present	TNI	828-712-9242 tauntoni@msn.com
Justin Brown (2011) Present	Environmental Monitoring and Technologies, Inc.	847-875-2271 jbrown@emt.com
Gary Dechant (2009) Absent	Analytical Quality Associates, Inc.	970-434-4875 gldechant@aol.com
Amy Doupe (2009) Absent	Lancaster Laboratories, Inc.	717-656-2300 x1812 aldoupe@lancasterlabs.com
Steve Gibson (2011) Absent	Texas Comm. on Env. Quality	512-239-1518 jgibson@tceq.state.tx.us
Open	Open	Open
Michella Karapondo (2011) Present	USEPA	513-569-7141 karapondo.michella@epa.gov
Carl Kircher (2010) Present	Florida DOH	904-791-1574 carl_kircher@doh.state.fl.us
Stacie Metzler (2009) Absent	HRSD	757-460-4217 smetzler@hrsd.com
Open	Open	Open
Joe Pardue (2011) Present	Pro2Serve, Inc.	423-337-3121 joe_pardue@charter.net
Dr. Andy Valkenburg (2011) Present	Energy Laboratories, Inc.	avalkenburg@energylab.com 406-869-6254
Curtis Wood (2010) Present	Environmental Resource Associates	303-431-8454 cwood@eraqc.com





TNI Proficiency Testing Program

Tuesday, August 16, 2011

Presented by: The PT Executive Committee

Session Chair: Eric Smith





Session Agenda

- Summary of PT Executive Committee Activities
- Review NPW FoPT Table update
- Discussion on chloral hydrate
- Discussion on FoPT Table Structure


Break

- PTPA reports
- Review FSMO Pb Table for NEFAP
- Review draft FoPT Table Management SOP 4-107, Rev 0.0 and Analyte Request Application
- Open Floor for Questions /Comments






PT Executive Committee

- Committee Members
 - Eric Smith, Chair – TestAmerica, Inc
 - Gary Dechant – Laboratory Quality Systems, LLC
 - Amy Doupe – Lancaster Laboratories, Inc.
 - Steve Gibson – Texas Comm. on Environmental Quality
 - Michella Karapondo – US EPA OGWDW
 - Carl Kircher – Florida DOH
 - Stacie Metzler – Hampton Roads Sanitation District
 - Curtis Wood – Environmental Resource Associates
 - Justin Brown – Environmental Monitoring and Technologies, Inc.
 - Joe Pardue – Pro2Serve, Inc.
 - Andy Valkenburg – Energy Laboratories, Inc
- Recognition of former committee members –
 - Matt Sica
 - Brenda Mc Grath



Overview of PT Executive Committee Activities since February 2011

- Retired the Experimental Analyte FoPT tables
- Submitted a PTPA PT database recommendation to the TNI Board of Directors
- Finalized an update to the PTPA SOP 4-104 and revised the PTPA application
- Continued drafting a FoPT Table Management SOP and an Analyte Request Application


Overview of PT Executive Committee Activities since February 2011 (cont.)


- Reviewed and finalized an update to the NPW FoPT Table.
- Finalized a PT table for Lead PTs in soil, paint films, and dust for use by NEFAP.
- Reviewed and approved updates to the DW and S&CM FoPT tables. Submitted those FoPT tables to the NELAP AC for review and approval.

Review of NPW FoPT Table update



- Recognition of the PT Executive Committee's current Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee:
 - Carl Kircher (chair)
 - Stephen Arpie
 - Dan Dickinson
 - Amy Doupe
 - Stacey Fry
 - Jeff Lowry
 - Joe Morotti
 - Eric Smith
 - Dan Tholen
 - Chuck Wibby







Review of NPW FoPT Table update

- Changes include –
 - Color coding.
 - Two new Volatile Aromatic analytes
 - Addition of some analytes that were formerly on the NPW Experimental analyte FoPT table. Concentrations and acceptance criteria for the analytes were technically evaluated and updated as needed.
- Effective Date - October 3, 2011
 - Will be posted on the TNI website by that date.



Chloral Hydrate

- Currently listed on the DW FoPT table. TNI analyte code 4460.
- RTC received the following notice from the DEA. To be able to produce a product containing chloral hydrate, the provider must have a manufacturing license from the DEA to produce an exempt chemical preparation. Any one that makes a product containing chloral hydrate and provides it to a laboratory without a manufacturing license and approval of each formulation of a product (different concentrations) by the DEA is in violation as is the laboratory.



Chloral Hydrate

- Chloral hydrate was part of the Information Collection Rule, and was not incorporated into a National Primary Drinking Water regulation.
- Michella Karapondo has indicated that the USEPA OGWDW Technical Support Center (TSC) originally implemented the PT program for chloral hydrate as part of the Information Collection Rule (ICR), but since the completion of the ICR, the TSC no longer needs PT samples for that analyte.



Chloral Hydrate

- Have other PT providers received this notice?
- Are there any objections to removing this analyte from the DW FoPT table?
- Comments from the PT Executive Committee and the audience?
- Discuss a plan to address this issue.






FoPT Table Structure

- Review request received from Kirstin McCracken, Chair of the PT Expert Committee
- Issue raised – the definition of FoPT needs to change to match the tables, or the FoPT tables need to change to match the definition
 - Section 2.1.3 of the NELAC 2003 standard defines FoPT as matrix, technology/method, and analyte group.
 - NELAC 2003 defines FoPT as NELAC's approach to offering proficiency testing by matrix, technology, and analyte/analyte group.
 - The 2009 TNI Standard uses the definition from 2.1.3 because PT by method is required for the drinking water FoPT.
 - The FoPT tables are organized as matrix, analyte group, analyte
 - The FoPT tables do not match the definition of FoPT from 2003 NELAC or 2009 TNI.


Break 3:00 -3:30 p.m.






PTPA Reports

- A2LA
- ACLASS





Pb in Paint FSMO FoPT Table

- Recognition of the Field FoPT Subcommittee members :
 - Paul Costone (chair)
 - David Binstock
 - Ty Garber
 - William Gutknecht
 - Shawn Kassner
 - Mary Anne Latko
 - Benjamin Lim
 - Stacie Metzler
 - Marlene Moore
 - Cheryl Morton
 - Natasha Mugambwa
 - John Pesce
 - Randy Query
 - Christopher Rucinski
 - Erik Winchester
 - Eugene Pinzer
 - Jack Paster





Pb in Paint FSMO FoPT Table

- The table criteria will be used for analysis of PTs in the field using field equipment.
- Presented final table recommendation to NEFAP on August 9, 2011.
- Effective Date - January 3, 2012
 - Will be posted on the TNI website by that date.




FoPT Table Management SOP

- We have submitted the draft SOP and application to NEFAP and the NELAP Accreditation Council for comment/input
- Review of draft SOP & Application with audience
- Comments/suggestions/feedback?



Questions

- Open Floor for Questions/Comments
 - On topics discussed today
 - On new topics/issues



Attachment C

Action Items – TNI PT Executive Committee

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
161	Complete vote on FSMO FoPT Table.	Eric	Next Meeting	Complete
162	Complete vote on SCW FoPT Table.	Eric	Next Meeting	Complete
165	Follow-up on need for NEFAP EC approval of the FSMO FoPT Table.	Eric	Next Meeting	Complete
166	E-mail vote on amended DW table.	Ilona	Next Meeting	Complete
167	Find citation for using tighter limits.	Carl	Next Meeting	
168	Update FoPT Management SOP, distribute to EC and then distribute to NEFAP EC and NELAP AC for comment.	Eric	Next Meeting	Complete
169	Contact Chem FoPT Subcommittee to look at the PCB data again and make sure that it supports the limits TNI has set.	Eric	Next Meeting	
170	Ask NEFAP EC and NELAP AC if they are aware of any analytes that need to be added to the table.	Eric	8/16/11	
171	Evaluate footnote #3 on the NPW FoPT table? Look for consistency with the solids table.	Eric	9/1/11	
172	Update DW Table and send to NELAP AC.	Eric	9/1/11	

Attachment D

Backburner / Reminders – TNI PT Executive Committee

	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments
6	DW Table Micro Total Coliform Rule Request	10/15/09	9 out of 10 vs. 10 out of 10
7	Add the Field PT Subcommittee to the limit update SOP during its next update.	3/4/10	
8	Implement all policies and procedures necessary for operation and continual improvement of a national PT program – including FoPTs for various matrices, stakeholders and accreditation programs. (Need to update SOPs – including an appeals process) – Complete by 7/1/11.	10/21/10	From 2010 Strategic Plan Review
9	Implement a process to periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the PT provider oversight program and the Fields of Proficiency Testing. Complete by 6/1/11.	10/21/10	From 2010 Strategic Plan Review
10	Define a process for addition or removal of analytes from FoPT tables. Complete by 7/1/11.	10/21/10	From 2010 Strategic Plan Review
11	Evaluate how labs are accredited for analytes that co-elute.	5-19-11	
12			