

TNI Stationary Source Audit Sample Expert Committee Meeting
TNI Forum on Laboratory Accreditation
Savannah, GA
February 2, 2011

Attendance:

Maria Friedman, Chair	Committee member	present
Michael Klein	Committee member	absent
Gregg O'Neal	Committee member	present
Michael Schapira	Committee member	present
Jim Serne	Committee member	absent
Richard Swartz, Vice-chair	Committee member	present
Stanley Tong	Committee member	Present
Mike Hayes	Committee member	present
Jane Wilson	Program Administrator	present
Shawn Kassner	Associate member	present
Mike Miller	Associate member	absent
Ty Garber	Associate member	absent
William Mills	Associate member	absent
William Daystrom	Guest	present

The following attendees were present for some or all of the SSAS EC session:

Valgena Respass – Enthalpy
Curtis Wood - ERA
Jim Webber - NY DOH
Patrick Brumfield – RTC
Jeff Lowry - ERA
Chris Bolling - HRSD
Bob Finken – Delta Air Quality Services, SES
Heidi White – ERA
John King
Sandra Stringfellow - Mississippi

Maria welcomed the attendees to the session. Maria reviewed the current composition of the committee and noted the committee is seeking additional members in all interest categories.

- 1) Review and approve minutes from teleconference on January 24, 2011

Email votes were received from Jim Serne and Mike Schapira. A quorum is present to approve the minutes. Mike Schapira motioned to accept as drafted and Gregg seconded. All were in favor and the minutes for January 24th are accepted as drafted.

- 2) Chair Election

Gregg nominated Maria to continue as Chair for 2011 and Richard seconded. All approved the motion, so Maria will continue as Chair.

- 3) Review/Update of charter

(see also Slides 5-6 of session presentation)

The updated charter was reviewed by email previously – Maria asked for any additional comments for committee members.

There was a question as to whether the reference to reviewing the Canadian SS AP program should be deleted, but discussion indicated that members did not think there was harm in retaining the reference.

Richard motioned to approve the updated charter and Gregg seconded. The members approved the updated charter as drafted.

4) SSAS Program Update

(see also Slides 7-19 of session presentation)

Maria reviewed the major standards development milestones to date. Currently the critical TNI SSAS program documents are under EPA review.

Four tentative interim amendments (TIAs) were developed and adopted for the SSAS standards in response to SSAS EC review of the final EPA Rule. Maria briefly reviewed each of the TIAs.

Maria noted the SSAS table is still being reviewed for updates by a SSAS EC subcommittee, but won't be discussed in detail today.

Next comments received from the EPA program on the critical documents were reviewed and potential responses discussed.

- Definition of audit sample (all modules) – The committee will incorporate EPA's suggestion to re-word the definition.
- V1M1, section 5.1.5 regarding provision of mutual recognition of accreditations by PAs – EPA did not understand this provision. After email comment exchange, the committee will consider accepting Stan's proposed language rewording. There is now a second TNI approved PA, ACLASS, and Maria will be following up with Jerry Parr to add to the TNI news item that this also includes the TNI SSAS program and SSAS samples. It was not known if ACLASS has a mutual recognition agreement with A2LA.
- V1M1, section 6.2, EPA was concerned that there was a contradiction with a statement in the Scope. Richard proposed replacement wording that is editorial in nature.
- V1M1, section 6.3.5 – EPA questioned whether the potential inclusion of interferences prevents providers from supplying audit samples of equivalent difficulty and challenge. There are different opinions on whether this provision should be kept or not. Would the interferent be identified or described in the description of the audit sample (or in the SSAS table)? Shawn noted this is part of the role of the PA to ensure equal challenges are provided by the sample providers. They will review all sample designs. This topic will be discussed further on the next teleconference. Maria would like to get EPA confirmation that EPA will accept TNI responses first, before proceeding with any official changes

to the standards. Stan thought EPA would only provide a general “read” and not a specific agreement until the changes are final. Maria wants to get more feedback from Jim Serne as a stack tester. Should the lab know ahead of time that there is an interferent present? Mike Schapira explained that typically the lab will know what kind of stack the test sample is coming from, so that might indicate the type of interferences might be present in the stack sample. Shawn suggests retaining it for now, and reminding EPA about role of PA in the TNI response. Recommendations in the SSAS table can also be used as a way to encourage uniformity.

- V1M2, section 5.3.3 – Another EPA comment on acceptance of accreditations. This is similar to the previous discussion and will be retained for now. The TNI response will explain the provision in detail and EPA will likely understand the intent.
- V1M3, section 5.1b – This comment relates to wording restricting labs from knowingly analyzing an audit sample intended for another laboratory. The wording originated with the TNI PT standards. For an audit sample program this may be much rarer than it potentially is with PTs. Subcontract laboratory situations are already covered in another section of the standard. This would prevent the lab from sending the sample to another lab just to check your result. Shawn suggested retaining the language as this provision stops the flow of samples between labs and other requirements stop flow of information between labs. The committee will consider changing to Stan’s proposed language.

Maria summarized other work in progress such as the SSAS table update and the development of an audit sample concentration template.

5) Review of EPA FAQs

(see Slides 20 – 32 of session presentation)

Maria explained that the EPA FAQs are equivalent to the TNI SSAS FAQs, and are posted on the EPA website. There will be a summary of the restructuring of the program and EPA will have a list of the accredited audit sample providers. Maria said there will be a link to the EPA site from the TNI website.

The EPA FAQs were reviewed as drafted.

Maria also reviewed what is available on the SSAS section of the TNI website.

Shawn added that the SSAS table subcommittee has finished SSAS table review. The subcommittee will send their output to the SSAS EC for approval and will be determining what Candace needs for documenting how the table was developed for submission to EPA. TNI will also need to notify the accreditors when the new table is available. Maria will also talk to the PT Executive Committee Chair about mutual recognition between accreditors.

Next SSAS EC meeting (after Savannah) will be Feb 14, 2011, 2:00 PM EST.