NEFAP Executive Committee (NEFAP EC)  
Field Activities Expert Committee (FAC)  

Meeting Summary  
August 9, 2016

1. Roll call:

Kim Watson, NEFAP EC Chair, and Kevin Holbrooks, FAC Chair, called the combined meeting of the NEFAP EC and FAC to order on August 9, 2016 in Orange County, CA at 1pm Pacific. Attendance is included in Attachment A - there were 9 NEFAP EC committee members present and 5 FAC members present. NEFAP EC Associates present: William Batschelet and John Moorman.

The July meeting minutes will be reviewed by each committee during the next regularly scheduled teleconference.

2. NEFAP EC Overview

Kim provided an overview of the committee’s mission, membership and activities (see Presentation in Attachment B.)

Kim expanded on the following topics:

Mobile Lab Subcommittee

There have been some issues with mobile labs receiving secondary accreditation and confusion on how mobile labs work with NEFAP and NELAP. This subcommittee started by developing a survey to understand mobile lab issues. Kim just received a report from Paul Bergeron, Subcommittee Chair, in the form of meeting minutes. These minutes have been posted on the NEFAP EC website. He feels the charge of this subcommittee has been completed and recommends that a TNI Task Force (or some similar type of committee) be formed to complete the work started in response to TNI’s Strategic Plan that stated: Develop and implement a plan for treatment of mobile labs among NELAP ABs and between NELAP and NEFAP. Paul and Kim are working on a formal request to the TNI Board.

Strategic/Marketing Subcommittee

Justin will step in as Chair of this subcommittee in Marlene Moore’s absence.
NEFAP is well known in the community of people that attend TNI meetings, but it is not known in the greater field community. This subcommittee is working on ideas on how to change this. A number of the mediums that will be used to get the word out will require an update of the NEFAP website. Justin worked on a website outline that he will be sharing with the subcommittee, NEFAP EC and FAC.

NEFAP EC Nominations

The voting results for the 2016 Elections were presented. Carl Kircher, Calista Daigle, Nilda Cox and Paul Bergeron were all voted back onto the committee for a second term.

3. FAC Overview

Kevin provided an overview of the committee (see Presentation in Attachment C). He expanded on the following topics:

Scope of Accreditation Subcommittee

Field scopes are not as standardized as labs, so a guidance document is being developed. The committee has started meeting. Dropbox is being used to develop the document and it is thought to have experts work on the various parts of the scope.

ANSI

FAC plans to have all information submitted for this accreditation in November.

Tools Subcommittee

Justin provided some history of where this subcommittee started and what its mission is (see Attachment C). He also described the tools that have already been developed.

The subcommittee would like to see a call facilitated every month to talk about accreditation issues with FSMOs.

ISO 17025 Update – Carl Kircher

ISO 17011 is also being updated. Both standards are under major revision.

Section 1 Scope
Section 2 Normative References
Section 3 Terms and definitions
Section 5 Structural Requirements – What is the structure of your organization?
Section 7  Technical Requirements – What kind of measurements are done? How is it reported out?

Section 8  Management System Requirements – Lots of quality management system information that most are familiar with. It is similar to ISO 9001.

Sections 4-8 used to be just Management System Requirements and Technical Requirements.

(Addition: Carl noted during minute review that the section numbering for ISO 17011 is slightly different from ISO 17025. Section 7 is Process Requirements, Section 8 is Information Requirements and Section 9 is Management System Requirements.)

There have been numerous comments in the process of updating these standards. Double sided comments were about 3” thick.

ISO 17025 Draft International Standard (DIS) is expected in Spring 2017. ISO 17011 is moving forward quicker.

There is some question about how to handle the 9001 Option that will be in the Standard.

There is also a question about whether sampling fits under ISO 17025. Carl thinks it will be clarified in terms and definitions.

The committee discussed when the review of the 2014 TNI Field Standard should start based on the information provided by Carl and ABs in attendance. Some thought the review should start when the Final Draft comes out. Ilona asked if the committee should get started now on some of the more challenging topics we know are ahead: PT and Mobile Labs.

Doug Berg thinks the earlier Draft Standard would be an acceptable time to start working on the details of the standard. DIS vs. FDIS. There really shouldn’t be too big a change between the two.

This will be further discussed in the September teleconference, but there was general agreement that the committee should start looking at topics like PT and Mobile Labs sooner.

4. FSMO Workshop

John Moorman gave an introductory presentation to give people an idea of what will be covered in the FSMO workshop tomorrow afternoon (see Attachment D).

5. Next Meeting
The next meeting of the NEFAP Executive Committee will be by teleconference on Friday, 9-9-16 at 11am Eastern. The next meeting for the FAC will be by teleconference on Tuesday, 9-20-16 at 11am Eastern.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45pm Pacific.
## Attachment A

### Participants

#### TNI NEFAP Executive Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Members</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Balance</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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</table>
| Kim Watson (2017)  
(Chair)  
Present | Stone Environmental, Inc | FSMO | (802)229-2196 | kwatson@stone-env.com |
| Zaneta Popovska (AB)  
Present | ANAB | AB | (260)637-2705  
c: 260-446-4807 | zpopovska@i-a-b.com |
| Doug Berg (AB)  
Present | PJ Laboratory Accreditation, Inc. | AB | (248)709-0096 | dberg@pjlabs.com  
douglasberg@gmail.com |
| Paul Bergeron (2019)  
Absent | LELAP | AB | 225-219-3185 | Paul.bergeron@la.gov |
| Justin Brown (2018)  
Vice-Chair  
Present | EMT | FSMO | (847)324 3350 | jbrown@emt.com |
| Troy Burrows (2017*)  
Absent | STAC (Golden Specialty, Inc.) | AB | (281) 984-7021 | TBurrows@goldenspecialty.com |
| Nilda Cox (2019)  
Present | Eurofins Eaton Analytical Inc | Other | 626-318-8517 | nildacox@eurofinsus.com |
| Calista Daigle (2019)  
Present | Dade Moeller | FSMO | (225)485-2007 | calista.daigle@gmail.com  
calista.daigle@moellerinc.com |
| Seb Gillette (2018)  
Absent | DOD | Other | (210) 395-8434 | john.gillette.1@us.af.mil |
| Carl Kircher (2019)  
Present | Florida DOH | AB | 904-791-1574 | Carl_kircher@doh.state.fl.us |
| Cheryl Morton (2018)  
Present | AIHA | AB | 703-846-0789 | cmorton@aiha.org |
| Harry O’Neill (2018*)  
Absent | Beacon Environmental Service, Inc. | FSMO | 410-688-4762 | Harry.ONeill@beacon-usa.com |
| Richard Rago (2018*)  
Absent | Haley & Aldrich, Inc. | FSMO | 617-719-6128 | RRago@haleyaldrich.com |
| Michelle Bradac (AB)  
Absent | A2LA | AB | 301-644-3227 | mbradac@A2LA.org |
| Janis Villarreal (2018*)  
Present | H&H Mobile Geochemistry, Inc. | FSMO | 619-933-2751 | janis.villarreal@handpmg.com |
| Ilona Taunton  
(Program Administrator)  
Present | The NELAC Institute | (828)712-9242 | tauntoni@msn.com |

* Indicates an ex-officio member.
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NEFAB EC Meeting

- **Agenda:**
  - Introductions
  - Voting Results and Committee Update
  - Subcommittee reports:
    - Mobile Laboratory Subcommittee – Paul Bergeon
    - NEFAP Strategic Plan Subcommittee –
      - Goals
      - Approval of Implementation plan
    - WEBSITE Work and Updates

Looking Ahead to 2017

- ABs Website Language for NEFAP
- Action Items
- Other Business

**NEFAP EC MISSION**

The Executive Committee is committed to establishing and maintaining a program in support of the TNI FSMO standards that will assure continual improvement of FSMO accreditation processes and which incorporate practical, effective, and clear standards of performance that are consistent with the needs of the environmental community as well as regulatory and industry specific requirements. The NEFAP accreditation assures the organization is technically competent to generate data of known and documented quality that meet the needs of the client.

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD ACTIVITIES PROGRAM (NEFAP)**

The purpose of the National Environmental Field Activities Program is to establish and implement a program for the accreditation of field sampling and measurement organizations.

**Introductions**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
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NEFAP EC Membership

- 8 FSMOs
- 3 ABs
- 4 Other
- 3 Associate Members
- 2017 - 2 members will be up for membership renewals

NEFAP Accomplishments

- NEFAP Strategy Subcommittee
- Offering a number of training courses
- Offering of tools such as checklists and Accreditation Summaries, (2007 vs 2014 Standard Comparison)
- LELAP recognize third party accreditation for stack testing based on NEFAP.

NEFAP Accomplishments

- 2015 DEMOGRAPHICS
  - ABs Recognized – 3
  - Potential New ABs - 1
  - FSMOs Accredited - 12
  - Potential In-Hand Applications - 3
  - Recognition of Air Testing and other Industries

NEFAP EC Mobile Laboratory Subcommittee

- Mobile Laboratory Subcommittee Survey Results

Mobile Lab Subcommittee

3. From the survey it was clear that a consistent definition for mobile laboratory was important to the stakeholders and that TNI/NELAP and NEFAP should all be using the same definition. Therefore, the committee came up with the definition noted above which should be further vetted with other stakeholders. The remaining question to the committee was the TNI Strategic Plan initiative.
“From the TNI Strategic Plan:
Develop and implement a plan for treatment of mobile labs among NELAP ABs and between NELAP and NEFAP.”
The subcommittee agreed that this was not within the charge of the subcommittee and that a recommendation should be made to both the NELAP AC and NEFAP EC to form another subcommittee or an ad hoc committee to come to a consensus and document that work to address the treatment of mobile laboratories. Paul Bergeron would introduce this topic at the next NELAP AC meeting and make this recommendation. The subcommittee would like to see language within each state’s accreditation process that would address mobile laboratories with a consistent definition and a consistent accreditation process. In addition, it proposes that the ad hoc committee work on developing a plan on addressing mobile laboratories and address field sampling: specifically, work out the issues of NELAP and NEFAP overlap and help to streamline the NELAP/NEFAP process so not all FSMOs have to have dual accreditations.

NEFAP STRATEGIC PLAN
- Committee Goals:
  - Develop focused approach to marketing NEFAP by identifying target audience.
  - Determine method for educating environmental professionals about NEFAP.
  - Develop mechanism for implementation including identifying resources, responsibilities for implementation and monitoring the process.

NEFAP MARKETS
- Marketing Focus: List of Target Audiences
  - DSMO
  - DSMO Trade Groups
  - Data Users – End Users
  - LABS
  - Industry – equipment manufacturers
  - Municipalities
  - Engineering Firms: Design, implement, review Environmental Projects

NEFAP MARKETS
- Mediums – Mechanisms for Distribution
  - Need to hear from the people that are accredited. We can do short interview sessions with our clients. Ilona commented that the video capability on phones has improved tremendously and she has used some of these types of short videos to produce marketing material for another organization. We can ask: Why is the accreditation important? How has it helped the organization? We could also ask for short written statements and put them on the website. Maybe have a page just dedicated to: Why NEFAP?

NEFAP SHOUT OUT
- Mediums – Mechanisms for Distribution
  - Need to hear from the people that are accredited. We can do short interview sessions with our clients. Ilona commented that the video capability on phones has improved tremendously and she has used some of these types of short videos to produce marketing material for another organization. We can ask: Why is the accreditation important? How has it helped the organization? We could also ask for short written statements and put them on the website. Maybe have a page just dedicated to: Why NEFAP?
NEFAP SHOUT OUT

- Mediums – Mechanisms for Distribution
  - Develop a list of potential FSMOs for application. Contact them with updates and information about the program.
  - Getting NEFAP brochures into the hands of vendors - so they can make it available at conferences.
  - Put together example emails that FSMOs or labs can send to their clients with links to information on the TNI website.
  - Put tools into hands of FSMOs so they can encourage clients to require NEFAP. Could be online material they can email their clients.

NEFAP PLAN – 2016

- Preliminary Implementation:
  - TNI FAC maintains the list of presentations and opportunities in their meeting minutes. Determine if this listing can be made more public on the TNI website under NEFAP.
  - Establish group to coordinate, plan events and review/develop materials for advocacy. The group coordinates with the NEFAP EC and FAC and TNI staff for resources and meeting implementation goals.
  - The NEFAP EC evaluates the work of the group to determine the effectiveness of the advocacy on an annual basis.

NSFAP PLAN - 2016

- Implementation:
  - Collect contact information about FSMOs, ABs, Environmental engineering firms that attend TNI-FAC meetings and training.
  - Collect contact information about Manufacturers and distributors of Field Sampling and Measurement equipment. Especially those that exhibit and/or give papers at NEMC and other meetings about Field Sampling and Measurements.

NEFAP - HELP

- ABs Marketing and WEBSITES
- Review of language and consistency
- WHAT WORKS - USE of TNI LOGO
- RECOGNIZED ABS

NEFAP – ACTION ITEMS

- REVIEW of ACTION ITEMS
- Other Business
Contact Information

- Ilona Taunton, TNI-Nelac Institute
- FAC Committee Chair
  Kevin Halbrooks
- EC Committee Chair
  Kim Watson, RQAP-GLP
Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
- FAC Overview
- Scope of Accreditation Subcommittee update (Larry Duty – Chair)
- ANSI Approval Process Update (Ilona Taunton)
- Tools Subcommittee (Justin Brown)
- FSMO “Scared Straight” Workshop (John Moorman)
- ISO 17025 Update (Carl Kircher)
- Open Discussion/New Business

Committee Members

- Kevin Holbrooks – JEA (Chair)
- Larry Duty – E-Lab Consultants (Vice-Chair)
- Troy Burrows – Golden Specialty
- Maggie Cangro – Catalyst Air Management, Inc.
- Craig Forbes – Hampton Roads Sanitation District
- Scott Haas – Environmental Testing, Inc.
- Tom Martin – NYC DEP
- Andora Nguyen – Eurofins Eaton Analytical
- Mike Shepard – L-A-B (Shepard Technical Services)
- Shannon Swantek – Oregon Public Health Division
- Angela Zevely – LG&E and KU Energy, LLC.

FAC Operations

- Operates under Consensus Standards Development Program (CSD)
- Expert Committee following consensus process
- 11 Voting Members
  - 4 FSMO
  - 4 Others
  - 3 Accreditation Bodies
  - Several Associate Members

Standard Development

- Establish consensus based standard for field activities
  - 2014 FSMO Standard Volume I – FSMO’s
  - 2014 FSMO Standard Volume II – Accreditation Bodies
- Begin Standard Review Process in 2017?
Other Activities

- Provide technical assistance
- Respond to Standard Interpretation Requests
- Develop tools to aide FSMOs
- Develop technical guidance in application of Standard
  - Scope subcommitee

Scope of Accreditation Subcommittee Update

- Members
  - Larry Duty (Chair)
  - Troy Burrows
  - Scott Haas
  - Maggie Cangro
  - Justin Brown

Scope of Accreditation Guidance

- Using Dropbox to develop document.

Scope of Accreditation Subcommittee

- After years of dormancy the subcommittee is currently reviewing the historical recommendations and formulating an attack plan.
- The subcommittee approach is to assign expert task to each document subsection; E.G. an air specialist tasked to author the air sampling scope, a soils sampling specialist (geologist, soils scientist) to author the soil sampling scope, and so on.
- Each section will then be commented on by the group.
ANSI Process Update

- No comments from Initial publication of BSR8 forms
- In process of preparing final submission.
  - Includes the following documentation:
    - The committee roster
    - Summary of consensus body vote by interest category
    - Closing date of voting on the final standards
    - Copies of the final standards

Tools Subcommittee

TNI Field Activities Committee – Tools Subcommittee

Formation
- Subcommittee was established in early 2013 to address feedback from community on readiness for program
- Committee consisted of 8 people, most associate members representing:
  - Large commercial C&E firm
  - Federal Government
  - State Government
  - Local Government
  - Data Users
  - FSMO/Laboratory

Mission
- Develop ‘tools’ to assist FSMOs in implementing Elements of Standard
- Develop ‘tools’ to assist FSMOs in implementing quality systems
- Develop ‘tools’ to assist FSMOs in understanding accreditation process/NEFAP program
- Develop a continuous forum for FSMOs to discuss/collaborate/share ideas on field related topics or issues
**Original Ideas - Tools**

- Forum Calls – Set up routine calls for FSMOs to discuss process and ideas
- Handbook or document on how to approach FSMO accreditation.
- QM Template
- SOP Template – Administrative and Technical
- Training on Documentation for FSMOs
- Work Instructions Template
- Summary of what each section of the TNI Field standard is looking for.

**Completed Tools**

- Focus on tools for ‘new’ FSMOs or FSMO’s not familiar with NEFAP/ISO/Quality and Management systems
- Develop a prioritization document – advise FSMO on what to work on first
  - Concept then to support that effort with templates/guidance to assist
- Develop a summary of the accreditation process

**Positives**

- Entire purpose was to help FSMOs which is in line with TNI mission
- Responsive to needs of community/flexible in scope and mission
- Very helpful and active group of diverse volunteers willing to share information/resources
- Calls were good example of how forum would work with discussion/debate on elements, tools, etc. from different perspectives
- Could transition into other (technical) tools

**Moving Forward**

Recommendation:

- Review and revise mission/scope of work for this subcom
  - As specific or generic as desired
- Identify new volunteers
  - Reach out to associates, other stakeholder groups
  - Diverse memberships to facilitate different perspectives
- Decide on structure of subcommittee
  - Leadership
  - Liaison with FAC
- Feedback/reporting back to FAC

**Questions or Comments?**
ISO 17025 Update

Open Discussion
ENSURING COMPETENCY FOR FSMO FORUM: “SCARED STRAIGHT” for Project Management

Forum Road Map
- Who are we?
  - Why NEFAP?
  - What is NEFAP?
  - What is FSMO?
  - How does a FSMO get accredited?
- Assessor Perspective
- FSMO Perspective
- AB Forum

Forum Presenters
- Intro
  - John Moorman – South Florida WMD
  - Kim Watson – Stone Environmental
- Assessor:
  - Calista Daigle – Dade Moeller (A2LA)
  - FSMO
    - Kevin Holbrooks - JEA
- Accreditation Bodies
  - PJLA – Doug Berg
  - ANAB / L-A-B – Mike Shepherd (Shepherd ENV.)
  - A2LA – Chris Gunning

Field Quality System
- You Already Need One
- You Already Want One
- You Just May Not Know it yet…

What we all want…
- We know what you want for your Project…
  - Less effort
    - (because you’re overloaded with tasks)
  - Less Complicated
    - (No More Requirements!!!)

But we also want…
- We all want the data to be fit for its intended use
- We all want things to go “according to plan” for our project
- We want the plan to meet its performance measures for success
Signal in the Noise…

- We look for “trends” in the data
- We look for the “signal” in the “noise”
- If you change something in the system, the performance measures should demonstrate that change had an effect
- For this to be a success, you want to control variables (remember the scientific method?)

Example: We Build Something

- You change something in the natural system,
- You want to know with some certainty the performance measures show the desired effect
- To know the data are telling you the true picture, you must control variables
- Otherwise, noise may invalidate your results/conclusions
What we can agree on…

- Samples/Data Must be Representative
- Processes need to be Consistent
- This allows us to manage the project to reduce risk of “failure”
  - Unnecessary Remediation or Resampling
  - Unusable data
- The goals of Representativeness and Consistency are common to any project regardless of purpose (e.g. Monitoring, Research, Permit Compliance)

We Meet These Goals By Establishing a Field Quality System

Quality Management System

- Elements for competency defined
- How does the organization communicate?
- How is change managed?
  - When changes occur – Data is affected
  - Is the change in the data due to a process change or an environmental change?
- Do you prevent problems or react?
  - Reaction results in a risk that a competent decision will not be made
- Do you audit?

Resistance to QS:

- “No time”
- “No Resources”
- “Do not see the value”
- “I trust my Technicians”

Resistance to QS (cont.):

- “If it ain’t broke, why fix it?”
  - If you don’t look, how do you know it ain’t broke?
- With this mindset you’re waiting for failure to tell you the process is out of control
  - Don’t wait until the News Cameras are at the front door!

Resistance to QS (cont.):

- “I Don’t Have Time to Implement a QS”
- If you don’t have time to do it right, how will you have time to do it twice?
  - Time and resources are major constraints for all projects
  - How will you convince someone for MORE resources if your data are invalidated?
Risk
- Determined by management
- Driven by determining the cost of failure
  - Not unlike any other industry
- May include
  - Public Health concerns
  - Cost of Remediation
  - Cost of Resampling

Quality
- "The Quality of the Data Can Only be as Good as the Quality of the Sample"
- Environmental Data Quality Cannot Be Assured Unless There Are Quality Standards for All Steps of the Sample Collection AND Analysis Processes.

The Question
IS THE ORGANIZATION COMPETENT TO PERFORM:
- SAMPLING DESIGN,
- SAMPLE COLLECTION,
- MAKING MEASUREMENTS?

The Answer…

What is NEFAP?

TNI Timeline
NEFAP Timeline

NEFAP Program Structure

- **TNI Board**
  - Supervises/controls/directs affairs of TNI; determine its policies; and actively pursues its mission.

- **Field Activities Committee (FAC)**
  - Performs Development of Standards/Policies/Procedures

- **NEFAP Executive Committee**
  - Created as Separate “Board” Under TNI
  - Policy coordinating and approval
  - Responsible for Recognition of AB’s

- **Accrediting Bodies (ABs)**
  - Recognized by NEFAP EC, Accredit to FSMO Standard

Will this program be required?

- Regulation - Limited so far – (LA DEQ, Oregon in the works?)
- Contracts - Yes! - When it is important for the data user to assure field activities are performed competently
  - When data of known and documented quality are required by the user
  - Some Agencies are requiring field certification or accreditation in their contracts (e.g. EPA)

What if no competency in the field?

- Data defensibility in jeopardy
  - Client complaints
  - Regulatory questioning
- EPA Competency Policy pushing for more assurance –
  - Where EPA funding is involved
  - Need for QA due to recently identified integrity and quality problems

Demonstrate Competency

- Client audit/review process (second party)
- Oversight by project officer (government oversight)
- Accreditation – following consensus process for recognition and oversight
  - Third party
  - State or regulatory program
  - Accreditation body process with input from all stakeholders: [http://www.epa.gov/lsem/pdfs/lsem-lsb_competency-policy.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/lsem/pdfs/lsem-lsb_competency-policy.pdf)

Field Operations Group Guidelines – THE FOG

- The FOG guidelines are minimum requirements for establishing a quality management system.
- If you are doing field sampling and testing – review the FOG
  - Evaluate your operations
- Establish a Field Quality Management System
What is a FSMO?
- Field Sampling and Measurement Organization (FSMO)
  - Sample Planning
  - Sample Collection
  - Field Measurement

Standard for FSMO
- Standard was developed, voted and adopted by FSMOs, regulators and other stakeholders
- It is one of a kind!
- Different than NELAP Standard
- All types of environmental field activities are addressed
- Written for any type of FSMO

The TNI FSMO Standard
- Adopted May 2007 – Revised 2014
  - Volume 1: General Requirements for FSMOs (FSMO-V1-2014)
  - Volume 2: General Requirements for Accreditation Bodies Accrediting FSMOs (FSMO-V2-2014)

Volume I
"FSMO Competency Standard"
- Management System
- Technical Requirements
  - Fundamentals of Management System
  - Specifications Less Prescriptive than Labs
  - Flexibility Based On User Need
  - Specifications Designed for FSMO Applications

Volume II
- Accreditation Body Recognition
  - Defines Program Manual Specifications
  - Defines Program Organization
  - Personnel and Training Requirements
  - Assessment Performance Documentation
Accreditation Process Organizational Qualification

- Accreditation Process – Single Site Organization
  - Application Review
  - Quality System Documentation Verification
  - Field On-site Assessment

- Application Process – Multi-Site Organizations
  - Employs the “Umbrella Approach”
  - Common Organizational Quality System
  - Applicant Identifies Facilities for Assessment Verification
  - Field Assessments of Quality System

Big Difference Between NEFAP and NELAP

- Accreditation process is NOT required by the states except:
  - Louisiana has adopted NEFAP accreditation for stack testing
- The state or federal agencies do not oversee the accreditation process
- So how do ABs Accredit to this Program?

NEFAP-Recognized Accreditation Bodies

- Organizations must apply to TNI to serve as an Accreditation Body.
- Accreditation Body must demonstrate implementation of the TNI FSMO standards
- A FSMO seeking accreditation applies to a NEFAP-recognized AB for accreditation.

What does Field Accreditation Mean to the Community

- Improved data quality
- Assurance of the competence of the FSMO
- Generating data of known and documented quality
- Guarantees Assessment of the FSMO
  - Other than internal audits field processes may not be assessed
  - Lab Assessments Start with Sample Receiving

Contractual Language

“The FSMO must be accredited to the TNI Field Sampling and Measurement Organization Standard (current version) by a TNI recognized NEFAP accreditation body. The scope of accreditation for the FSMO must include the following field sampling and testing matrix and technology(s)…”
  - Fill in the matrix and technologies you require for your project, permit or regulatory program.

COST

- Cost is dependent on the scope of accreditation
- NEFAP ABs provide cost estimate
- The key is to shop around and get the AB that is the best fit for you
- Applications are found on each ABs website
- Conditions for Accreditation (including fees, accreditation schedule, and invoicing requirements) are up to each individual AB
- There should be some cost savings for those seeking lab and FSMO accreditation if the lab assessment is done simultaneously
**Why NEFAP?**

Well…Why NELAP?

- NELAP started as an effort to standardize Environmental Laboratory processes to improve data integrity.
- The community knew this was needed.
- It took years to gain momentum to gain acceptance.
- It took years to become implemented widely.
- NEFAP is where NELAP was in the beginning.

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**Sample Quality Cannot Be An Afterthought!**

- The quality of the sample cannot be improved AFTER it reaches the laboratory.
- Sample Representativeness cannot be improved AFTER it reaches the laboratory.
- The quality of the Field Documentation cannot be improved AFTER it reaches the laboratory.

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**Sample Quality Cannot Be An Afterthought!** (cont.)

- This is why having and established, accredited field quality system is imperative!
- NEFAP accreditation assures sample quality and field data integrity.

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**Quality Starts in the Field!!!!**

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