

TNI PT Executive Committee
Meeting Summary
July 15, 2010

1) Roll call and approval of minutes:

Chairman Eric Smith called the TNI PT Executive Committee meeting to order on July 15, 2010, at 1:03 PM EST. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 5 Board members present on the call. Associate members Randy Querry and Chuck Wibby and the following NELAP Accreditation Council members were also on the call: Irene – OR, Steve – TX, Michelle – Kansas, Paul – LA, Aaren – PA. Steve – FL and RaeAnn - OR joined in later.

Minutes from the May 20th and June 17th meetings were reviewed. A motion was made by Carl to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Steve and unanimously approved. The minutes will be posted on the TNI website.

2) FoPT Tables – Discussion with NELAP Accreditation Council

NELAP Accreditation Council (AC) members joined in on the call today to discuss various FoPT table issues.

Steve Gibson developed a list of experimental analytes that were being proposed for addition to the NPW FoPT table that did not meet certain criteria outlined in the SOP on Limits. This list was shared with the AC.

Chuck's comments in the June 17th minutes were read to bring everyone up to date on the issue.

Carl reviewed the process the subcommittee used to approve the analytes on the table. He commented that Tetryl has a wider fixed limit. Using fixed limits helps deal with problematic regression equations.

AC Comments:

- Steve Gibson noted that there has to be a point where limits are too wide for them to be a useful PT. Carl reminded everyone that the SOP does address this by looking at concentration ranges versus limits.
- One of the issues the PT Executive Committee needs to address this next year is how to add analytes to the tables in the future. Steve Stubbs suggested that if there is a consensus to add an analyte to the table, the lab community could be

contacted to see if they would be willing to do Round Robin studies to provide data for adding an analyte.

- Steve Stubbs had a few specific concerns:
 1. Substantive - Why is the PT needed if there are too few results?
 2. Policy – Arbitrarily wide limits don't help him – the cost is not worth it.
 3. Regulatory – He does not have the latitude of waving parts of Chapter 2. He cannot adopt analytes where there is insufficient data as per Chapter 2 of the 2003 standard. He has to veto them. (Appendix C – 4.1- 20 valid points, 10 sets of inter-laboratory studies.)

- Carl noted that Florida does currently require the analysis of experimental analytes.

- Chuck asked if the Texas regulations will be moving to the new TNI standard? Yes. This would remove the regulatory concern, but not the substantive and policy concerns.

Eric commented that the SCM FoPT table will have similar issues on it. In order for the Executive Committee to know how to move forward, they need some perspective on what the AC can and can't do. Does the AC need more time to discuss it? The AC cannot accept a table if one of their members has a regulatory reason for not being able to accept it.

Eric asked the AC members for any additional concerns or stumbling blocks for approval of the tables:

- Oregon – They do not feel strongly either way whether the experimental analytes are placed on the table or left off.

- Louisiana – They don't distinguish between experimental and accredited PTs. If PTs are not there – there are other ways to grant accreditation.

- Labs will not run the PTs if there is no requirement to do it.

- Take an analyte off the table where they fail 2 or more criteria?

The group discussed various options for moving forward. The tables could be distributed without the inclusion of the analytes that fail the number test or the tables could be distributed with an effective date of 7/1/2011. Ilona will summarize these options and distribute an e-mail to the PT Executive Committee for review and additional wording. Eric will prepare an e-mail to the AC with a possible solution(s) to the issue and ask for feedback. This will be completed before the end of July so it will be ready for discussion on the 8/2/10 AC call.

Eric also noted that the DW FoPT table has been updated in response to feedback from the AC (see Section 3 below). The footnote that did not meet DW requirements has been removed.

Final Comments:

RaeAnn – Oregon: It is time to re-evaluate WET PTs. PTs need to be more appropriate and she is willing to serve on that committee. She would consider chairing it. She would like to work with Stacie and they will need input from the PT providers.

Irene – Oregon: There are no tables for Radiochemistry. Carl mentioned they are on the TNI website for DW only.

Paul – Louisiana: Asked if there is a chance of approval for an air matrix PT table. Carl has been looking into this. There are issues of expense for laboratories. TO 14 and TO15 are of interest. Need to solve technical and financial issues.

3. Revisions to the DW FoPT Table

Eric distributed a DRAFT of the updated DW FoPT table yesterday.

Changes:

- Deleted additional VOCs categories.
- Deleted Footnotes 13 and 16. (“Reserved” so numbering does not have to change.)
- EDB and DBCP are now both purgeables and extractables.
- Effective date was changed to January 1, 2011.

Changes were made based on comments from the AC.

A motion was made by Carl to approve the DW table as amended on 7/12/10. The motion was seconded by Steve. A roll call vote was taken:

Vote:

Eric – for

Carl –for

Svetlana – had to leave call – need to e-mail vote.

Steve – For

Amy – For

Stacie – For (sent vote earlier by e-mail)

Iлона will complete the voting process by e-mail.

Added 7/30/10: The motion was approved.

<i>PT Executive Committee Member</i>	<i>Vote: For, Against, Abstain</i>
<i>Eric Smith</i>	<i>For (7/15)</i>
<i>Matt Sica</i>	<i>For (7/19)</i>
<i>Stacie Metzler</i>	<i>For (7/15)</i>
<i>Steve Gibson</i>	<i>For (7/15)</i>
<i>Carl Kircher</i>	<i>For (7/15)</i>
<i>Michella Karapondo</i>	<i>For (7/15)</i>
<i>Gary Dechant</i>	<i>For (7/25)</i>
<i>Amy Doupe</i>	<i>For (7/15)</i>
<i>Curtis Wood</i>	<i>For (7/23)</i>
<i>Svetlana Isozamova</i>	<i>Abstain (No vote received.)</i>

4. Review of PTPA Application

Eric received a comment from Jerry about the need for a hard copy. The hard copy is still of some use, so it was left on the application.

A motion was made by Carl to approve the PTPA Application Revision 1 that was distributed on July 2, 2010. The motion was seconded by Steve. A roll call vote was taken:

Eric – For
 Carl – For
 Steve – For
 Amy – For

Ilona will complete the voting process by e-mail.

Added 7/30/10: The motion was approved.

<i>PT Executive Committee Member</i>	<i>Vote: For, Against, Abstain</i>
<i>Eric Smith</i>	<i>For (7/15)</i>

<i>Matt Sica</i>	<i>For (7/26)</i>
<i>Stacie Metzler</i>	<i>For (7/23)</i>
<i>Steve Gibson</i>	<i>For (7/15)</i>
<i>Carl Kircher</i>	<i>For (7/15)</i>
<i>Michella Karapondo</i>	<i>For (7/30)</i>
<i>Gary Dechant</i>	<i>For (7/25)</i>
<i>Amy Doupe</i>	<i>For (7/15)</i>
<i>Curtis Wood</i>	<i>For (7/23)</i>
<i>Svetlana Isozamova</i>	<i>Abstain (No vote received.)</i>

5. Status of PTPA Assessment

A2LA: We have two volunteers – Kirstin McCracken and Stacie Metzler. Stacie will take the lead role. Eric will provide Randy with affiliation information on the volunteers to make sure there are no conflicts of interest.

ACLASS: Carl has completed his technical review and Amy is finishing up her portion. The on-site review has been scheduled during the week of the DC meeting.

6. Cryptosporidium

This topic has been added to the agenda in DC. Eric has been invited to meet with Ms. Carrie Miller from the EPA to discuss this issue on Thursday afternoon. All PT Executive Committee members are invited to attend this meeting.

7. PT Executive Committee Agenda at DC

Eric would welcome ideas for the agenda. He will prepare a preliminary agenda and e-mail it to the committee within the next two weeks.

8. New Items

- None.

9. Open Action Items

See Attachment B.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the PT Executive Committee will be Wednesday, August 11, 2010, at 3:30pm EST in Washington, DC.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 EST. (Motion: Carl Second: Steve Unanimously approved.)

Attachment A

Participants

TNI

Proficiency Testing Executive Committee

Members	Affiliation	Contact Information
Eric Smith, Chair (2009) Present	TestAmerica	615-726-0177 x1238 eric.smith@testamericainc.com
Ilona Taunton, Program Administrator Present	TNI	828-712-9242 tauntoni@msn.com
Gary Dechant Absent	Analytical Quality Associates, Inc.	970-434-4875 gldechant@aol.com
Amy Doupe Present	Lancaster Laboratories, Inc.	717-656-2300 x1812 aldoupe@lancasterlabs.com
Steve Gibson Present	Texas Comm. on Env. Quality	512-239-1518 jgibson@tceq.state.tx.us
Svetlana Isozamova Present	Accutest Laboratories – Southeast Division	407-425-6700 svetlani@accutest.com
Michella Karapondo Absent	USEPA	513-569-7141 karapondo.michella@epa.gov
Carl Kircher Present	Florida DOH	904-791-1574 carl_kircher@doh.state.fl.us
Stacie Metzler Absent	HRSD	757-460-4217 smetzler@hrsd.com
Matt Sica Absent	State of Maine	207-287-1929 matthew.sica@maine.gov
Curtis Wood Absent	Environmental Resource Associates	303-431-8454 cwood@eraqc.com

Attachment B

Action Items – TNI PT Executive Committee

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
17.	Work on language for new TNI policy based on NELAC Policy #16 and EPA Criteria Document.	Chuck	Eric will follow-up with Chuck to determine a date.	Looking for volunteer to help Chuck.
97	Make a recommendation to address evaluation of “less than” (<) reporting. Distribute to Board for consideration.	Carl	2/18/10	Next call’s agenda. New item for May.
102	Highlight analytes that are listed more than one time in FoPT tables.	Curtis	6/15/10	Complete
114	Review SOW to see if an update is needed to provide data from the database.	Randy	5-20-10	Per section 2.7 they need written permission from the PT Providers. Send language to Eric.
123	Update SOP to reflect changes discussed on the call. Distribute for electronic vote.	Eric	6/17/10	Complete
124	Review questions from NELAP Board and provide comment.	All	6/21/10	Complete
125	Distribute voting information on designating A2LA as a PTPA for SSAS.	Eric	7/15/10	
126	Summarize possible solutions for FoPT table issues and distribute to subcommittee for comment.	Ilona	7/22/10	Complete
127	Prepare e-mail to AC with option(s) for moving forward with FoPT tables.	Eric	7/30/10	Complete
128	Re-establish WET PT Subcommittee.	PT	TBD	

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
		Executive Committee		
129	Vote on revised DW FoPT Table.	All	7/30/10	Complete
130	Vote on finalization of the PTPA Application.	All	7/30/10	Complete
131	Prepare preliminary DC Agenda and distribute for comment.	Eric	7/30/10	

Attachment C

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	