

Summary of the TNI Competency Task Force Meeting
Wednesday, July 23, 2020 1:00 pm Eastern

1. Welcome and Roll Call

The Interim Chair, Jerry Parr, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

Prior to requesting approval of the minutes of June 24, Jerry asked if there were any comments or edits to the generic competencies as discussed at that meeting and summarized in the minutes. The list in the minutes was re-ordered from the alphabetical order used during review to a chronological order as used during an assessment. With no comments or edits offered, the minutes were then approved unanimously, with Amanda abstaining due to her absence at that meeting.

2. Discussion of Assessor Competency

Jerry described the genesis of the draft document presented to the Task Force with the meeting reminder, stating that he was trying to organize his thoughts and then the draft flowed organically from that point. Participants who had reviewed it agreed that it offered a “phenomenal” leap forward towards the end product sought, which is an outline of what constitutes competency and should be included in training.

In response to a question, Jerry noted that he had not relied upon the existing TNI course, Basic Assessor Training, for the document and that, anyway, that course content is only available to trainees as provided by the instructor.

Since the LAB Expert Committee, revising V2M1, had just met the previous day, Aaren described the training requirements agreed upon for the draft revision, to be a 1) basic assessor course covering proficiency testing (V1M1) and quality management systems (V1M2), 2) training in assessing to the various additional modules (V1M3-7 plus any future additional modules) and then 3) training in how to assess the specific disciplines (this will incorporate knowledge of methods and analytical technology specific to each discipline, with chemistry having several different components such as organic, inorganic metals and inorganic non-metals).

Participants also discussed whether to incorporate field sampling and measurement organization (FSMO) assessors into a combined document, create a competency scheme that is sufficiently generic to encompass both laboratory and FSMO, or design a companion document. The consensus was to create a companion document, with the idea that portions would be very similar but the specific module and discipline trainings likely very different.

Further, all recognize that the competency requirements for both laboratory and FSMO assessors will need to be reviewed and possibly updated with each future revision of the relevant standard.

Participants then went through the draft, making specific recommendations for edits up to the beginning of the section titled “Generic Assessment Competencies”, when the allotted hour was over. A revised draft will be prepared, based on those edits, and distributed with these minutes, and once the edits from this July meeting are accepted, the review will resume at the now re-numbered section 1.2, Generic Assessment Competencies.

4. Next Meeting

The next teleconference meeting will be Wednesday, August 26, 2020, at 1:00 pm Eastern. An agenda and any documents will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Attachment 1

Competency Task Force Roster

NAME	EMAIL	AFFILIATION	Present?	
Aaren Alger	aaren@alger-consulting.com	Alger Consulting & Tech.	Yes	1
Paul Banfer	paul.banfer@eisc.net	EISC	Yes	2
Kenneth Brown	kbrown@escondido.org	City of Escondido	Yes	3
Julia Caprio	JKlensCaprio@Geosyntec.com	Geosyntec	No	4
Patricia Carvajal	pmcarvajal@sara-tx.org	San Antonio River Authority	Yes	5
Bob Di Rienzo	Bob.DiRienzo@ALSGlobal.com	ALS Global	No	6
Steve Drielak	drielak-associates@usa.net	Drielak & Associates	Yes	7
Amanda Dutko	adutko@fairwaylaboratories.com	Fairway Laboratories	Yes	8
Stacey Fry	sfry@babcocklabs.com	Babcock Laboratories	No	9
Kitty Kong	Kitty.Kong@chevron.com	Chevron	No	10
Kimberly Kostzer	kkostzer@coca-cola.com	Coca-Cola	No	11
Silky Labie	elcatllc@centurylink.net	ELCAT	Yes	12
Harold Longbaugh	Harold.Longbaugh@houstontx.gov	City of Houston	No	13
Emily Mellot	emmellott@pa.gov	Pennsylvania DEP	Yes	14
Mike Michaud	Mike.michaud@abilenetx.gov	City of Abilene	No	15
Mitzi Miller	Mitzi.Miller@nv5.com	NV5	Yes	16
Jerry Parr	jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org	The NELAC Institute	Yes	17
Sharon Robinson	Sharon.Robinson@doh.nj.gov	New Jersey DOH	Yes	18
Joann Slavin	Joann.slavin@health.ny.gov	NY ELAP	No	19
Alfredo Sotomayor	asotomayor@mmsd.com	MMSD	Yes	20
Elizabeth Turner	Elizabeth.turner@pacelabs.com	Pace Labs, Inc.	Yes	21
Curtis Wood	curtis_wood@waters.com	ERA, A Waters Company	No	22
Program Administrator:				
Lynn Bradley	The NELAC Institute	Lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org	Yes	