

## The NELAC Institute (TNI) Quality Systems Expert Committee

## **Meeting Minutes**

The Quality Systems Expert Committee of The NELAC Institute (TNI) met on September 12, 2011 via teleconference. No agenda was provided as the chair was still on vacation, but the whole teleconference was devoted to addressing written comments on the working draft standard. The attendees are listed in Appendix A and the comments are hyperlinked to a PDF file in Appendix B.

After a roll call Silky brought the committee up-to-date on the on-going discussions of how the work of the Environmental Measurement Methods Expert Committee will be incorporated into the Quality System Standard. Richard Burrows, chair of the EMMEC suggested that incorporation could be by a place holder in the standard that could be amended through the Tentative Interim Amendment process. This option is not viable as a TIA must be non-controversial, and any standards on calibration will likely be contentious (see email from Paul Junio). The EMMEC and the Consensus Standard Development Executive Committee will discuss additional options.

- 1. Jim Webber: editorial change to be made
- 2. George Detsis: While these are good comments and should be addressed in SOPs, TNI does not address worker safety and waste management as these are topics beyond the regulations under which laboratory accreditation is used (see also 1.5. scope).
- 3. Marlene Moore: all comments and suggestions were accepted and appropriate changes made to the standard.
- 4. Debra Waller:
  - V1M5 1.7.3.1 Comment was not accepted as the purpose of a method blank is to demonstrate the sterility of the procedure. Use of pre-sterilized single use funnels are not exempt.
    - Second comment requesting clarification of 1.7.3.1 a ii will be incorporated
  - b. V1M5 1.7.3.5.c ii accepted and incorporated into the standard.
- 5. Craig Harvey the committee does not a single monthly chlorine residual check for each client (client may be an operator or other entity that collects multiple samples) as an undue burden. The check is not based on number of sources or supplies, but who collects the samples.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 EDT, with the next meeting scheduled for October 10, 2011.

Appendix A - Participants

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Associate Members: Larry Penfold Carl Kircher Paul Junio

## Appendix B Comments

## Comment on EL-V1-M3-2011

Concern: On August 1, 1994, the EPA announced in the Federal Register that EPA/600/R-93/116 provides clarification and improvements to the 1982 protocol and recommended that it serve as a preferred substitute method. <u>However</u>, a 2010 federal court ruled (United States v. San Diego Gas & Electric, Co.) that the EPA did not go through required administrative rulemaking to replace the 1982 method with the 1993 method and that results produced by the 1993 method were not allowed in court deliberations.

Recommendation: Replace "EPA/600/R-93/116, July 1993" with "EPA 600/M4-82-020 (1982)", as detailed below:

1.7.7.1.3 Bulk Samples

a) The concentration of asbestos in a given sample shall be calculated in accordance with the method utilized (e.g., EPA/600/R 93/116, July 1993) EPA 600/M4-82-020 (1982).

1.7.7.3 Polarized Light Microscopy 1.7.7.3.1 The concentration of asbestos in a given sample shall be calculated in accordance with the method utilized (e.g., EPA/600/R 93/116, July 1993) EPA 600/M4-82-020 (1982).

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