

**SUMMARY OF THE  
TNI PROFICIENCY TESTING EXPERT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**JANUARY 2, 2013**

The Committee met by teleconference on Wednesday, January 2, 2013, at 11:00 am EDT. Mitzi Miller chaired the meeting.

**1 – Previous Minutes**

In the absence of a quorum, the minutes of December 14, 2012 were not considered

**2 – Discussion of Comments received on the Working Draft Standard**

Mitzi asked all who had been assigned comments to complete a draft of the comment forms and send to both Mitzi and Ken. She said she would e-mail everyone to submit their outstanding draft responses by January 7. Mitzi said she would distribute the most recent version of the standard (with Scott's proposed changes). Mitzi would send Alger's comment to Scott for his opinion, and would then send it out again to everyone. Mitzi asked Ken to assign the remaining 30 comments that had not yet been considered. Ken would also e-mail copies of all completed forms to everyone.

Mitzi said the goal at the Denver meeting would be to go through all comments.

The following draft responses were discussed.

**Alger14.** The only change would be to refer to the committee's decision rather than the personal opinion of the reviewer. With this change, the comment was resolved.

**Cairns20.** In V1M2, Section 6.0, the commenter had suggested removal of "root cause analysis", saying it would then make it more consistent with language in V1M1, Section 6.1, and would ensure that all parts of corrective action are performed, not just root cause analysis. However, the committee considered it important to include root cause analysis, and decided to re-word the section to say "including root cause analysis". It was also agreed to go back to V1M2 6.1 to make that consistent. The comment was resolved.

**Cairns 42.** The recommended removal had already been done in Scott's re-write. The comment was resolved.

**Westerman1.** The comment was resolved.

Scott had distributed an updated version of V1M1 (file EL-V1M1-2012WDS-20121214), and this was discussed.

**4.3.2.** It was discussed whether to clarify the language “The laboratory shall, before the closing date of the study, direct the PT Provider to report the PT study performance results directly to the selected AB(s).”, since it does not apply to initial accreditation. However, this would allow a laboratory with a new accreditation to fail (say) 8 PTs, only pass 2, and then just send the 2 successful ones to the AB. An AB can choose to ignore PT results from analytes not yet accredited if it chooses. Nicole pointed out that this varies between states, and different states would hold laboratories to different requirements if it was not made clear. Two states represented on the conference call said they keep PT results even from laboratories that are not yet in their program, but many states do not do so. Scott agreed to draft language that would make it the same requirement for initial and continuing accreditation.

**4.3.6.** Language had been added to allow a laboratory to evaluate results to the LOQ rather than the PTRL. This was agreed to be acceptable, and it was noted it will need to be consistent in Volume 3.

**5.1.1.1.** It was agreed to add, after “scores”, “out of the last three attempted”.

**5.1.1.1 a).** In the statement “The two PT studies identified in section 5.1.1 must be performed no more than 18 months prior to obtaining initial accreditation from an AB.”, it was discussed whether “applied for” would be preferable to “obtained”.

**5.1.2.** A new subsection would be added for WET. It would be similar to the existing c), but the closing date of the most recent successful PT study for an FoPT would be changed to 12 months, and the laboratory would be required to continue to participate in PT studies for the FoPT semi-annually from that point on.

### **3 – Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm EST.

TNI Proficiency Testing Committee			1/2/13
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**ATTACHMENT – Section 5.1 V1M1**

**5 PT STUDY FREQUENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCREDITATION**

**5.1 Initial Accreditation**

5.1.1 Chemical Testing, Radiochemical Testing, Asbestos and Microbiology

5.1.1.1 ~~For each field of accreditation for which the laboratory has applied, that is also an accreditation FoPT, the laboratory shall demonstrate to the primary accreditation body (Primary AB) a performance history of two (2) unique "Acceptable" performance evaluation scores to attain initial accreditation. For each accreditation FoPT (with the exception of Whole effluent Toxicity FoPTs) that correspond to the fields of accreditation for which the laboratory has applied. Unique performance evaluation scores are from two different PT samples.~~ Studies.

- a) The two PT studies identified in section 5.1.1 must be performed no more than 18 months prior to obtaining initial accreditation from an AB.
- b) The opening date of the second study must be at least seven (7) calendar days after the closing date of the first study.
- c) The closing date of the most recent successful PT study must be less than six (6) months prior to obtaining initial accreditation from an AB.

5.1.2 Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing

5.1.2.1 ~~For each field of accreditation for which the laboratory has applied, that is also an accreditation FoPT, For Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) testing, the laboratory shall demonstrate to the primary AB that they have successfully analyzed, reported, and received an "Acceptable" score evaluation for~~ at least one (1) PT study ~~to attain initial accreditation, when required as specified in section 4.1.1, for each field of accreditation,~~

- a) ~~The study~~ closing date ~~of the most recent successful PT study shall must be no more~~ less than 18 months prior to obtaining initial accreditation from an AB.

**Commented [sch1]:** Combination of WDS and AA verbiage.

**Commented [sch2]:** I would recommend that this be 12 months.