

TNI PT Program Executive Committee Meeting Summary

January 26, 2016

1. Roll call and approval of minutes:

Chair, Maria Friedman, called the TNI PT Program Executive Committee (PTPEC) meeting to order on January 26, 2016, at 1pm Central in Tulsa, OK. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 6 Executive Committee members present.

Maria asked that people take a look at the December meeting minutes and provide comments. The following changes were needed:

- Change the date of the meeting in the first paragraph.
- State that the motion passed for the additional voting information in Section 4, bullet 1.
- Remove Ron Houck from Attachment A. He resigned from the committee on 12/17/15.

A motion was made by Nicole to accept the December 17, 2015 minutes with the edits. The motion was seconded by Dixie. The following members voted For: Maria, Andy, Dixie, Justin, Jennifer and Nicole. The vote will be completed by email or at the next meeting.

2. Chair Update

Maria provided an overview of the committee and activities for the last 6 months (see Attachment D – Meeting PPT).

3. Subcommittee Report

FoPT Format Subcommittee

The subcommittee has populated the tables with the CAS numbers and they are now being reviewed. They should be available for PTPEC soon.

SOP Subcommittee

The subcommittee is meeting the second Friday of each month. They are currently working on the PTPA Evaluation Checklist.

Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee

The SCM FoPT table has been completed.

Carl highlighted the membership of the subcommittee. The committee met for 7 years – at least 500 meetings to accomplish a complete review of all FoPTs.

The PTPEC will need a separate recommendation for PTPEC approval on the PCBs in Oil. The committee will meet next on 2-2-16.

4. PT Database for FoPT Updates

William provided an update regarding the PT Database (see Attachment E).

There were concerns about whether the FoPT Subcommittee should have direct access to study dates or number of lab participants and number of data points. William will have access to this information and the FoPT Subcommittee will have access to it through their specific request to receive data between dates and data from studies with a specific number of participants, etc ... This was the only way the PT Providers could feel comfortable with confidentiality.

There was also discussion regarding prep method identification. Not all PT Providers can accommodate this information and the Standard does not currently require it. Shawn noted that if the data needs to be collected, this may need to become a requirement before enough data can be collected to distinguish prep methods in PT results. Nicole emphasized there is no requirement for prep to be included.

5. PTPA Reports

A2LA and ANAB provided presentations to update the PTPEC on PT status (Attachment F).

A2LA

WS

Andy asked about specific analytes that were issues. Flouride was not an issue. There were some unregulated volatiles that had some issues.

Chlorine and Free Chlorine were also an issue.

WP

Selenium and boron had some issues. Ammonia. Oil and Grease showed the biggest difference between providers. Six months of data was reviewed.

Shawn would like to look at more data so trends can be viewed.

There may be some issues where the acceptance limits may be too wide and others where there are multiple issues.

It would also be helpful to look at what methods are being used.

A2LA would be happy to work with them on it, but it is something that needs to go through Jerry.

A2LA accredits 4 PT Providers. Participants - The number of labs can be 10-15 or 300, some DMR-QA could be 1000.

ANAB

Maria reviewed the report prepared by ANAB.

Nicole noted that this data is very helpful to PT Providers too. They can see issues with analytes themselves and knowing that others have the same issue ... helps them know a PT failure is likely an analyte issue and not a provider issue. Craig seconded this comment.

A good review was prepared to demonstrate that having more participants in the study contributes to lowering failure rates.

6. FoPT Updates – A Better Way?

Maria reviewed the current procedures for collecting and reviewing PT data for FoPT updates.

Comments:

- Looking at analytes that might have a new prep method may not be good criteria because it would be hard to collect this info. It was noted that NY does ask for prep methods and there are others who do too. Nicole thinks this could be helpful. Stacie Metzler thinks it is not right to decide which analytes should be looked at based on prep methods which are not currently part of the PT Program as required.
- Carl Kircher: When FoPTs are considered there is a lot that is taken into consideration. An example is Pentachlorophenol.
- Kelly - Could use moving weighted averages to determine info. The more recent data gets more importance.

- Shawn: We need to collect the data to be able to evaluate prep methods in the future. There may be issues that ABs will raise because their systems are not set-up to receive this additional data.
- Kelly – Is the first step in the update process to pick the FoPT table to update? Maybe it is a particular analyte that needs to be updated and it is across all the tables. What if the FoPTs were in an Access database?
- Carl asked if labs have the ability to let the PT Provider know what data goes to which AB or program? It is complicated.

7. Action Items

The action items were reviewed and notes and updates can be found in Attachment B.

8. New Business

- None.

9. Next Meeting

The next PTPEC teleconference will be February 25, 2016.

Action Items are included in Attachment B and Attachment C includes a listing of reminders.

Maria adjourned the meeting at 3:00pm Central.

Attachment A

Participants TNI

Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee

Members	Affiliation	Contact Information
Maria Friedman (2014) Present	TestAmerica	949-260-3201 maria.friedman@testamericainc.com
Ilona Taunton, Program Administrator Present	TNI	828-712-9242 tauntoni@msn.com
Eric Smith (2010) Absent	ALS Environmental	904-394-4415 eric.smith@alsglobal.com
Justin Brown (2011) Present	Environmental Monitoring and Technologies, Inc.	847-875-2271 jbrown@emt.com
Susan Butts (2012) Absent	South Carolina DHEC	(803)896-0978 buttsse@dhec.sc.gov
Nicole Cairns (2012) Present	NY State DOH	(518) 473-0323 nicole.cairns@health.ny.gov
Joe Pardue (2011) Absent	Pro2Serve, Inc.	423-337-3121 joe_pardue@charter.net
Dr. Andy Valkenburg_(2011) Present	Energy Laboratories, Inc.	406-869-6254 avalkenburg@energylab.com
Jennifer Duhon (2019) Present	Sigma-Aldrich RTC	307-3897218 jennifer.duhon@sial.com
Matt Sica Absent	ANAB, ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board	msica@anab.org
Dixie Marlin (2015) Present	Accutest	513-309-3593 dixiem@accutest.com
Gil Dichter (2015) Absent	IDEXX Water	207-556-4687 gil-dichter@idexx.com
Patrick Garrity (2019) Absent	Kentucky DEP	502-319-4040 patrick.garrity@ky.gov
Michella Karapondo (2019) Absent	USEPA	513-569-7141 karapondo.michella@epa.gov

Attachment B

Action Items – TNI PT Executive Committee

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
185	Send updated DW table with Footnote 15 to NELAP AC for approval.	Stacie Maria	4/1/12	Stacie submitted this. Need to confirm approval. Action: Look to see if this got done. 8/20/15: Maria will follow-up.
214	Update Tin, Total Xylene and Total Cyanide on FoPT tables and submit for approval.	Carl Stacie	Next Meeting	In Progress Ilona will look for this stuff. 8/20/15: Maria thinks Cyanide is done, but need to find status on Xylene and Tin. 11/19/15: Ilona reviewed minutes and provided notes to Carl and Maria.
233	Review complaint process.	Maria Ilona	5/14/14	In Progress
249	Meet with PTPAs to discuss issues surrounding receiving data for FoPT Limit Updates and complaints. Determine if issue exists and whether subcommittee is needed to address this issue.	Maria	11/13/14	In progress. 11/19/15: A group met to review this today.
251	Follow-up with Rami to provide support to solve footnote issue on WET FoPT Table.	Maria	10/30/14	Still in Progress
253	Check with EPA attorney on requirement that Vinyl Chloride	Michella	12/15/14	In progress. 8/20: Maria

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
	cannot be "0".			emailed Michella for status update. 9/24: Waiting for response from Michella. 11/19/15: Michella expects an update next month.
257	Email to SOP Subcommittee regarding clarification on how limit updates due to issues should be addressed.	Maria	12/12/14	Maria prepared it, but is waiting for a chair for this subcommittee.
264	Update Complaint SOP to reflect Standard requirement that PTPA be contacted.	TBD	TBD	Waiting for input - #233.
269	Prepare DRAFT response to SIRs after meeting with NELAP AC.	Maria	TBD	
271	Provide list of replicates and volumes from WET Subcommittee to PT Providers.	Maria	3/19/15	It gives them information about the methods that PT Provider's don't have. 8/20: Jeff asked that this be distributed to the PT Providers. Maria will take care of this.
295	Moved from Backburner: PTPA Evaluation Checklist needs to be updated prior to next round of evaluations. (Originally discussed 8/6/13)	Gil	April 2016	
296	Moved from Backburner: Charter needs to be updated in	All	November 2015	In Progress

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
	November.			
303	Send email to associates to see if they still want to receive meeting invitations.	Maria	1/25/16	
304	Prepare DRAFT response to SIRs and send to committee for review and discussion in Tulsa.	Maria	1/25/16	
305	Send response to EDB/DBCP ARA submitter to request more information.	Maria	1/25/16	
306	Prepare request for PT data for cis- and trans-Dichloropropene ARA. Request details from Carl.	Maria	1/25/16	
307	Update 2016 Charter and send out for email vote.	Maria	1/25/16	

Attachment C

Backburner / Reminders – TNI PT Executive Committee

	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments
7	Add the Field PT Subcommittee to the limit update SOP during its next update.	3/4/10	In Progress
11	Evaluate how labs are accredited for analytes that co-elute.	5-19-11	
13	Charter needs to be updated in November.	Ongoing 2016	
16	<p>Moved back to Backburner (originally discussed 2/20/14) :</p> <p>When new limits are established for the FoPTs, what is considered to be a statistically significant change to the old rates? At what point is it appropriate to question new limits? This lends to the TSS discussion a few months ago.</p> <p>Patrick commented that it would make sense to look at changes to pass/fail rates 6 months after new limits are effective. This possible addition to procedures should be evaluated when updating the limit acceptance SOP.</p>	2/20/14	
17	Discuss possible procedural changes to how limits are updated. Maria talk to SOP Subcommittee.		Need to look at PT database implications.



Agenda

- Review of PTPEC purpose and activities
- Committee Business
 - Review of Minutes
 - Old Business
 - Update regarding DW FoPT Table Footnote 1
 - Review Standard Interpretation Requests (SIRs)
 - Review PTPEC Charter for 2016
 - Subcommittee Reports
 - New Business
 - Preparing for next round of FoPT updates
- Acknowledgments
- PTPA Reports
 - A2LA
 - ANAB
- Public Comments

Mission

Establish and maintain certain elements of a national PT Program to support TNI's Accreditation Programs and other TNI activities. Those elements include:

- Fields of Proficiency Testing (FoPT), consisting of analytes, concentrations, matrices, and acceptance limits, that are appropriate for the scope of environmental monitoring performed in the United States
- A listing of PT Provider Accreditors (PTPAs) that are TNI approved
- A listing of organizations that are recognized by TNI's approved PTPAs as competent to provide PT samples to laboratories


PTPEC Meetings

- Conference calls the third Thursday of the month from 1:00-2:30 Eastern
- Face-to-Face with attendee participation at annual conferences

Review of PTPEC Activities August 2015 – January 2016



PTPEC Activities: Analyte Request Applications (ARAs) Processed

- Chemistry FoPT (SCM): Add DBCP, EDB, and 1,2,3-Trichloropropane at concentration range appropriate for EPA 8011
 - Disposition: On-hold; additional supporting data needed
- Chemistry FoPT (SCM): Add cis-1,3-Dichloropropene and trans-1,3-Dichloropropene at both low-level and medium-level Volatile Organic concentration ranges
 - Disposition: In progress





PTPEC Activities: Analyte Request Applications (ARAs) Processed

- Chemistry (SCM): Add three analytes to "PCBs in Oil" grouping
 - Disposition: In progress
- Microbiology (DW): For E.coli and Total Coliforms, create separate analytes for "MPN-multiple tube" and "MPN-multiple well"
 - Disposition: On-hold; Microbiology subcommittee meeting postponed till February 2016



PTPEC Activities: FoPT Table Updates

- Non-Potable Water (NPW) and Solid and Chemical Materials (SCM) FoPT Tables
 - Analyte name and code corrected from bis(2-Chloroisopropyl) ether to 2,2'-Oxybis(1-Chloropropane)
 - Analyte code for n-Hexane Extractable Material (O&G) corrected
 - FoPT Table update approved, to be effective 4-1-2016
- Drinking Water (DW) FoPT Table
 - PTPEC approved changes in August 2014.
 - Last update – waiting for input from EPA on footnote



PTPEC Activities: FoPT Table Updates

- WET Testing (WETT) FoPT Table
 - Example updates
 - Replaced 40 Fathoms Seawater with Synthetic Seawater
 - Replaced "7 day" with "3-Brood" for Ceriodaphnic dubia
 - Update to FoPT Table approved, to be effective 7-31-2016



PTPEC Activities: Subcommittees

- Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee
 - Waiting for additional data to complete SCM FoPT Table review
- Microbiology FoPT Subcommittee
 - Will be reviewing ARA for MPN
- WET Testing FoPT Subcommittee
 - Completed update to WET Testing FoPT Table


PTPEC Activities: Subcommittees


- FoPT Table Format Subcommittee
 - Adding CAS numbers to FoPT Tables
- SOP Subcommittee
 - Reviewed PT Program Dispute Resolution Procedure SOP
 - Working on PTPA Checklist
 - Reviewing SOPs with comments from TNI Policy Committee

PTPEC Activities: Other


- Transfer of PT Data to PTPEC
 - Further talks held with representatives of PTPAs and PT Providers
 - Requirement for PT Data transfer to PTPEC being added to 2015 TNI Standard (in progress by PTEC)
 - TNI would need to establish secure and confidential means to receive PT data on TNI server






Committee Business

- Review of Minutes
- Old Business
- Subcommittee Reports
- New Business





Acknowledgments





2016 PTPEC Membership

- Maria Friedman, Chair – TestAmerica
- Justin Brown – Environmental Monitoring and Technologies, Inc.
- Susan Butts – South Carolina DHEC
- Nicole Cairns – New York State DOH
- Gil Dichter – IDEXX
- Jennifer Duhon – Sigma-Aldrich RTC
- Patrick Garrity – Kentucky DEP
- Michella Karapondo – US EPA
- Dixie Marlin – Environmental Science Corp
- Joe Pardue – Pro2Serve, Inc.
- Matt Sica – ANAB
- Eric Smith – ALS Environmental
- Dr. Andy Valkenburg – Energy Laboratories, Inc.





Subcommittee Chairs

- Chemistry FoPT: Dr. Carl Kircher
- FoPT Table Format: Craig Huff
- Microbiology FoPT: Jennifer Best
- WET Testing FoPT: Rami Naddy
- SOP: Gil Dichter




Outgoing PTPEC Members

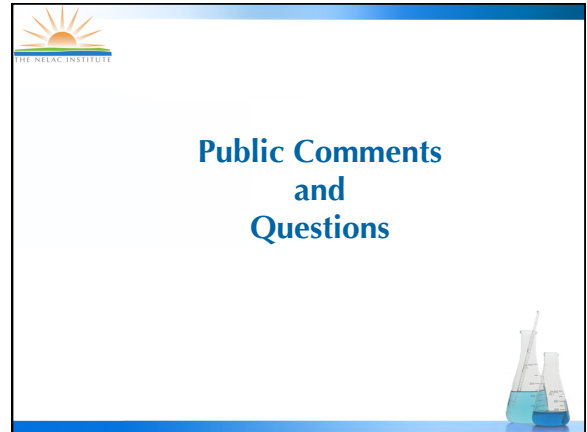
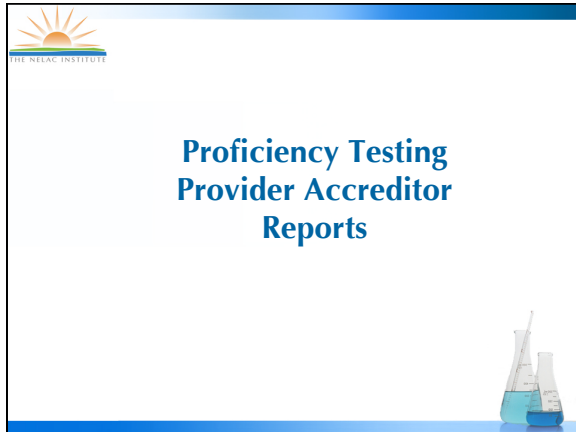
- Patrick Brumfield – Sigma-Aldrich RTC
- Ron Houck – Pennsylvania DEP

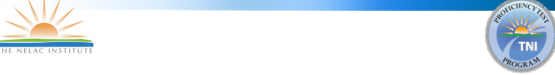


TNI Support

- Program Administrator: Ilona Taunton
- IT Administrator: William Daystrom
- LAMS Administrator: Dan Hickman









PT Summary Database


A preview in 10 slides

Presented by:
William Daystrom
TNI IT Administrator



Tulsa, Oklahoma
January 26, 2016

Notice!





The information presented herein is preliminary in nature and subject to change. No inference of finality should be made.



Overview

- PT Study summary data to be uploaded to TNI PT Database upon request of PTPEC
- PT Study Data to include sufficient identifying information to ensure no duplication of data
 - Identifying information to be accessible only by TNI staff for database management
 - All data accessible to PTPEC will have identifying information removed

Overview

- Self-Service PT Database
- Hosted by TNI
- Two groups of users:
 - PT Providers
 - PTPEC (FoPT Subcommittees)

Database Fields

(preliminary)



FROM PT PROVIDER TO TNI

PT Provider Name
PT Provider TNI Code
Study Number
Study Matrix
Analyte Name
Analyte Code
Technology ID (opt)
Assigned Value
Study Mean
of Lab Participants
Study Standard Deviation
Opening Date
Concentration Units
of Data Points
of Labs That Failed

➔

FROM TNI TO PTPEC


Study Matrix
Analyte Name
Analyte Code
Technology ID (opt)
Assigned Value
Study Mean
of Lab Participants
Study Standard Deviation
Concentration Units
of Data Points
of Labs That Failed





Uploads and Downloads

Self-Serve model:



- PT Providers may login and upload PT Study Summary Data at any time
 - Upload format likely CSV
- PTPEC or designee (FoPT Subcommittee) may login and download anonymized PT Study Summary Data at any time
 - Download format likely Excel







Uploads

- Uploads to be checked for valid values
 - PT Provider TNI Code
 - TNI Analyte Code
 - TNI Technology Code (optional)





Role of PT Providers

- Create procedure to upload PT Study Summary Data to TNI Server per TNI specs
- Upload data upon PTPEC request




Role of PTPEC

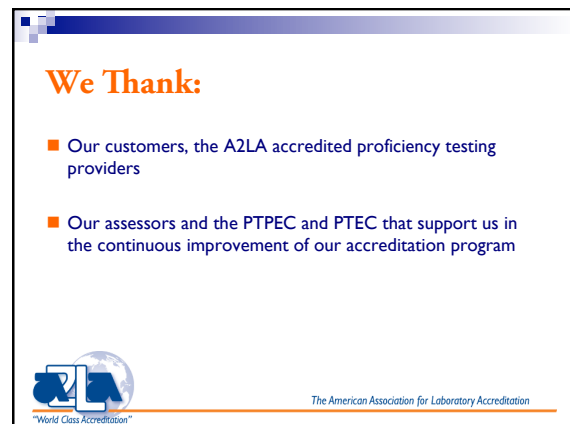
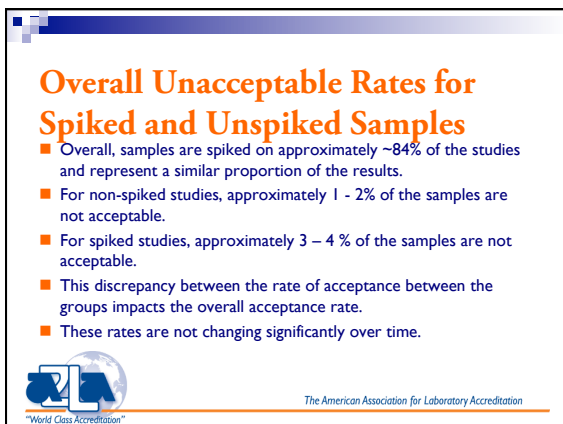
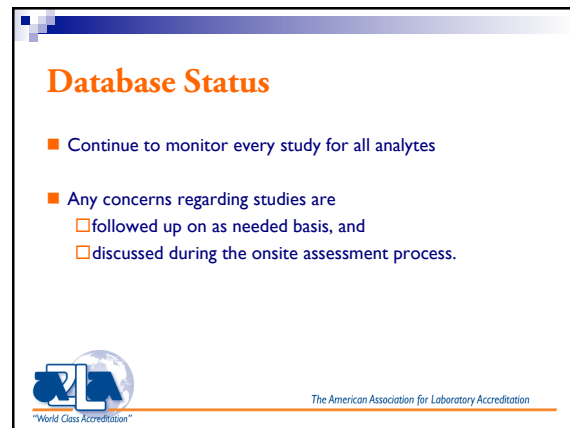
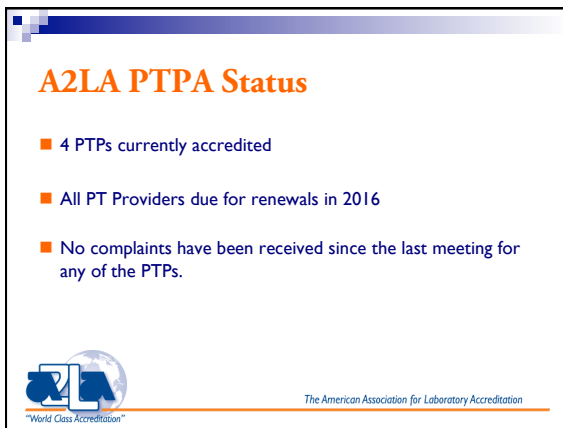
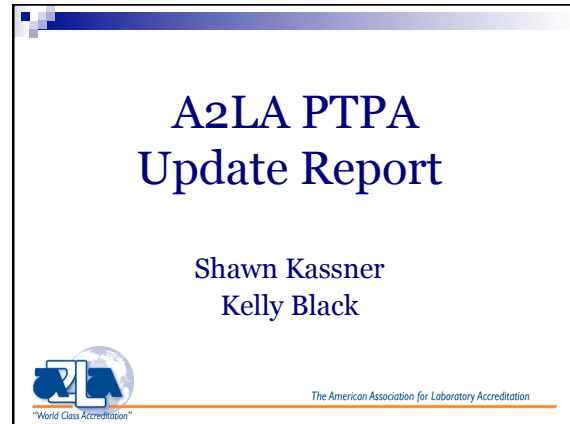
- Download anonymized PT Study Summary Data as needed
- Send requests to PT Providers to upload data as needed




Role of TNI Staff

- Define upload data format
- Establish the database on TNI server
- Create website
- Create documentation
- Create and maintain login accounts
- Provide technical support








ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board

ANAB PTP JANUARY 2016 Update

Matthew Sica
Environmental Program Manager




Overview

- PTP Update
- Complaints
- Study Review



PTP Update

- Absolute Standards
 - Surveillance Assessment (March, 2016)
- NSI Lab Solutions, Inc.
 - Re-Assessment Summer 2016
- Sigma Aldrich RTC
 - Re-Assessment Summer 2016




Complaints

- No complaints received related to this program




PT Study Review

- Review of Weighted AVGs
 - Passing Rates <90% examined
 - Specific to Matrix/Analyte Combinations
- Approximately 790 matrix/method analyte combinations analyzed
 - Includes all analyte data, not only TNI analytes




PT Study Review

- Challenges
 - Small Datasets
 - Many N<30
 - PTs not technology specific
 - Labs report multiple methods with same result per study
 - Skews pass/fail rates with failure
 - 1 failure, may indicate several in dataset



PT Study Review


- Very few TNI analytes with passing rates of <90%
- 75 data points of the 798 matrix analyte data sets available show a average pass rate of <90%
- NELAC FoPT table analytes
 - 18 WS analytes
 - 17 WP analytes
 - 19 SCM analytes



7

WS FoPT


- 18 analytes from table
- 1 analyte (TDS)
 - <70% passing rate
- 3 analytes between
 - 75-78% passing rates
- 14 analytes between
 - 83.3-89.5% passing rates



8

WS Analytes


• Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	69.23% pass
• Chromium VI	75.00% pass
• Hexachlorobutadiene	77.78% pass
• Dinitoseb	83.33% pass
• Dichlorodifluoromethane	83.33% pass
• Methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE)	84.62% pass
• 1,1-Dichloroethane	84.62% pass
• Dichloroacetic acid	85.71% pass
• Glyphosate	86.40% pass
• Total Residual Chlorine	87.10% pass
• Nitrate as N	87.50% pass
• Trichloroethylene	88.89% pass
• 2,4-D	88.89% pass
• 2,4,5-TP	88.89% pass
• Dicamba	88.89% pass
• Iron	88.89% pass
• Pentachlorophenol	88.89% pass
• Picloram	88.89% pass
• Total Mercury	89.47% pass



9

Review


- Following Slides demonstrate analysis of the datasets with passing rates of <90%
 - Only a few slides are presented due to time constraints
 - All data analysis is available for review of the PTEC upon request



10

WS-TDS Review


- WS 69.23% pass
- 31 datasets overall from 2013-2015
- N>20=14 datasets
- N<10=10 datasets
- From WS FoPT ±20% fixed acceptance limit
- Conclusion
 - Potential issue of statistical significance of datasets
 - Small number of failures have impact on data
 - If data is censored to only include N>20
 - Weighted Avg. 91.1% pass



11

WS-Cr⁺⁶ Review


- WS 75% passing rate
- 35 datasets overall from 2013-2015
- N>20=0 datasets
- N>10=2 datasets
- From WS FoPT ±20% fixed acceptance limit
- These the passing rates were 90 and 92.3 %



12

WS Hexachlorobutadiene Review


- WS 75% passing rate
- 38 datasets overall from 2013-2015
- N>20=6 datasets
- N<20=33 datasets
- From WS FoPT
- $\pm 40\%$ at $< 10 \pm 20\% \geq 10$ fixed acceptance limit
- Conclusion
 - Potential issue of statistical significance of datasets
 - Small number of failures have impact on data
 - If data is censored to only include N>20
 - Weighted Avg. 91.3% pass



13

WP FoPT


- 17 analytes from table
- 1 analytes
 - <70% passing rate
- 4 analytes between
 - 71.4-76.2% passing rates
- 12 analytes between
 - 80.0-89.8% passing rates



14

WP Analytes


• α -Chlordane	62.50% pass
• Aroclor 1016	71.43% pass
• Aroclor 1232	71.43% pass
• 4,4'-DDE	72.73% pass
• Chemical Oxygen Demand	74.19% pass
• Methoxychlor	80.00% pass
• Dieldrin	81.82% pass
• Endosulfan II	81.82% pass
• Endosulfan sulfate	81.82% pass
• Titanium	81.82% pass
• 4-Chlorophenyl phenyl ether	83.33% pass
• Chrysene	83.33% pass
• Total Solids	84.00% pass
• Total Phosphorus	84.38% pass
• Color	87.50% pass
• Styrene	88.89% pass
• 5-Day BOD	89.80% pass



15

WP-Alpha Chlordane Review


- WP 62.5% passing rate
- 39 datasets overall from 2013-2015
- N>20=9 datasets
- N<20= 30 datasets
- From WP FoPT Analysis by a,b,c,d factors
- Conclusion
 - Potential issue of statistical significance of datasets
 - Small number of failures have impact on data
 - If data is censored to only include N>20
 - Weighted Avg. 95.1% pass



16

WP-Aroclor 1016 Review


- WP 71.43% passing rate
- 63 datasets overall from 2013-2015
 - N>20=12 datasets
 - N<20= 51 datasets, where N<10=40 datasets
- From WP FoPT Analysis by a,b,c,d factors
- Conclusion
 - Potential issue of statistical significance of datasets
 - Small number of failures have impact on data
 - If data is censored to only include N>20
 - Weighted Avg. 99.01% pass



17

SCM FoPT


- 19 analytes from table
- All 83.3-87.5% passing rates



18

SCM Analytes

• Total Kjeldhal Nitrogen	83.33% pass
• Oil and Grease	85.70% pass
• α -Chlordane	85.71% pass
• Ammonia as N	85.71% pass
• γ -Chlordane	85.71% pass
• 4,4'-DDD	87.50% pass
• 4,4'-DDT	87.50% pass
• α -BHC	87.50% pass
• Aldrin	87.50% pass
• d-BHC	87.50% pass
• Dieldrin	87.50% pass
• Endosulfan II	87.50% pass
• Endosulfan sulfate	87.50% pass
• Endrin	87.50% pass
• Endrin ketone	87.50% pass
• γ -BHC (Lindane)	87.50% pass
• Heptachlor	87.50% pass
• Heptachlor epoxide	87.50% pass
• Methoxychlor	87.50% pass



19