

Summary of the Laboratory Accreditation Body Expert Committee Meeting
Tuesday, May 17, 2017 1:00 pm

1. Welcome and Roll Call

The Chair, Carl Kircher, opened the meeting. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1. The minutes of April 18 were approved by acclamation.

2. ISO CASCO Meeting in Vancouver, Canada

Carl reported that the ISO/CASCO Policy Meetings and the Plenary Sessions in Vancouver during the final week of April were a good conference, and that he believes the work products will be worthy of our high confidence in their quality.

Regarding ISO 17011, there is an appeal underway about clause seven, relating to “competency of the Accreditation Body,” where the current language leaves open the possibility that evaluating competency could include factors beyond the language of the standard. The appeal seeks to modify that language to reflect that the AB would be “competent according to the standard.” This appeal is likely to delay availability of the final published standard until late summer (July or August.)

Regarding ISO 17025, the working sessions (second week of the meeting, after Carl had departed) went through comments from the most recent ballot. Another balloting is expected in the fall, and if the comments then are not extensive, perhaps the new 17025 will be final by the end of calendar 2017. There is some controversy over sampling language, whether the sampling must be associated with subsequent testing or calibration, which still needs to be resolved. Carl also noted that some of the language about issuing test reports indirectly refers to how NELAP uses its scopes of accreditation.

Carl also noted that there is a special session at the TNI conference in DC, about the status of these ISO standards.

3. Distributing an Outline for Stakeholder Input – the Next Step in Following the Standards Development SOP 2-100 for V2M1 Revision

Carl has been asked to prepare an outline of our draft revised standard, based on the expected changes to ISO 17011, for distribution to stakeholders. There is no fixed timeline for this, but after discussion, participants agreed that the outline should include questions where stakeholder input can impact the TNI language in the revision, such as prescriptiveness of language about the accreditation cycle, or about remote assessments of laboratories.

Committee members are asked to send possible questions to Carl for inclusion, over the following week. Carl will also check back to the list of items dropped during conversion from the NELAC standard to the TNI standard, and never written into policies. Carl will incorporate those issues as well as any appropriate comments from Houston’s discussion into the outline, and circulate it for comment, then committee members can discuss it at the June meeting. This outline will likely form the basis for our agenda at conference in Washington, DC, in August, also.

Because all of the “parking lot” comments from Houston that await consideration by the committee relate to new language in the ISO standard, participants agreed that it makes better sense to skip review of those until we see the actual language from ISO/IEC.

4. Agenda for Conference

Typically, for the summer conference, committees are asked to post more detailed agendas with time schedules, so that conference participants can move between the technical and TNI

sessions with some assurance of being present for the discussions that most interest them. We have a full morning session (2.5 hours) on Thursday morning, August 10. Participants agreed on the following general agenda:

Welcome and Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

Update on Committee Activities since Houston

Discussion of the Revised Module V2M1 – what stays in, what comes out, what gets added

New Business

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm Eastern following a motion by Nilda, seconded by Bill.

3. Next Meeting

The next teleconference meeting of the LAB Expert Committee is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 20, 2017, at 1:00 pm Eastern.** A reminder notice will be sent the week before.

Attachment A

LAB Expert Committee Roster

Name/Email	Term ends	Affiliation	Present?
William Batschelet Batschelet.william@epa.gov	12/31/18	Other – US EPA R8, Lab QAO	Yes
Nilda Cox, Vice Chair nildacox@eurofinsus.com	12/31/2017	Lab – Eurofins Eaton Analytical Inc.	Yes
Virginia Hunsberger vhunsberge@pa.gov	12/31/2017	AB – PA Department of Environmental Protection	Yes
Oommen Kappil okappil@emsl.com	12/31/19	Lab – EMSL Laboratories, Inc.	No
Catherine Katsikis ckatsikis@ldcfl.com	12/31/2018	Other – Laboratory Data Consultants	Yes
Carl Kircher, Chair carl_kircher@flhealth.gov	12/31/2018	AB – Florida Department of Health	Yes
Marlene Moore mmoore@advancedsys.com	12/31/2018	Other -- Advanced Systems, Inc., Newark, DE	No
Mei Beth Shepherd mbshep@sheptechserv.com	12/31/2018	Other -- Shepherd Technical Services	No
Aurora Shields ashields@lawrenceks.org	12/31/2018	Lab – City of Lawrence, KS	No
Program Administrator: Lynn Bradley Lynn.Bradley@nelac-institute.org	N/A		Yes
Associate Members:			
Nishant Bhatambrekar Nishant1.Bhatambrekar@ge.com	12/31/2018	Lab -- GE- Power & Water Engineering	No
Yumi Creason ycreason@pa.gov		AB -- Pennsylvania	No
June Main jmain@dep.nyc.gov		Lab – NYC DEP	No
Donna Ruokonen donna.ruokonen@microbac.com		Lab -- Microbac	No
Bill Ray bill_ray@williamrayllc.com		Other – William Ray Consulting, LLC	No