

# MELA – Michigan Environmental Laboratory Association

Presented by Pete Priniski, QAO  
Fibertec Environmental Services, Inc.

# MELA - History

- Founded in 1992
- Association of more than 30 environmental testing labs throughout the state
- Foster free exchange of information between labs and regulators
- Commitment to ethics and quality in the industry

# Code of Ethics

- Promote timely communications between state regulators and regulated community
- Increase client knowledge
- Train employees sufficiently
- Obey all local and state laws & regulations
- Maintain facilities to insure accuracy and precision
- Elevate the value of the services that labs perform

# Ethics – page 2

- Willingly submit to critical review (audits)
- Accept work only when expectation that the client will gain value from our work
- Legally & ethically manage lab waste
- Treat clients, employees and environment with respect

# From our By-laws

- “...to provide a forum for information exchange, speaking on behalf of the environmental laboratory community...”

# Objectives of MELA

- Information exchange with all levels of government to promote scientifically based policies
- Promote excellence and professionalism in environmental analysis
- Provide means that members can discuss and take action on relevant issues
- Establish liaison with other related organizations

# Structure and Membership

- President and 4-member board of directors handle routine business and planning
- Meeting of all membership quarterly
- Spring quarter dedicated to training
- Annual cost of membership \$150

# Web-Based Communication

- Web-site: [Michlabs.org](http://Michlabs.org)
  - General information (for you folks)
  - Protected information for membership (requires log-in with password)
  - Posted minutes from previous meetings
  - Documents from regulators affecting lab functions or regulation changes
  - Up-coming meeting arrangements, place date, time, and outline of topics covered