TNI Stationary Source Audit Sample Expert Committee Teleconference
March 26, 2013, 1403 PM, EST- draft

Attendance:

Maria Friedman – Chair TestAmerica (Laboratory)	Committee member	**Present**
Mike Hayes Linde (Provider)	Committee member	absent
Michael Klein New Jersey DEP (State government)	Committee member	absent
Theresa Lowe CCI Environmental (Stationary Source Tester)	Committee member	**Present**
Paul Meeter Weston Solutions (Stationary Source Tester)	Committee member	**Present**
Gregg O'Neal, North Carolina DAQ (State government)	Committee member	**Present**
Michael Schapira Enthalpy (Laboratory)	Committee member	absent
Jim Serne TRC Solutions (Stationary Source Tester)	Committee member	**Present**
Stanley Tong EPA Region 9 (Federal government)	Committee member	**Present**
William (Bill) Hirt ACLASS (Provider Accreditor)	Guest	**Present**
Ty Garber Phenova (Provider)	Associate member	absent
Shawn Kassner Phenova (Provider)	Associate member	absent
Mike Miller (Member at large)	Associate member	absent
Rob Knake A2LA (Provider Accreditor)	Guest	**Present**
William Daystrom TNI (Webmaster)	Guest	**Present**
Wayne Stollings (Triangle Environmental Services, Laboratory)	Guest	**Present**
Charles Simon (VOC Reporting, Laboratory)	Guest	**Present**

(1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1403 hours EDT by the chair, Maria Friedman.

[1] Double-check receipt of documents to be referenced in this teleconference

All present confirmed receipt of the documents (2-19-13 draft minutes, M25 blank description from “Alternate Method 25Z”).

[2] Review and approve minutes from teleconference on February 19, 2012.

Maria indicated all acronyms should have the full name spelled out on first use in the minutes. (Charles made the corrections along with one typo). The minutes were approved by those present as amended. Charles will send everyone the amended final version. Maria will email the other committee members for their approval.

Maria mentioned that a new committee member has been nominated, Mr. Tom Wedera. Maria will email all members seeking a second, and a vote after credential review.

[3] Provider Update

Both providers are listing their products in the SSAS table format on their websites (SSAS analytes and methods only to be listed). So are ERA and Sigma Aldrich, the accredited providers, and ACLASS a provider accreeditor. So the same lists should appear on the EPA website shortly. Everything has been sent to Candace. There was good agreement among the members as to listing the available SSAS audit samples in the SSAS table format endorsed by the committee and required by EPA for their website.

No one was aware of any further provider applicants or plans to apply.

[4] Review M25 Subcommittee blank recommendations: the Word working document is “Method 25 blank”.

Stan again stated his concern that the Office of Air Quality planning and Standards (OAQPS) Methods may define the results and the 200°C Method-25 sample recovery temperature may be how the method defines a VOC. In addition to the comments in the 2-19-13 SSAS committee minutes, Charles added that there was no research in the Method 25 development docket leading up to the 1989 changes that included the 200°C recovery temperature that indicated this was an issue of concern. The recovery research was done with thermally stable organic compounds that were volatile enough to be completely recovered at that temperature. There was no work reported on recovery of reactive organic compounds. However, real world samples frequently contain thermally labile (reactive) organic compounds that form heavier (lower volatility) organic compounds upon warming. These are the most reactive, ozone-producing, compounds emitted by industry and limiting the recovery temperature to 200°C will allow the most reactive emissions to avoid being counted.

Charles reminded the group that in 1989 OAQPS included a heated filter in the Method 25 train that served to separate, and therefore define, volatile organic compounds as those that passed through the 250°F glass fiber filter and were collected by the sample train, versus particulate organic matter that was retained by the heated filter. There was no statement

about the recovery of those compounds from the sample train as being part of the definition of VOC. Recovery was assumed to be complete to the Method specification. A major problem with the low (200°C) recovery temperature is that samples with reactive compounds frequently cannot be extracted to completion at the low temperature, thus the Method 25 recovery cutoff cannot be achieved.

Charles explained the two types of blanks the subcommittee recommended: (1) the “trip blank”, which evaluates the equipment and analyzer backgrounds, and (2) the “audit blank”, which evaluate both the sample/lab equipment and the field tester’s equipment/methods/zero-gas cleanliness.

Wayne stated that he prefers the audit blank because EPA has routinely favored this type of blank in the past for other methods. It is also the most complete type of blank. However, it will take more field time and labor cost. The lab cost will be the same with either type of blank.

Charles said he favors the trip blank because it measures the analytical background that will always be present and allows the audit samples to evaluate the cleanliness of the sample team’s equipment, methods and zero gas. It’s also easier and cheaper to collect and therefore would always be done.

There was much discussion of these points and others raised by committee members favoring one type of blank or the other. Most members were against allowing either type of blank to be selected by the test team.

Maria called for a continuance of the discussion by email since time was short today. The next teleconference will be on April 2, 2013 at 1400 hours EDT.

Maria adjourned the meeting at 1504 hours EDT.