

TNI PT Program Executive Committee Meeting Summary

July 14, 2015

1. Roll call and approval of minutes:

Chair, Maria Friedman, called the TNI PT Program Executive Committee (PTPEC) meeting to order on July 14, 2015, at 1PM Central in Chicago, IL. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 6 Executive Committee members present.

Maria reviewed the agenda for today's meeting.

The June 18, 2015 minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Andy to approve the June 18, 2015 minutes as sent by email. Joe seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The minutes will be posted on the TNI site.

2. Chair Update

- Maria reviewed information about the PTPEC and the committee's mission statement (see Attachment E).

3. PTPA Updates

See Attachment D.

- The data slide for A2LA includes the last 3 years of data. Andy would be interested in knowing what the concentrations are for "failing" analytes.
- There are analytes outside of the desired 5% failure rate. It would be interesting to see if this has always been the case.
- ANAB is looking at each provider by variable to see if there is anything that needs to be looked at more closely when they do their onsite.

Eric noted that the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee is just about done with the solid limits. In the future, he is suggesting that the subcommittee only look at problem analytes instead of every one. He thinks this information can be gathered from PTPAs and would like to begin working with them to see what information can be easily gathered.

Eric also noted that the committee planned to do follow-up after FoPTs are established to see if there are any problems with the new PT limits. He would like the Committee to begin work on this. Stephen would also like to be looking at accuracies.

4. Analyte Request Applications Processed

See Attachment E.

5. FoPT Tables Updated

See Attachment E.

Lynn Bradley noted that the issue the NELAP AC has with Footnote 3 in the DRAFT WETT FoPT Table is that instructions are included on the table. They think instructions should be provided by the PT Provider or by some other means.

The PTPEC has asked the WETT FoPT Subcommittee to review the instructions Jeff Lowry gave to Maria. The committee is waiting to hear back from the Subcommittee – Is this information sufficient and can Footnote 3 be deleted?

Each PT Provider will be requested to send the instructions they send out with WETT PTs.

There is still an issue with the WETT FoPT Subcommittee vs. WETT Expert Committee. There is a misunderstanding that forming the WETT Expert Committee disbanded the WETT FoPT Subcommittee. The WETT FoPT Subcommittee should still be in existence. Bob Wyeth, Lynn Bradley and Maria will work together to resolve this issue. Currently the same person is chair of both committees and this may be part of the issue.

Dan Hickman has some issues with the method codes for WETT methods. He wants to know if the codes he currently has are sufficient or whether more codes are needed.

6. Subcommittees:

See slide in Attachment E.

SOP Subcommittee: Susan can help if needed. Maria has contacted Alfredo and the Policy Committee and they will send the comments on the SOPs by the end of July.

Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee: In general the new limits are fairly consistent with previous limits and laboratory limits. The subcommittee has looked at historical data as some complaints have come up.

Microbiology FoPT Subcommittee: The ARA has been sent to NELAP AC, but it has not been looked at yet. Aaren expects this to happen in August. Lynn Bradley asked that the information be re-sent to her.

FoPT Table Format: This subcommittee is still in a holding pattern. They sent their response to the NELAP AC and are waiting for a response.

Other:

See slide in Attachment E.

William will help with secure data transfer in establishing transfer procedures. SOPs need to be developed.

Eric is hoping that the database can evaluate whether failure rates are improved or a problem.

7. Open Discussion:

- Andy noted that when changes are made to the LAMS method or analyte code tables, there are no notifications going out. Notifications should go out.
- Eric asked the membership in the room for feedback on the Analyte Request Process (ARA). A comment was received that the application needs to be developed in a format that gives the applicant enough room to fill it out. It was commented that the PTPEC needs to let people know that the application process is available. Need to add this as an agenda item. Needs to be highlighted on the website.

8. New Business

- None

9. Action Items

- See Attachment B.

10. Next Meeting

The next PTPEC teleconference will be held on 8-20-2015.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm CT. Matt motioned, Joe seconded. Unanimously approved.

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) Present	ALS Environmental	904-394-4415 eric.smith@alsglobal.com
Justin Brown (2011) Absent	Environmental Monitoring and Technologies, Inc.	847-875-2271 jbrown@emt.com
Susan Butts (2012) Present	South Carolina DHEC	(803)896-0978 buttsse@dhec.sc.gov
Patrick Brumfield (2012) Absent	Sigma-Aldrich RTC	(307) 721-5488 Pat.Brumfield@sial.com
Nicole Cairns (2012) Absent	NY State DOH	(518) 473-0323 nicole.cairns@health.ny.gov
Joe Pardue (2011) Present	Pro2Serve, Inc.	423-337-3121 joe_pardue@charter.net
Dr. Andy Valkenburg (2011) Present	Energy Laboratories, Inc.	406-869-6254 avalkenburg@energylab.com
Ron Houck Absent	PA DEP	rhouch@pa.gov
Matt Sica Present	ANAB, ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board	msica@anab.org
Dixie Marlin (2015) Absent	Accutest	513-309-3593 dixiem@accutest.com

Attachment B

Action Items – TNI PT Executive Committee

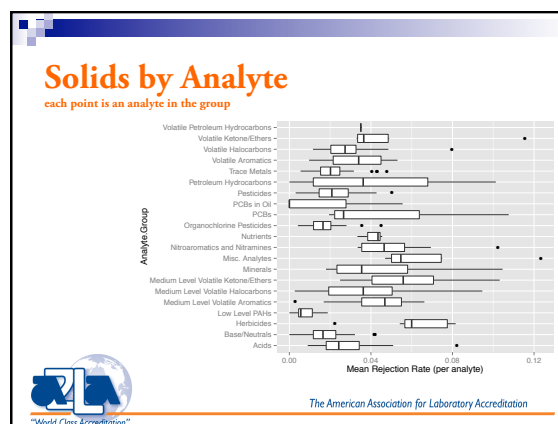
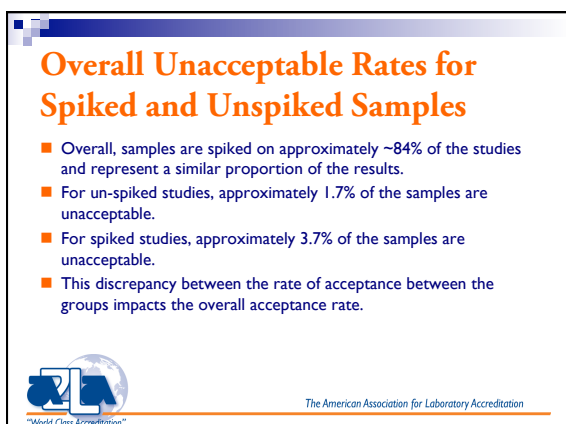
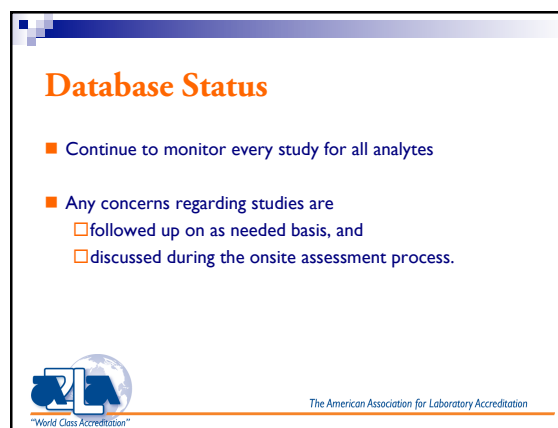
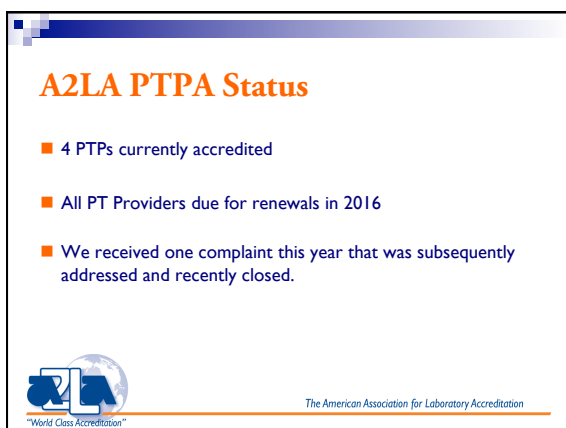
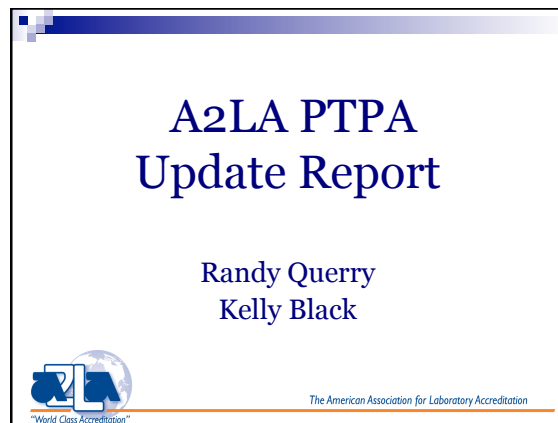
	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
185	Send updated DW table with Footnote 15 to NELAP AC for approval.	Stacie	4/1/12	Stacie submitted this. Need to confirm approval. Action: Look to see if this got done.
214	Update Tin, Total Xylene and Total Cyanide on FoPT tables and submit for approval.	Carl Stacie	Next Meeting	In Progress Ilona will look for this stuff.
233	Review complaint process.	Maria Ilona	5/14/14	In Progress
246	Rewrite request to the Chemistry FoPT subcommittee and send to Ilona for distribution.	Maria	10/6/14	Maria will double check and close out.
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.
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 cannot be “0”.	Michella	12/15/14	In progress.
254	Review PT SOP comments by the Policy Committee and add to agenda as appropriate.	Maria Ilona	12/15/14	Waiting for comments.
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.

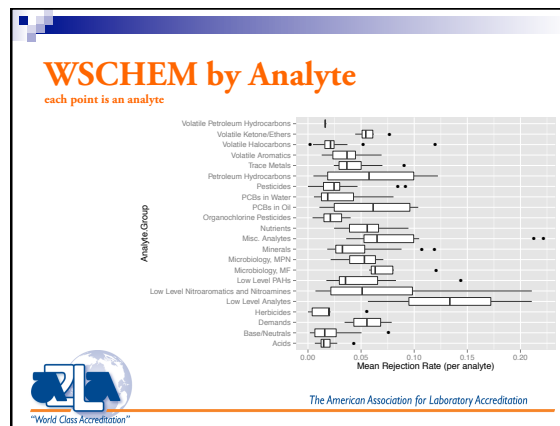
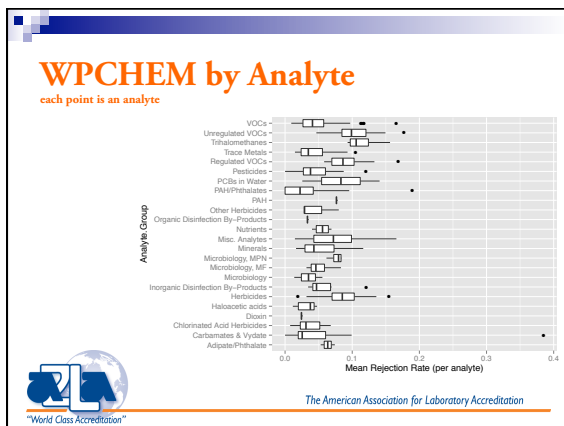
	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
260	Amend FoPT Table Format Subcommittee Scope and distribute for review.	Maria	12/12/14	Maria will send to Ilona. Complete
263	Look into new website design and see if there is an FAQ section that the committee can use to summarize some of their processes – complaint, addition/deletion of analyses to FoPT tables, etc. Talk to IT Committee.	Maria	12/12/14	
264	Update Complaint SOP to reflect Standard requirement that PTPA be contacted.	TBD	TBD	
268	Prepare DRAFT example template to request exceptions to running PTs.	Jeff Lowry Shawn Kassner	3/19/15	Next meeting- 4/16/15 7/14: Maria will follow-up.
269	Prepare DRAFT response to SIRs after meeting with NELAP AC.	Maria	TBD	
270	Share DMR QA letter with WET FoPT Subcommittee and see if footnote is still needed.	Maria	3/19/15	Shared – waiting for response. Need by 7/31/15
271	Provide list of replicates and volumes from WET Subcommittee to PT Providers.	Maria	3/19/15	
275	Submit letter explaining need to include NPW with MPN analyte request.	Carl	3/19/15	7/14: Send to Micro Subcommittee
287	Resend Micro ARA information to Lynn Bradley.	Maria	8/20/15	

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	
12	PTPA Evaluation Checklist needs to be updated prior to next round of evaluations.	8-6-13	7/14: Move to Action Items
13	Charter needs to be updated in November.	Ongoing	7/14: Move to Action Items for 2015
14	<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> <p>3/20/14: Eric noted that there are some logistics with doing a 6 month review. This may need to be a separate committee so it does not hamper the progress of the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee.</p> <p>(Coincide with xxx 3:51) Eric no longer thinks we need a separate subcommittee.</p>	2/20/14	Move to Action Items
15	Correct FoPT tables for 2,2'-oxybis(1-chloropropane) once LAMS is updated. It could take 3-6 months.	2-3-15	In progress. Now on Action Table






We Thank:

- Our customers, the A2LA accredited proficiency testing providers
- Our assessors and the PTPEC and PTEC that support us in the continuous improvement of our accreditation program

The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation


"World Class Accreditation"



ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board

ANAB 2015 Update

Matthew Sica
Environmental Program Manager



Overview

- PTP Update
- Complaints
- Study Review



PTP Update

- Absolute Standards
 - RA (February, 2015)
- NSI Lab Solutions, Inc.
 - SA (May, 2015)
- Sigma Aldrich RTC
 - SA (July, 2015)




Complaints

- No complaints received




PT Study Review

- Challenges
 - Small Datasets
 - N<30
 - PTs not technology specific
 - Labs report multiple methods with same result per study
 - Skews pass/fail rates with failure





PT Study Review

- Due to limited time of request data was not cleaned
 - Approximately 790 matrix/method analyte combinations analyzed
 - Includes all analyte data, not only TNI analytes



PT Study Review



- 658/791 combinations passing rates above 95 %
- 699/791 combinations passing rates above 90 %
- Very few TNI analytes with passing rates of <90%




7

PT Study Review

- Very few TNI analytes with passing rates of <90%




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Mission

The purpose of the Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee (PTPEC) is to 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




7-14-15




PTPEC Meetings

- Conference calls the third Thursday of the month from 1:00-2:30 Eastern Time
- Face-to-Face with attendee participation at annual Environmental Measurement Conferences and Forum on Laboratory Accreditation Conferences




7-14-15




Agenda

- Committee Business
 - Review of Minutes
 - Other
- Review of PTPEC Activities Jan-Aug 2015
- Subcommittee Reports
- PTPA Reports
 - A2LA
 - ANAB
- Acknowledgments
- Public Comments




7-14-15




Committee Business


Review of Minutes




7-14-15



PTPEC Activities




7-14-15




PTPEC Activities

- Analyte Request Applications Processed
 - DW: MPN:Multiple Tube and MPN:Multiple Well
 - SCM: Add Aroclors 1221, 1232, 1248 to PCBs in Oil group
 - SCM: Add DBCP, EDB, 1,2,3-TCP at conc range appropriate for EPA 8011




7-14-15




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
 - Changes approved by PTPEC – currently with NELAP AC
- Drinking Water (DW) FoPT Table
 - PTPEC approved changes in August 2014.
 - Last update – waiting for input from EPA on footnote
- WET Testing (WETT) FoPT Table
 - NELAP AC requested change to PTPEC-approved footnote; WETT FoPT Subcommittee input to PTPEC due July 30




7-14-15




PTPEC Activities: Subcommittees

- Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee
 - Focusing on SCM FoPT Review
- WET Testing FoPT Subcommittee
 - Feedback collected from DMR-QA State Coordinators regarding their opinions on direction WET Testing PTs should take (per permit vs standardized)
- FoPT Table Format Subcommittee
 - Input sought from NELAP AC regarding their current consensus on the task of adding methods to DW, technologies to NPW and SCM FoPT Tables
- SOP Subcommittee
 - SOPs previously approved by PTPEC waiting action by TNI Policy Committee




7-14-15




PTPEC Activities: Other

- Transfer of PT Data to PTPEC
 - Talks held with representatives of PTPAs and PT Providers
 - Requirement for PT Data transfer to PTPEC added to PT Voting Draft Standard EL-V4 (needs to be added to EL-V3 too)
 - TNI would need to establish secure and confidential means to receive PT data on TNI server




7-14-15




Subcommittee Reports


Chemistry FoPT
Microbiology FoPT
WET Testing FoPT
FoPT Table Format




7-14-15



Acknowledgments





7-14-15



PTPEC Membership

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


7-14-15



Subcommittee Chairs

- Chemistry FoPT: Dr. Carl Kircher
- FoPT Table Format: Craig Huff
- Microbiology FoPT: Jennifer Best (new)
- WET Testing FoPT: Rami Naddy
- SOP: TBD



7-14-15



TNI Support



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

7-14-15



Proficiency Testing Provider Accreditor Reports

7-14-15



Public Comments and Questions

7-14-15

