

TNI PT Program Executive Committee Meeting Summary

August 9, 2016

1. Roll call

Chair, Maria Friedman, called the TNI PT Program Executive Committee (PTPEC) meeting to order on August 9, 2016, at 9 AM Pacific in Orange County, CA. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 8 Executive Committee members present.

Maria confirmed that everyone received the meeting information she sent on August 7, 2016.

2. Introduction

See Attachment D for Introduction/Committee Overview PowerPoint slides.

3. PTPA Presentations

ANAB

Presented by Mike Shepherd. See Attachment E for slides.

They looked at PTs where passing averages were less than 90% between 2014-2016.

They found many of the datasets were very small (<30 data points) and PTs were not technology specific.

There were very few analytes with passing rates less than 90%. (75 points) See slides for details.

It was asked if there are any plans to separate the methods. Shawn noted that the PTPAs don't get this information. It would need to be requested from the PT Providers and the laboratories.

Eric asked if the PT providers receive the information being presented from the PTPA. Mike was not sure.

A2LA

Presented by Shawn Kassner. See Attachment E for slides.

3-4% of spiked analytes were not acceptable.

Shawn presented graphs that visually showed how the different types of PTs performed.

Analyte failures greater than 10% were reviewed. He removed data sets with less than 30 participants. Shawn did not see any single provider with issues.

For WP there were over 60 studies looked at. The rates were all greater than 83% and most were fairly close to 90%.

Turbidity caught Shawn's eye on WS analyte review. 25% of the data looked at had n less than 30.

Recommendation: Have the FoPT subcommittees review something like this report every year in order to determine which analytes need review. Need to have a process for how this information is reviewed.

4. FoPT Table Updates

Non-Potable Water (NPW)

Maria distributed the NPW FoPT table on 8-7-16. She asked the committee to review the changes on the table.

Dan Dickinson submitted an ARA to remove 3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine. The Chemistry FoPT subcommittee reviewed the information and recommended that the analyte be deleted. This is the only change to the NPW table. This analyte is not on the solids FoPT table.

A motion was made by Eric to remove 3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine from the NPW FoPT table as distributed by Maria on 8-7-16. The motion was seconded by Joe P.

Roll Call Vote:

Patrick – For

Joe – For

Justin – For

Jennifer – For

Susan – For

Eric – For

Andy – For

Maria – For

The vote will be completed by email.

(Addition:

Matt – For (8/15/16)

Gil – For (8/15/16)

Nicole – For (8/16/16)

Dixie – For (8/18/16)

The motion was approved.)

Solid Chemical Materials (SCM)

Changes to this FoPT table are noted in the table update sent by Maria on 8-7-16. The table had been previously approved for the low level cis- and trans-1,3-Dichlorpropene and Aroclors, but the table was held until data could be obtained to make a decision on addition of medium level cis- and trans-1,3-Dichlorpropene. This data was obtained and it was reviewed by the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee. There was also a correction to the Total Cyanide analyte code – 1645 instead of 1635.

There was discussion on whether the table should be updated with CAS numbers by the FoPT Table Subcommittee before release to the NELAP AC for approval, but after discussion it was decided that these format changes could still take some time and the committee wants the table finalized and posted sooner.

A motion was made by Eric to approve the SCM table sent by Maria on 8/7/16 that included the medium level cis- and trans-1,3-Dichlorpropene and Cyanide updates and included all analyte changes previously approved (low level cis- and trans-1,3-Dichlorpropene, Aroclors, and 2,2'-Oxybis(1-Chloropropane)). The motion was seconded by Justin.

Roll Call Vote:

Maria – For

Andy – For

Susan – For

Jennifer – For

Justin – For

Joe P – For

Patrick – For

The vote will be completed by email.

(Addition:

Matt – For (8/15/16)

Gil – For (8/15/16)

Nicole – For (8/16/16)

Dixie – For (8/18/16)

The motion was approved.)

The two tables will be forwarded to the NELAP AC after the vote is completed and then an effective date will be determined after it is approved by the NELAP AC.

5. Preparing for Next Round of FoPT Table Updates

Maria reviewed information on the PowerPoint slides contained in Attachment F.

Review of Tulsa Meeting Comments (see Attachment F)

- 1) There was much discussion about considering preparation methods on the FoPT tables. Stacie Metzler asked what the drivers are for looking at this. She wants to be sure the investment in the topic is worth addressing. Maria reminded everyone this is only a brain storming discussion and that details have not been examined yet. There have been numerous discussions about adding preparation methods at past meetings so this was included in the list as something that may be looked at more closely. Many believe preparation methods impact PT result and should be considered. The PTPEC previously received a complaint from a lab which continually fail their PTs because of different prep method used.
- 2) There was general agreement by meeting attendees.
- 3) May not be an issue.
- 4) This should not be a problem in the future because data will be available.
- 5) Shawn suggested that this be done annually so that data is available to look at.

Review of Suggested Improvements (See Attachment F):

There was agreement to focus on one table at a time.

The 2003 Standard had a timing requirement for review of the FoPT tables, but the 2009 and 2016 standards do give flexibility to extend the review cycle.

Shawn suggested looking where the significant changes were made in the previous table and look more closely at this information when the next review is done.

Maria took all the information shared above and discussed in previous meetings and provided a summary (see Attachment G). This information can be reviewed by the SOP subcommittee for incorporation into an SOP. It may be incorporated into the SOPs

already existing (perhaps SOP 4-101 and 4-107) or the need for an additional SOP will be examined.

Additional Comments:

Eric noted that he prefers to review one FoPT table at a time.

Where acceptance criteria is required by EPA – do we want to review this and produce more stringent criteria?

The NELAP AC prefers to not see lab instructions in the FoPT tables.

6. Subcommittee Report

Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee

The subcommittee has completed its agenda items. They will finalize some minutes and then wait for assigned tasks before meeting again.

Microbiology FoPT Subcommittee

The committee is continuing to work on the assigned ARA.

SOP Subcommittee

The subcommittee is continuing to work on SOP updates.

FoPT Table Format Subcommittee

The committee is continuing to work on the clean-up of all FoPT tables to match analyte names and codes with those in LAMS.

7. New Business

- What is happening with Protozoa? Field and Lead/XRF? Shawn asked if the XRF is being used.

Action Item: Review all FoPTs for housekeeping. What needs to be done? DW
Radiochemistry is one of the oldest tables.

- Dan Hickman asked that he be notified as work on reconciliation of codes progresses.

8. Action Items

The action items can be found in Attachment B.

9. Next Meeting

The next PTPEC teleconference will be held by teleconference on August 25, 2016 at 1pm Eastern.

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

Maria adjourned the meeting at 11:45am Pacific. (Motion: Andy, Second: Susan Unanimously approved.)

Attachment A

Participants TNI

Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee

Members	Affiliation	Contact Information
Maria Friedman (2014) Present	n/a	949-307-0949 gamfriedman@gmail.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) Present	Environmental Monitoring and Technologies, Inc.	847-875-2271 jbrown@emt.com
Susan Jackson (2012) Present	South Carolina DHEC	(803)896-0978 jacksosb@dhec.sc.gov
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
Jennifer Duhon (2019) Present	Millipore Sigma	307-3897218 jennifer.duhon@sial.com
Matt Sica Absent	ANAB, ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board	msica@anab.org
Dixie Marlin (2015) Absent	Marlin Quality Management, LLC	513-309-3593 marlinquality@gmail.com
Gil Dichter (2015) Absent	IDEXX Water	207-556-4687 gil-dichter@idexx.com
Patrick Garrity (2019) Present	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
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.
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

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
				PT Provider's don't have. 8/20: Jeff asked that this be distributed to the PT Providers. Maria will take care of this. 6/16/16: Maria requested this be deleted from the table.
295	Moved from Backburner: PTPA Evaluation Checklist needs to be updated prior to next round of evaluations. (Originally discussed 8/6/13)	Gil	August 2016	In Progress (Likely complete by 8/2016)
310	Coordinate the update of the SCM FoPT table with Carl and send to NELAP AC for approval.	Maria	3/24/16	3/24/16: Working through Cyanide issue first.
311	Contact Lem Walker about new ARA to remove an analyte.	Maria	3/24/16	3/24/16: Waiting for response from NELAP AC.
317	Provide Carl/Chem FoPT Subcommittee with information to make updates to the DW table.	Maria	6/15/16	
322	Check with EPA on whether DW footnote should be specific to primary analytes.	Michella	8/25/16	
323	Ask Chem FoPT Subcommittee to add Footnote 16 to Footnote 13.	Maria	8/1/16	
324	Survey PT Providers to see who collects sample prep method.	Maria	8/25/16	
325	Complete vote on NPW and SCM FoPT Tables and forward to	Maria	8/25/16	

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
	NELAP AC for approval.			
326	Review all FoPTs for housekeeping.	TBD	TBD	

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.

Attachment D - Introduction and PTPEC Overview



Agenda

- Review of PTPEC Mission / Purpose
- Review of PTPEC Activities
- PTPA Reports
 - ANAB
 - A2LA
- Committee Business
- Acknowledgments
- Public Comments

Review of PTPEC Mission / Purpose

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

PTPEC Meetings

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

Review of PTPEC Activities February 2016 – August 2016



Attachment D - Introduction and PTPEC Overview



PTPEC Activities

PTPEC Charter Updated



- Added a new strategic goal for 2016: Develop a better process for obtaining data for setting PT acceptance limits and to handle complaints
- Added new members



PTPEC Activities

PTPEC Charter Updated



- Disposition
 - + PTPEC approved
 - + TNI Board approved
 - + Posted on TNI website: Click tab Proficiency Testing (PT) / Management & Oversight / PT Program Executive Committee / Charter or click link <http://nelac-institute.org/committee/ptpec>



PTPEC Activities

Standard Interpretation Requests Processed



- Standard Interpretation Requests (SIRs) #26 and #80: Both SIRs concerned analytes that were listed in FoPT Tables under analyte groups that were inappropriate for the methods the laboratories wanted for accreditation
- Analytes available from PT Providers in forms appropriate for FoPT listings, but inappropriate for laboratories' desired method



PTPEC Activities

Standard Interpretation Requests Processed



- Disposition
 - + PTPEC approved responses to both SIRs
 - + Laboratory Accreditation Systems Executive Committee (LASEC) approved responses from PTPEC
 - + NELAP Accreditation Council currently voting



PTPEC Activities

Analyte Request Applications Processed


- Solid and Chemical Materials (SCM) FoPT
 - + Add Aroclors 1221, 1232, and 1248 to Aroclors in Oil
 - + Disposition:
 - PTPEC approved Analyte Request Application (ARA)
 - Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee updated SCM FoPT Table
 - Table pending PTPEC approval




PTPEC Activities

Analyte Request Applications Processed

- SCM FoPT (*continued*)
 - + Add cis- and trans-1,3-Dichloropropene at both low-level and medium-level concentration ranges
 - + Disposition:
 - PTPEC approved ARA
 - PT Data collected from PT Providers
 - PT Data submitted to Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee for review
 - Subcommittee updated SCM FoPT Table
 - Table pending PTPEC approval





Attachment D - Introduction and PTPEC Overview



PTPEC Activities

Analyte Request Applications Processed



- Non-Potable Water (NPW) FoPT
 - Remove 3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine
 - Disposition
 - PTPEC approved ARA
 - Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee updated NPW FoPT Table
 - Table pending PTPEC approval



PTPEC Activities

Analyte Request Applications Processed


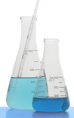
- Microbiology FoPT
 - Split the quantitative Most Probable Number (MPN) FoPT
 - MPN-multiple tube format (MPN results obtained from Standard Methods 9221C)
 - MPN-multiple well format (MPN results obtained from tables provided by manufacturer)
 - ARA affects both NPW and Drinking Water (DW) FoPT Tables



PTPEC Activities

Analyte Request Applications (ARAs) Processed



- Microbiology FoPT (*continued*)
 - Disposition
 - PTPEC approved ARA
 - PT Data collected from PT Providers
 - PT Data submitted to Microbiology FoPT Subcommittee for review



PTPEC Activities

FoPT Table Updates



- SCM FoPT Table
 - Corrected TNI Analyte Code for Total Cyanide
- Disposition
 - PTPEC reviewed AB and PT Provider request to correct analyte code
 - Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee updated Table
 - Table pending PTPEC approval



PTPEC Activities

FoPT Table Updates

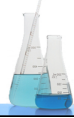
- DW FoPT Table
 - Added acceptance criteria for Corrosivity (Langelier Index)
 - Updated footnotes
 - Clarified that All analytes regulated under the US EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act must be spiked at non-zero Assigned Values, except as noted
 - Removed footnotes that seem to instruct laboratories how to run PT samples
 - Added PT sample design criteria for Corrosivity




PTPEC Activities

FoPT Table Updates

- DW FoPT Table (*continued*)
 - Disposition
 - PTPEC reviewed proposed acceptance criteria and footnote for Corrosivity, from the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee
 - PTPEC reviewed all other footnotes
 - Subcommittee updated Table
 - Table pending PTPEC approval





Attachment D - Introduction and PTPEC Overview



PTPEC Activities

FoPT Table Updates

- WET Testing (WETT) FoPT Table
 - + Updated Table effective 7-31-2016
 - + Posted on the TNI website: Click tab Proficiency Testing (PT) / Field of Proficiency Testing (FoPT) / NELAP / WETT_FoPT_Table_2015.pdf or click link http://nelac-institute.org/docs/pt/2016/WETT_FoPT_Table_2015.pdf



PTPEC Activities: Subcommittees

Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee

- Continuing with review of DW FoPT updates
- Will commence review of Radiochemistry FoPTs

Microbiology FoPT Subcommittee

- Reviewing ARA for MPN

WET Testing FoPT Subcommittee



- Completed their Charter; concluded their tasks

FoPT Table Format Subcommittee

- Added CAS numbers to FoPT Tables and currently cleaning up all Tables to match analyte names and codes to those in LAMS

SOP Subcommittee



- Finalized SOP 4-102 (Dispute Resolution)
- Reviewing SOP 4-105 (PTPEC Voting Process)
- Working on PTPA Checklist




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 added to 2016 TNI Standard EL-V3
- PT data from PT Providers submitted to TNI for investigations into MPN and cis- and trans-1,3-Dichloropropene; data manually anonymized and distributed to FoPT Subcommittees for review
- TNI will establish secure and confidential means to receive PT data on TNI server without manual processing – in progress



PTPA Reports




Committee Business



Committee Business

- Old Business
 - + FoPT Tables
 - NPW FoPT Table re. 3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine
 - SCM FoPT Table re. Total Cyanide and cis- and trans-1,3-Dichloropropene
 - DW FoPT Table re. Corrosivity
 - + Preparing for next round of FoPT updates
- Subcommittee Reports
- New Business (TBD)



Attachment D - Introduction and PTPEC Overview




Acknowledgments





2016 PTPEC Membership

- Maria Friedman, Chair – Independent Assessor
- Justin Brown – Environmental Monitoring and Technologies, Inc.
- Nicole Cairns – New York State DOH
- Gil Dichter – IDEXX Water
- Jennifer Duhon – MilliporeSigma
- Patrick Garrity – Kentucky DEP
- Susan Jackson – South Carolina DHEC
- Michella Karaondo – US EPA
- Dixie Marlin – Marlin Quality Management, LLC
- Joe Pardue – Pro2Serve, Inc.
- Matt Sica – ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board
- Eric Smith – ALS Environmental
- Dr. Andy Valkenburg – Energy Laboratories, Inc.





Subcommittee Chairs

- Chemistry FoPT: Dr. Carl Kircher, Florida DOH
- FoPT Table Format: Craig Huff, ERA
- Microbiology FoPT: Jennifer Best, US EPA
- WET Testing FoPT: Rami Naddy, TRE Environmental Strategies, LLC
- SOP: Gil Dichter, IDEXX Water

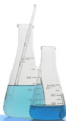



TNI Support


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



Public Comments and Questions





ANAB PTP AUGUST 2016 Update
 August 9, 2016




Session Topics

- PTP Updates
- Report of PTP Complaints to PTPA
- Data Discussion
- Other Items of Interest




PTP Update

- Absolute Standards
 - Surveillance Assessment
 - Conducted March, 2016
- NSI Lab Solutions, Inc.
 - Re-Assessment
 - Conducted June, 2016
- Sigma Aldrich RTC
 - Re-Assessment
 - Conducted June, 2016




Report of PTP Complaints to PTPA

- No complaints received for any PTP related to this program




PT Study Review

- Review of Weighted AVGs (2014-2016 data)
 - Passing Rates <90% examined
 - Note: 90% arbitrary value
 - Specific to Matrix/Analyte Combinations
- 798 matrix/method analyte combinations reviewed
- 494 FoPT Table analyte/program combinations analyzed



PT Study Review

- Limiting data to the 2014-2016
 - Eliminated early uploads (2012) which biased data
 - 2012 Uploads used for database development
 - 2012 data from one provider sometimes had duplicate datasets in upload
 - Result better data



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



PT Study Review

- Challenges
 - Pooling of data:
 - Multiple technologies utilize the same analyte code
 - Multiple levels represented by same analyte code

○ Database update planned



PT Study Review

- Very few TNI analytes with passing rates of <90%
- 75 data points of the 798 program/analyte data sets available show a average pass rate of <90%
- NELAC FoPT table analytes
 - 3 WS analytes
 - 1 WP analytes
 - 0 RCRA analytes



WS FoPT

- 3 DW FoPT analytes
 - Chromium VI
 - Bromide
 - Fluoride



WS Analytes

- Chromium VI 82.34 % pass
- Bromide 82.93 % pass
- Fluoride 88.01 % pass



WS-Cr⁺⁶ Review

- WS 89.54% passing rate
- 14 datasets overall from 2014-2016
- Where N>20=0 datasets
- Where N>10=1 datasets, passing rate was 92.3 %
- Remainder N<10
- From WS FoPT ±20% fixed acceptance limit



WS-Bromide Review

- WS 82.93% passing rate
- 34 datasets overall from 2014-2016
- Where $N > 20 = 1$ datasets
- Additionally where $N > 10 = 19$ datasets, passing rate 83.2%
- Passing rate similar among providers



WS-Fluoride Review

- WS 88.01% passing rate
- 37 datasets overall from 2014-2016
- $N > 20 = 21$ datasets
- Passing rate similar among providers
 - One provider all studies w/ $N > 20$
 - 88.68% pass
 - Consistent with smaller datasets



WP FoPT

- 1 analytes from table



WP Analytes

- Volatile Solids 89.18



WP-Volatile Solids Review

- WP 89.18 % passing rate
- Similar among providers
- 61 datasets
- Where $N > 20 = 8$ datasets, passing rate was 87.13
- $N \geq 10 = 13$ datasets
- Remaining $N < 10$; many small datasets



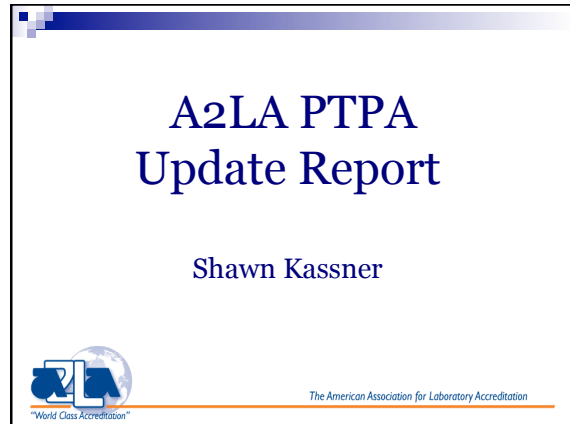
Questions!



For more information...

- Visit our website: <http://anab.org>
- Contact Matt Sica
 - msica@anab.org





A2LA PTPA Status

- 4 PTPs currently accredited
- All PT Providers being scheduled for renewals in 2016
- No complaints have been received since the last meeting for any of the PTPs.

The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation

Database Status

- Continue to monitor every study for all analytes
- Any concerns regarding studies are
 - followed up on as needed basis, and
 - discussed during the onsite assessment process.

The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation

Overall Unacceptable Rates for Spiked and Unspiked Samples

- Overall, samples are spiked on approximately ~84% of the studies and represent a similar proportion of the results.
- For non-spiked studies, approximately 1 - 2% of the samples are not acceptable.
- For spiked studies, approximately 3 - 4 % of the samples are not acceptable.
- This discrepancy between the rate of acceptance between the groups impacts the overall acceptance rate.
- These rates are not changing significantly over time.

The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation

Analytes with Fail Rates >10 %

- Reviewed analytes across all study types
 - WP, WS, Soil, Radchem
- Data selection criteria
 - Analytes had to have more than one failure year and/or across PTPs.
 - Number of participants greater than 30
- Non-spiked analytes reviewed and no issues were found

The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation

Observations

- No analyte displayed a concentration bias
 - FoPT concentration range was covered
- No single Provider had an analyte issue
 - All analytes were contained 2 of more PTPs
- Acceptance Criteria
 - Between estimated and study means within 5% to 7%
 - Study standard deviations do not match well for
 - Voa Soilds, Benzo(a)anthracene, COD, O&G



The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation

Conclusions

- Lower number of studies found overall
- Keep in mind the FoPT development process
 - Studies potentially removed as outliers per the FoPT SOP
- Add a similar review to the FoPT SOP prior to the next round of acceptance criteria calculation
- Develop a documented formalized process for review of the data



The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation

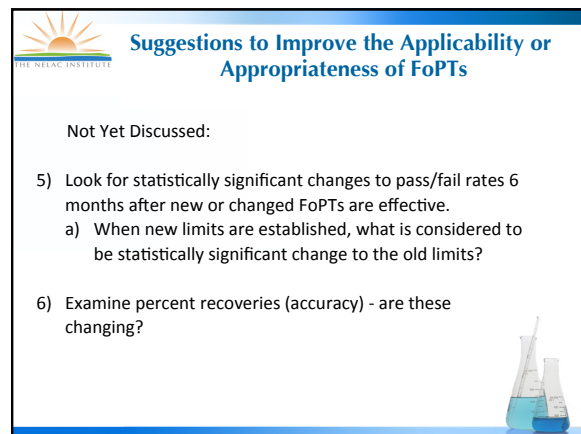
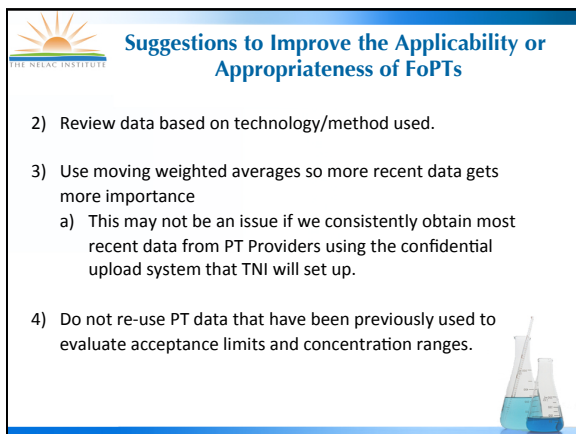
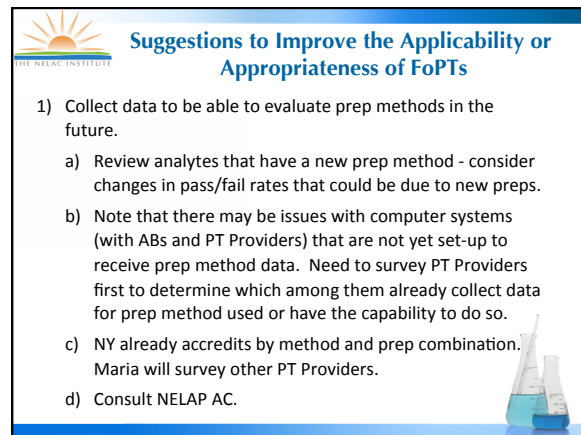
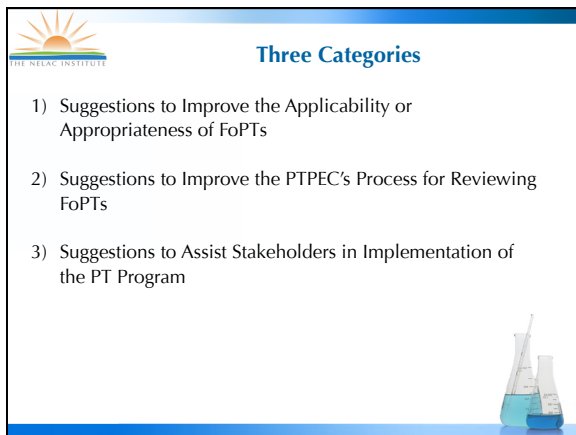
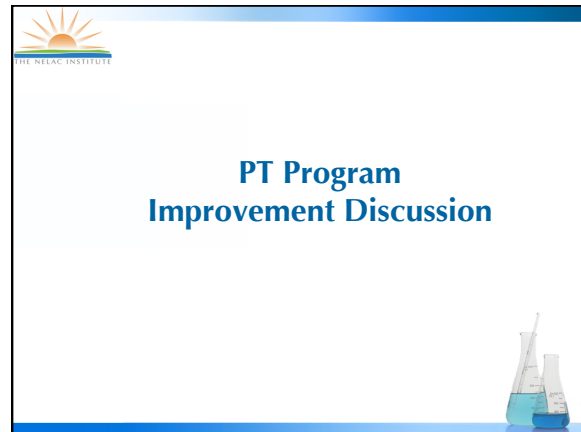
We Thank:

- 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

Attachment F - FoPT Improvement Discussion





Attachment F - FoPT Improvement Discussion





Suggestions to Improve the PTPEC's Process for Reviewing FoPTs

- 1) Prioritize review based on analyte performance.
 - a) Use info from PTPA reports to determine which analytes to focus for review (i.e., problematic analytes or those with high failure rates).
 - b) Note that some analytes are preferentially not spiked into the PT sample. Collect info from PT Providers on the frequency of their spiking an analyte into the PT sample.
 - c) Include in the PTPA checklist a line item to check the frequency when PT Providers spike an analyte into the PT sample. There should not be analytes that are preferentially not spiked.



Suggestions to Improve the PTPEC's Process for Reviewing FoPTs


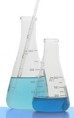
- 2) Based on previously reviewed data, review routine failures in a cycle.
- 3) Pick a particular analyte to update, and update all affected FoPT Tables where that analyte belongs – does not seem a good idea to jump from one table to another. Instead, review analyte per Table and not across tables.



Suggestions to Improve the PTPEC's Process for Reviewing FoPTs


Not Yet Discussed:

- 4) Evaluate routine review schedule for FoPT Tables (e.g., expand to 5 years or some other time frame).
- 5) When we make changes to the Tables - have a tracking system.



Suggestions to Assist Stakeholders in Implementation of the PT Program

- 1) Create FoPT Tables using Access database instead of Excel spreadsheets so it is easier for PT Providers to update their own databases. PT Providers prefer MS Access so they don't manually transfer FoPT info to their databases.



SOP Title: TNI Proficiency Testing Program FoPT Update Procedure

Contents Outline:

- 1.0 Purpose and Applicability
 - 1.1 Within scope
 - 1.2 Out of scope
- 2.0 Summary
- 3.0 Related Documents
 - 3.1 SOP 4-101 re. Calculation of Acceptance Limits
 - 3.2 SOP 4-107 re. FoPT Table Management
- 4.0 Definitions
 - 4.1 FoPT
 - 4.2 FoPT Table
 - 4.3 Acceptance Limits
 - 4.4 TNI Analyte Code
 - 4.5 TNI Analyte Name
 - 4.6 Subject matter expert
- 5.0 Procedure
 - 5.1 What triggers an FoPT Table update?
 - 5.1.1 Scheduled review cycle
 - 5.1.1.1 Routine cycle = x number of years?
 - 5.1.1.2 6 months after new limits are effective?
 - 5.1.1.3 Which FoPT Table goes first
 - 5.1.2 Problematic analytes or high failure rates reported for specific analytes
 - 5.1.2.1 From PTPA reports
 - 5.1.2.2 Other sources
 - 5.1.3 New analyte (ARA)
 - 5.1.4 Complaint
 - 5.2 Request PT Data
 - 5.2.1 Who requests data
 - 5.2.1.1 Follow TNI procedure (TBD)
 - 5.2.2 What data type or info to request from PTPs
 - 5.2.2.1 See PT Standard 2016
 - 5.2.3 How much data to request (how old)
 - 5.2.3.1 Do not request data from time period that was requested before
 - 5.3 Review in Progress
 - 5.3.1 Review per Table

- 5.3.2 Review based on technology/method used
- 5.3.3 Review based on analyte performance
- 5.3.4 Do not re-use data that have been used in previous table updates
- 5.3.5 Do we have a Subject Matter Expert in the FoPT subcommittee?

- 5.4 Tracking changes made
 - 5.4.1 Evaluate change in limits – is this statistically significant?
 - 5.4.2 Monitoring performance of new analytes
 - 5.4.3 Monitoring performance when new prep method is used

- 5.5 Reports to PTPEC
 - 5.5.1 FoPT Table in MS Excel or MS Access (or both) report format
 - 5.5.2 Use color coding for changes made
 - 5.5.3 Rationale for changes, if not already known or previously reported to PTPEC

- 6.0 Records Management
 - 6.1 FoPT Subcommittee Chair to be record keeper until FoPT Table is approved and assigned a new effective date. Thereafter, relinquish all data to TNI for archiving.
 - 6.2 Subcommittee meeting minutes required – approve and then post on TNI website

- 7.0 Responsibilities