

EUROLAB NEWSBRIEFING

April - June 2017



Foreword

Inside this issue:

Focus of the Month **2-3**

National Members' News **4-8**

Accreditation & Standardization **9-10**

Business News **11-12**

Policy News **13-16**

Reports **17**

Events **18-21**

Dear EUROLAB members,

Please find below the second EUROLAB newsbriefing of 2017 with information regarding the actions carried out by EUROLAB and developments relevant to the Laboratory Community. EUROLAB has developed since its origin strong relations with other stakeholders, considering that is the best way to promote the vision of laboratories and to develop networking. Today the global economy makes this a strategic point, allowing laboratories to cooperate in a more efficient way and increasing the knowledge and capacity to create real impact at governance and regulation levels.

As it is well known, EUROLAB aisbl has several cooperation protocols with other Organizations and is an active member of many committees worldwide. This is a challenging task, only possible with the participation of many expert Colleagues from National Associations contributing to this purpose and the support of our Secretariat. To make this effort consistent to comply with the expectations of our members, EUROLAB Board is defining at this level an internal communication structure in order to increase cooperation and to develop a better interface with National Members and Laboratories.

To make this cooperation effective, EUROLAB is also defining a roadmap and a strategy to strengthen this line of relations with the stakeholders, aiming to raise awareness of the values underlined by laboratory activity. For this reason, the renewal of protocols is also being taken as a moment to evaluate the work done and to look ahead to the future ground for joint strategies and activities.

Looking forward to increase co-operation with you, aiming to achieve the highest purpose of promoting the Laboratories contribution to the improvement of safety and quality of life.

Yours Sincerely,

EUROLAB President

Álvaro Silva Ribeiro

Contact details:

EUROLAB Secretariat
Rue du Commerce 20-22
B-1000, Belgium

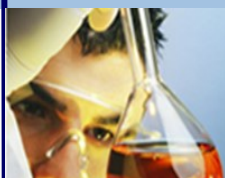
Tel.: + 32 2 511 50 65

Fax: + 32 2 502 50 47

E-mail: info@eurolab.org

Website:

<http://www.eurolab.org/>



EUROLAB General Assembly 2017, TCQA meeting & International Seminar 3 - 4 May 2017, Bologna, Italy

The European Federation of National Associations of Measurement, Testing and Analytical Laboratories (EUROLAB) held elections to the Board of Administrators, including the re-election of five Board Members & one Representative of Associated Members and the election of one new Board Member & Vice-President.



The EUROLAB General Assembly and Annual Meetings 2017 took place in Bologna, Italy, on 3 and 4 May 2017 and were kindly hosted by ALPI Associazione.

The EUROLAB events started on Wednesday morning with the TCQA meeting, where, among others, the following topics were discussed:

- EUROLAB representatives in various working groups;
- TCQA documents: discussions on the *Continuous improvement within QM systems*, *Risk Based Approach*, *Traceability in measurement*, *Decision rules*, *Planning Quality Assurance & Handling of information*.
- Cookbooks proposals: New Cook-Book including the novelties in the new ISO/IEC 17025 and the revision of current Cook-Books in line with the new changes. A Working Group has been created for drafting this proposed cookbook;
- TCQA projects: *Harmonisation of Assessors*, led by TURKLAB. The aim of the project is to address the lack of harmonisation of assessors at the European level. A mailbox has been created and will be available on the EUROLAB website.
- *Use of Cook-Books*: The aim of this project is to know if the Cook-Books are useful, and how are they used by the laboratories.
- Activities and developments in the TCQA Working Groups;
- TCQA actions in relation to accreditation and standardisation issues.



The TCQA meeting was followed in the afternoon by the International Conference hosted by ALPI Associazione, which also brought the opportunity to celebrate its 30th Anniversary. The Conference was well attended, with representatives from the EUROLAB members as well as attendees from the Italian laboratory sector. The Seminar was opened by the ALPI President, Roberto Cusolito and by the EUROLAB President, Álvaro Silva Ribeiro, who addressed the welcome and thank you remarks to the organisers and participants. The introduction was followed by speakers from various institutes, universities and industry such as: University of Pavia and Watson Grey Italia. Among others, the speakers and participants discussed topics related to: *Risk Analysis: approach, effectiveness, conclusions*, *Chemical, carcinogenic and biological risks in the laboratory*, *Ionising radiation – Radiological risk in test laboratories*. The Seminar concluded with a Case Study presented by the representative of Watson Grey Italia.



The EUROLAB Board meeting took place on Thursday, 4 May and was followed by the EUROLAB General Assembly where various EUROLAB related issues were discussed, such as:

- The EUROLAB strategy and the cooperation with UILI, AOAC Europe, CEOC International and NLA-South Africa;
- EUROLAB signed the Terms of the Strategic Alliance Agreement with UILI, in order to foster their cooperation and coordinate their activities regarding technical issues, strategies and policy matters;
- Policy updates on various on-going legislative developments;
- EUROLAB main activities in 2017 and the communications strategy, including the EUROLAB publications;
- EUROLAB - official partner of the ECVET-Lab Project which is a European project funded by the ERASMUS+ programme of the European Commission;
- Pascal Launey, LNE, invited the EUROLAB Members to the National Members' Meeting 2017, which will take place on 16 and 17 November, in Paris.



Jeff Llewellyn announced his retirement from the position of EUROLAB Board Member and Vice-President and wished all the best for the EUROLAB future. Jeff Llewellyn brought a very important contribution throughout his years in EUROLAB, being highly involved in the technical, communication and legal work of EUROLAB. His constructive and professional ideas were very much appreciated within EUROLAB. The EUROLAB President and the EUROLAB Members expressed their gratitude and thanked him for all the valuable work done for EUROLAB during all these years, wishing him many happy, healthy years.



The elections to the EUROLAB Board of Administrators took place during the General Assembly.

Paolo Moscatti, ALPI Associazione, was elected for the position of EUROLAB Vice-President for 2-year term;

Carol Stewart, Exova, was elected for the position of Board Member for 2-year term.

The EUROLAB Members also re-elected:

⇒ **the following Board Members:**

- Ewa Bulska, POLLAB;
- Paolo Moscatti, ALPI Associazione;
- Alexander Šafařík-Pštrosz, EUROLAB-CZ;
- José Luis Sanchez Alvarez-Campana, EUROLAB-Spain;
- Kurt Ziegler, EUROLAB-Germany.

⇒ **the Representative of Associated Members:**

- Ömer Güzel, TURKLAB.

⇒ **the TCQA Chair:**

- Irache Visiers, EUROLAB-Spain.



The EUROLAB General Assembly 2017 concluded with thank you remarks addressed by the President, Álvaro Silva Ribeiro, to ALPI Associazione for the organisation of the successful EUROLAB events in Bologna.

News ALPI



ALPI
ASSOCIAZIONE LABORATORI DI PROVA
E ORGANISMI DI CERTIFICAZIONE INDIPENDENTI



30th
1987 - 2017

The role of ALPI in the approach of the forensic world to TIC sector

ALPI continues to support the forensic world towards its progressive approach to the TIC sector (Testing, Inspection and Certification). ALPI considers the possibility of transferring the peculiarities of the TIC sector, strategic for the forensic world. In this way, the forensic world will be prepared to manage eventual **legal aspects that may involve TIC Organizations**.

TIC Operators, more and more often, need to clarify the **context of their responsibilities in legal disputes** and, at the same time, need to know the pitfalls of the Penal Code in the field of the conformity assessment. For this reasons, the Past-president of ALPI - Ing. Rodolfo Trippodo - will participate as a speaker in the meeting "*Penal Responsibility by Product*" organized by Avv. Gabriele Bordoni and hosted by Fondazione Forense Bolognese, which will take place on Tuesday the 11th of July 2017, with the participation of many authoritative jurists and law experts.

In addition to the regulatory and organizational framework of the TIC sector, this meeting aims to clarify how the process of inspection and conformity assessment takes place, both in the case of **product's certification** and **laboratory testing**. Some typical risks and legal disputes will be analyzed with particular attention to obligations and responsibilities of **all actors** involved in the process of attestation of conformity, such as Notified Bodies, Testing Labs and other economic operators (manufacturers, representatives, importers, distributors).

The TIC sector is still a new world for jurists and law experts, so ALPI will closely monitor the evolution of this approach and continue to provide its contribution to the knowledge and valorisation of the TIC Operators in order to help them to consider the **risks** involved in Testing, Inspection and Certification activities.

News BMTA



Optical Measurements in Industrial Inspection BMTA Seminar at the mmc2017 Congress

BMTA (British Measurement & Testing Association) is organising Optical Measurements in Industrial Inspection BMTA Seminar at the mmc2017 Congress in collaboration with the Royal Microscopical Society. The event will take place on 06 July 2017 in Manchester.

The seminar will offer delegates the chance to learn more about the latest techniques in industrial and materials inspection.

Challenges to achieving Accreditation for Forensic Laboratories

BMTA, with the support of UKAS (United Kingdom Accreditation Service), is organising an event, *Challenges to achieving Accreditation for Forensic Laboratories*, on 12 July 2017, in London. The event will examine Forensic Laboratories where the standard in question is ISO 17025.

Delegates will find out about the Codes of Practice and Conduct issued by the Forensic Science Regulator and the accreditation requirements and expectations defined by UKAS. You will also learn of the accreditation experiences of LGC, one of the largest private forensic laboratories in the UK, and of the Metropolitan Police which has achieved accreditation in most but not all of the required areas.

News EUROLAB - CZ

Technical and Test Institute for Construction Prague, SOE, member of EUROLAB-CZ is now opening a new facility for the testing of small wastewater treatment systems. This test facility in the České Budějovice branch meets all the requirements of the relevant technical standard EN 12566-1 ed. 2. This standard specifies the requirements for prefabricated septic tanks and ancillary equipment used for the partial treatment of domestic wastewater.

Contact:
Vilém Migl, migl@tzus.cz
Cell Phone: +(00)420 721 523 930



News EUROLAB-Deutschland

eurolab-Deutschland
Chemische Analytik; Mess- und Prüftechnik e.V.

Report on a EUROLAB-D seminar on the new ISO/IEC 17025

On April 24th 2017 a seminar took place featuring the new standard ISO/IEC 17025 and its impact on laboratories in the Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing (BAM) in Berlin. It was organised by EUROLAB-D in co-operation with six partner organisations, i.e. BAM, the German accreditation body DAkkS, the German national metrology institute PTB, the German Association of Technical Inspection Agencies (VdTÜV), the Association of Materials Testing Institutes (VMPA) and the German Association of Independent Laboratories (VUP). The aim of this seminar was to inform laboratory managers and quality managers early in time about requirements to come and the way DAkkS intends to implement them in the accreditation process. Although the standard has not been published yet the expectation was that all major items were already present in the existing draft. Some 220 participants attended this event demonstrating the great interest in this topic.

Naturally, the main presentation was on the changes associated with the revision of the standard ISO/IEC 17025, delivered by Andreas Müller, a laboratory consultant. He explained the alignment of the new structure with the structure of the other conformity assessment standards of the ISO/IEC 17000 series and the function of the so called common elements on impartiality, confidentiality, complaints and the quality management system. Later in his talk he compared the new one with the existing standard clause by clause emphasising new requirements and those having been omitted from the existing standard.



The new standard will take into account some of the technical developments of the last 15 years, e. g. concerning electronical recording and reporting of test results. A new feature appearing is the consideration of "risks and opportunities" by the laboratory replacing the requirement of preventive actions. This topic was addressed in a separate lecture. An issue taken over from the accreditation practice is the requirement of a disclaimer in the test report that the results might be compromised if a sample, after consultation with the customer, is tested although it deviates from specified conditions. The evaluation of measurement uncertainty is extended to cover also sampling, if applicable. Also extended is the list of quality assurance measures which shall be applied, where appropriate. Concerning the quality system the two options A and B were explained. Andreas Müller questioned whether a certified quality system according to ISO 9001(option B) would lead to a reduction of the respective assessment in the accreditation process compared to option A.



Apart from the new requirements, some of which are mentioned above, there are also some requirements of the previous standard which will be omitted or weakened. Thus a quality manual or a quality policy are no longer required explicitly. Also the function of a quality manager is not mentioned. Concerning internal audit intervals the note of the present standard is missing that the audit cycle covering all standard elements should be completed normally within one year. Thus the new standard will enable more flexibility in some areas in line with the revised ISO 9001 standard.

Andreas Kinzel presented an EXCEL-Tool which laboratories can use for the implementation of the new standard. A table contains a comparison of all clauses of the new standard with the respective of the previous one, highlighting any changes. Based on this the laboratory can decide whether any amendment of its system is necessary and can determine which action it will take. This tool will be up-dated as soon as the final version of the standard will be available and provided by Andreas Kinzel for the EUROLAB community in German and English.

Timo Krebsbach dealt in his talk with risk based thinking in a laboratory. The consideration of risks and opportunities is a new item both in ISO 9001 and in ISO/IEC 17025. According to the new draft it is the laboratory that decides which risks and opportunities need to be addressed. A formal risk management is not required. Within the scope of the standard risks and opportunities should be considered in particular concerning the conformity of the services provided and the satisfaction of the customer, and the results shall be addressed in the management reviews. Additionally, risks to the impartiality shall be identified and, if necessary, eliminated or minimized. Timo Krebsbach presented SWOT analysis (**S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities, **T**hreats) and PESTEL analysis (**P**olitical, **E**conomic, **S**ocial, **T**echnological, **E**nvironmental, **L**egal) as possible tools and a way to classify risks according to their probability of occurrence and their negative effects.



According to ISO/IEC 17025 the laboratory shall ensure that measurement results are traceable to the international system of units (SI), if possible. Martin Czaske and Magda Kemper, both PTB, explained the SI with its 7 base units which will be redefined in 2018, based on natural constants. They presented the national and international metrological infrastructure which is available for laboratories for calibration of their equipment. A calibration laboratory shall evaluate the measurement uncertainty for all calibrations. The same holds for laboratories that perform sampling or testing, if the measurement uncertainty can be evaluated. When a statement of conformity to a specification or standard of a test or a calibration is provided, measurement uncertainty has to be taken into account if stipulated by the decision rule. When a calibration certificate includes a statement of conformity with a specification without mentioning the

measurement results and their uncertainties, the respective instrument cannot be used for calibration of another device.

The time schedule of DAkkS for the transition from the previous to the new standard was presented by Andreas Hönnerscheid, the quality manager of DAkkS. The transition period will be three years, starting with the publication by ISO. Accredited laboratories have to apply for an assessment against the new standard which can be



News EUROLAB-Deutschland**eurolab-Deutschland**
Chemische Analytik; Mess- und Prüftechnik e.V.

done during a regular surveillance visit or a reassessment. Applications can be made after the publication of ISO/IEC 17025 as a harmonised standard in the Official Journal of the European Union and have to be made at least 12 months before the end of the transition period. Before assessing against the new requirements DAKkS has to train its staff and the assessors (approx. 800). For laboratories DAKkS will provide information seminars, but no special training. An extra document on the transition by DAKkS is not foreseen, but if ILAC or EA publish such a document it will be valid also for laboratories assessed by DAKkS.

The information about the draft ISO/IEC 17025 was complemented by the talk of Kurt Ziegler on the revision of ISO/IEC 17011 which is now finalised. He emphasised the indirect impact of this standard for accreditation bodies on the accredited organisations. In this revision the general structure of the ISO/IEC 17000 standards was applied, the common elements used and the risk based thinking included, too. Accreditation bodies shall consider risks concerning their independence, impartiality, financial stability and the competence of their assessors. Additionally, risks shall be taken into consideration when the assessment programme is developed which shall be applied for the assessment and surveillance during the whole accreditation cycle of an accredited body. Knowledge obtained by the accreditation body about this conformity assessment body's management system and activities and the performance of the conformity assessment body shall be considered by the accreditation body when establishing the assessment programme. Thus future assessments of laboratories should be more customised. A new way to perform assessments are the so-called remote assessments which are defined as "assessment of a conformity assessment body physical location or virtual site, using electronic means". ISO/IEC 17011 will be published soon.



In an additional lecture Stephan Finke, the new CEO of DAKkS, informed the audience about recent and future developments in accreditation. Subject to a new cost regulation, which is under development by the responsible Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi), DAKkS will change its procedure of surveillance and reassessment. While at present accreditation certificates have a validity of 5 years, future certificates will be valid for an unlimited period of time. The period between reassessments will be 4 years with at least one surveillance visit in between. An individual assessment programme concerning assessment scope and assessment intervals will be established for each conformity assessment body. Furthermore DAKkS has changed its reporting procedures with less paper than before. One consequence for accredited organisations is that actions to amend non-conformities are not decided at the end of the assessment visit. Thus the conformity assessment bodies can first perform a root-cause analysis before they decide on the corrective actions to be taken.

At the end of the seminar there was a long and lively discussion with the lecturers. In particular Mr. Hönnerscheid was asked about the way DAKkS will implement ISO/IEC 17011 and assess laboratories against the revised ISO/IEC 17025. Some of the participants doubted that DAKkS will be able to assess all accredited German laboratories (approx. 3000) within the transition period. It was suggested to use the new tool of remote assessments for the transition since most of the new requirements are not technical in nature but are related to the management system. It was questioned whether the results of risk assessments performed by the laboratory have to be disclosed to the accreditation assessors as they are sensitive information. Another concern was about possible national dialects with regard to the interpretation of the new ISO/IEC 17025 instead of a harmonised European approach which would provide a level playing field for the laboratory community in Europe.

On 9 November 2017 EUROLAB-D will organise another seminar as follow-up of this very successful event.



News Fenelab

Since the General Assembly Meeting on 15 June, Fenelab has a new president. René Dijkstra transferred his leadership to Bernd Kroon, director of Aqualab Zuid.



Dr. Kroon is a microbiologist and, after his study (Nijmegen and Delft), carried out fundamental scientific research for twenty years. During that period, he participated in American and German expeditions to the North and South Pole. After that he established himself as an independent entrepreneur, working in many countries. In 2011 he returned to the Netherlands and since to take up his current position as CEO of Aqualab Zuid.

Kroon judges that Fenelab is in an excellent state. "My predecessor has established a solid structure, and created Fenelab into lively and active organisation." I will strive to maintain and continue this condition."

He considers the three pillars that make up the foundation for Fenelab:

- Representation of member interests in the field of accreditation,
- Anticipate and respond to changes in Fenelab's environment, and
- Representation of Dutch accredited laboratories in the European Community of accredited laboratories (EUROLAB).

From his international experience, Kroon says that there is mutual benefit to work at international level. He refers to two common issues, in addition to learning from each other's experiences, to achieve a common playing field in international market relations and to co-operate with foreign colleagues in the interests of accredited laboratories.



News Maklab



Third International Conference "QUALITY AND COMPETENCE 2017"

PARTICIPATION FEE
Conference participation fee: 1700 EUR
For conference participants: 1700 EUR
For members of MAKLAB: 500 EUR

APPLICATION
The application form for participation can be found on the website of MAKLAB. Please send the completed application form along with the payment contribution receipt to: maklab@maklab.org.mk

ACCOMMODATION
The accommodation for Conference participants is organized in Hotel Gloria Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia. Please book directly in Hotel Gloria, with reference to the Conference on Quality and Competence 2017.

THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE "QUALITY AND COMPETENCE 2017"
14-16 September 2017
Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia

The *Third International Conference "QUALITY AND COMPETENCE 2017"*, organized by the Macedonian Association of Laboratories and Inspection Bodies MAKLAB and the Institute for Accreditation of Republic of Macedonia IARM, will take place from 14th to 16th of September 2017 in Republic of Macedonia.

The topics of this Conference are aimed to develop and upgrade the laboratory quality and competence by presenting themes relevant for the laboratory practice and exchanging experiences between laboratories, inspection bodies and institutions from the region and beyond.

News RELACRE



Relacre hosted an Workshop in Lisbon, for the celebration of the 26th anniversary, in the 9th of May, being dedicated to Innovation, Industry 4.0, BigData, and several other technological issues that are becoming relevant for the laboratories activity. This event had the participation of 120 persons, and a group of keynote speakers representing the different areas of the Economy.

The meeting had as invited speakers, Eng. Luis Mira Amaral, head of the Portuguese Society for Innovation, former Minister of a Portuguese Government and head of several agencies and Boards having a long relation with industry, Gabrielle Dudek from BAM and also representing EUROLAB Germany, speaking about the ISO 17025 revision, Gonçalo

Ribeiro de Andrade (HOVIONE Capital), speaking about risk capital in research and innovation related to health, Afonso Alves (Siemens) speaking about corporate innovation, Ricardo Miguéis (ANI – National Agency for Innovation) speaking about the Centers of Technological Interface Programme, Sílvia Garcia (INCM – Portuguese Mint and Official Printing Office) speaking about innovation in the INCM, Fernando Salido (Abbot) speaking about Laboratory Smart Data, José Medina (ISQ) speaking about data integration and Carlos Pedro (Sondar.i) speaking about Information.





Relacre was sponsor of the 2nd LNEC Open Day of Laboratories, hosted by LNEC in the 6th of June. This event had several activities, including and workshop related to the ILAC International Accreditation Day (9th of June) having, this year, the theme of "Delivering confidence in construction and the built environment".

In the Workshop the keynote talk was given by J. Sobola, former President of EUROLAB aisbl and EC Consultant (Technical assistance on Mandates for Construction products) with the topic of "Placing innovative construction products on the EU market". During the day the near 110 participants visited an exhibition of old equipment (related with the celebration of the 70th anniversary of LNEC) and guided tours to 16 laboratory units of LNEC open for this occasion.



ECNDT Conference in Portugal in 2022

RELACRE is happy to announce that the ForumEND Group supported by RELACRE was elected to jointly organize with RELACRE the European Conference on Non-Destructive Testing (ECNDT) in Portugal, in 2022.

This event is considered the major international event for EFNDT and its member societies and includes different activities, namely, a technical and scientific programme with the developments in research and in application of NDT in the major industry, and the links to other stakeholders.

Accreditation

- A fast-track request for comments on the revised *EA-1/06 EA Multilateral Agreement* has been issued.
- The 51st Issue of ILAC Newsletter is available [here](#).
- Three IAF Mandatory Documents (IAF MD 5:2013, IAF MD 8:2011 and IAF MD 9:2011) have been removed from the IAF website as they are obsolete.
- Both E3S' and GLOBALGAP's applications for the EA Recognised Stakeholder status are being supported by the EA Board.
- The following systematic review ballots have been opened:
 - ⇒ *ISO/IEC TS 17027:2014 - Conformity assessment — Vocabulary related to competence of persons used for certification of persons.*
- The following EA NWI proposals have been approved by the EA Board:
 - ⇒ *EAAB(17)01: Elaboration of EA Guidance for the Accreditation of Pesticide Residues Analysis in Food and Feed;*
 - ⇒ *EAAB(17)02: Revision of EA-4/17: EA position paper on the description of scopes of accreditation of medical laboratories;*
 - ⇒ *EAAB(17)03: NWIP Revision of EA-4/20: Guidance for the Assessment of Laboratories against EN ISO 15189 and EN ISO 22870 Point-of-Care Testing (POCT).*
- As agreed by the **EA Certification (CC) and Executive Committees**, the EACC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), i.e. the questions submitted by CC Members on application of certification-specific standards and answered during CC meetings, have been published on the EA website, section Publications. Click [here](#) to view them.
- The **EA Multilateral Agreement (EA MLA) Report 2016** is now released.
- The ballot on **EA-7/04** has been successfully completed, adopted and published on the EA website.
- The IAF Technical Committee is submitting the draft Mandatory Document titled **IAF MD X:201X: Control of Entities Operating on behalf of Accredited Certification Bodies** to all IAF members for a second 60-day comment period in accordance with **IAF PR2**.
- The IAF Technical Committee is submitting the revised IAF Mandatory Document titled **IAF Mandatory Document for the Transfer of Accredited Certification of Management Systems** to all IAF Voting Members for a 30-day voting period in accordance with the IAF rules.
- The **IAF Board** has endorsed a revision to the **IAF Strategic Plan** to include reference to 'protection of consumers and the environment' and 'facilitating sustainable development' in the IAF Mission statement. The changes were made to clarify IAF involvement/status in these areas in support of the IAF application for observer status in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- The comments provided by **IFIA to IAF** with regard to the ballots for **IAF/ILAC A1 and A2** relating the use of the word program rather than scheme have been accepted and published in the final version of the document.
- The document **Joint ISO-ILAC-IAF Communiqué on the Management Systems Requirements of ISO/IEC 17025, General Requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories** is now [available](#).
- The IAF Executive Committee is submitting the draft revised Policy Document titled **Rules for Annual IAF Membership Fees**, to all IAF members for a 60-day comment period in accordance with IAF PR2.
- Result of IAF Ballots:
 - ⇒ **IAF MD9:201X Application of ISO/IEC 17021-1** in the Field of Medical Device Quality Management Systems (ISO 13485) (Issue 3) – Approved 65 to 0 (21 abstained);
 - ⇒ **IAF MD8:201X Application of ISO/IEC 17011:2004** in the Field of Medical Device Quality Management Systems (ISO 13485) (Issue 3) – Approved 65 to 0 (21 abstained).
- ILAC Arrangement Committee (ARC) is submitting the following documents titled: **ILAC-P4:/201X Draft Dec 2015 - ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Policy and Management** and **ILAC-P5:/201X Draft Dec 2015 - ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Scope and Obligations to ILAC Full Members and Associates for a 30-day voting period**.
- The document, **ILAC-P8:xx/201x, Supplementary Requirements and Guidelines for the Use of Accreditation Symbols and for Claims of Accreditation Status by Conformity Assessment Bodies** is currently in circulation for a 30-day comment period.
- The **ILAC MRA 2016** Annual report has been published.
- The revised versions of **ILAC P4:06/2017 – ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Policy and Management** and **ILAC P5:06/2017 – ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Scope and Obligations** to include the accreditation of reference material producers have now been published. Please find them [here](#).
- The ILAC Executive Committee (EC) is submitting the document **ILAC-R1:XX/201X Draft June 2017 - Management of ILAC Documents** to all ILAC members for a 60 day comment period.
- The IAF/ILAC Joint Working Group (JWG) on A-Series Maintenance is submitting the following documents for a 60 day comment period:
 - ⇒ *ILAC-A1:0X/201X – IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Requirements and Procedures for Evaluation of a Regional Group*
 - ⇒ *IAF/ILAC-A2:0X/201X - IAF-ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Requirements and Procedures for Evaluation of a Single Accreditation Body*
- **IAF/ILAC-A6:0X/201X – Approval Process for IAF/ILAC A-Series Documents**

Accreditation

- Issue 2 of IAF MD 2: *IAF Mandatory Document for the Transfer of Accredited Certification of Management Systems* is now available [here](#).
- Issue 13 of the IAF newsletter has been published and is accessible from the IAF website under News & Events - IAF Newsletter. Please click [here](#) to view it.
- IAF Board has approved IOAS Inc. (IOAS) as an Accreditation Body (MoU) Member of IAF, effective 12 June 2017.
- The 2018 IAF-ILAC Joint Mid-Term Meetings will be held from 04 - 11 April in Frankfurt, Germany. Arrangements for the 2018 Joint Annual Meetings are ongoing, and we expect to be able to confirm a location and dates for these meetings within the next four to six weeks.
- The IAF Board has approved The National Accreditation Agency of Ukraine (NAAU) as an Accreditation Body (MoU) Member of IAF effective 16 June 2017. NAAU is also a member of EA.
- As Ms Ileana Martinez is no longer associated with an accreditation body, she has resigned from her role as ILAC ARC Chair, effective immediately. The ILAC Executive and Secretariat are currently reviewing the most appropriate options for identifying and recruiting a suitable 'volunteer' to take on the role of ARC Chair.
- The IAF Technical Committee is submitting the draft Mandatory Document titled "*IAF Mandatory Document for the Audit and Certification of a Management System operated by a Multi-Site Organization*", to all IAF members for a 60-day comment period in accordance with IAF PR2
- The following Mandatory Documents have been published:
 - ⇒ IAF MD 8: *Application of ISO/IEC 17011:2004 in the Field of Medical Device Quality Management Systems (ISO 13485)*
 - ⇒ IAF MD 9: *Application of ISO/IEC 17021-1 in the Field of Medical Device Quality Management Systems (ISO 13485)*
- The document, ILAC-P8:xx/201x, *Supplementary Requirements and Guidelines for the Use of Accreditation Symbols and for Claims of Accreditation Status by Conformity Assessment Bodies* is currently in circulation for a 30-day comment period
- The ILAC MRA 2016 Annual report has just been published
- The Terms of Reference for the ILAC AIC and MCC were approved by the ILAC Executive Board in preparation for endorsement at the GA meeting in Vancouver in October 2017.
- There have been several areas of the ILAC website updated as a result of the discussions at the ILAC MCC meeting held in March
- The data available on the Facts and Figures page of the ILAC website has been updated to include the 2016 numbers
- Mr Paul Stennett of UKAS, has been appointed as the Acting Chair of the ILAC FAC, until the GA endorses this Executive recommendation, via resolution, during the Vancouver GA in November 2017.
- Mr Ron Josias, effective as of 16 February 2017, is the new ILAC Treasurer.
- ILAC G27:06/2017 Guidance on measurements performed as part of an inspection process has been published.

Standardisation

- **An Appeal has been received by CASCO from ANSI on ISO/IEC 17011.**
- **The ballot results of the Committee Internal (CIB) on the revision of the CASCO Common Elements show a sup-port from 97% of the CASCO P Members (68 P-members in favor and 2 against).**
- **Revision of Common Elements in ISO CASCO standards (PROC 33 that replaced PAS 17001 to 17005) – the ballot was positive and the document will be reviewed.**
- **The 39th meeting of the ISO Committee on Reference Materials, ISO/REMCO was held in Ekaterinburg, Russia from 14 to 16 June 2016.** ISO/REMCO now has a membership of 71 ISO members, as well as liaisons with 16 inter-national organizations and 9 ISO-internal committees. Thirty-two delegates and liaison representatives attended the meet-ing coming from 15 ISO voting members out of 31 (48 %), 1 internal ISO technical committee liaison and 6 international organizations in liaison out of 17 (35 %).
- **The European Parliament's Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection adopted the draft report on European standards for the 21st Century by 34 votes in favour and 2 abstentions.** In the own initiative report, the Committee focused on improving a standardisation system that everyone agreed was already well functioning. The Rapporteur had proposed 31 compromise amendments that were all adopted.
- **A new clarification request on ISO/IEC 17065 has been addressed by the maintenance group of WG29 and their answers are available.**
- Committee Internal Ballot opens on ANSI appeal to CASCO on ISO/IEC 17011.
- **Ms. Dandan ZHENG, nominated by SAC, (China) will co-convene the WG49 with Ms. Cynthia Woodley.** The WG49 will be revising ISO/IEC 17000:2004, Conformity assessment - Vocabulary and general principles.
- **Mr. Graeme Drake, nominated by SA (Australia) and Mr. Heribert Schorn, nominated by DIN (Germany) will co-convene the WG23.** The WG23 will be revising Common Elements in ISO CASCO standards.
- BSI, the UK's national standards organisation, has launched a new standard for the circular economy, **BS 8001:2017: Framework for implementing the principles of the circular economy in organisations – guide**, the world's first for implementing circular economy principles. <http://tinyurl.com/yddw34o6>
- **Ms. Dandan ZHENG, nominated by SAC, (China) will co-convene the WG49 with Ms. Cynthia Woodley.** The WG49 will be revising ISO/IEC 17000:2004 , Conformity assessment - Vocabulary and general principles.
- **Mr. Graeme Drake, nominated by SA (Australia) and Mr. Heribert Schorn, nominated by DIN (Germany) will co-convene the WG23.** The WG23 will be revising Common Elements in ISO CASCO standards.

Business news

- **ALS has announced the opening of a new sample preparation laboratory in Rouyn-Noranda, located in the heart of the Abitibi Gold Belt. This new location allows to provide fast, efficient service to clients in Western Quebec.** <http://tinyurl.com/ya4evybo>
- **AmSpec announced the continuation of inspection and testing services in their new state of the art facility serving Philadelphia Harbor. The new location is triple the size of the previous building and is strategically located to better serve neighbouring refineries, terminals and the Philadelphia harbour in general.** <http://tinyurl.com/yawlwlml>
- **AmSpec announced the commencement of inspection and testing services in Montreal, Canada; another Canadian office and laboratory adding to AmSpec's expanding international resume. Montreal is the sixth Canadian facility which complements the existing branches in Come by Chance-Newfoundland; Point Tupper and Halifax-Nova Scotia; Saint John-New Brunswick and Quebec City-Quebec.** <http://tinyurl.com/y72o99hr>
- **DEKRA has published Road Safety Report 2017: "Best Practice": On the Road toward the Big Goal of Zero Traffic Fatalities.**
- **DNV GL signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Goldwind International during the Norway-China Partnership for Low Carbon Energy Transition seminar organized by the Beijing Energy Club.** <http://tinyurl.com/y9t37npv>
- **DNV GL opened two digital fleet performance centres in Hamburg and Singapore to support their ECO Insight customers in monitoring and optimizing their fleets.** <http://tinyurl.com/y7qscenj>
- **DNV GL has published a report assessing the potential for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction from shipping towards 2050, based on a new computational model.** <http://tinyurl.com/y8x97ubu>
- **At Nor-Shipping this week, China Merchants Industry Holding (CMIH) and DNV GL have signed a strategic cooperation agreement. With a focus on advancing shipbuilding in the gas carrier, offshore and special vessel segments, the agreement will see the companies working together to optimize construction processes and quality control, in order to develop vessels that meet the varying requirements of these markets.** <http://tinyurl.com/ybelf23t>
- **DNV GL and Samsung Heavy Industries Co., Ltd (SHI) signed a joint development project (JDP) agreement focused on the development of new designs for LNG carriers.** <http://tinyurl.com/yb7cd695>
- **The DNV GL-led joint industry project, WIN WIN (WInd powered Water INjection), has completed its first phase and determined that wind power could be used to power offshore water injection. The project is currently moving into its second phase, which includes refining and testing the electrical systems, and investigating possibilities for broader applications.** <http://tinyurl.com/l5w7whd>
- **DNV GL has launched its upgraded Smart Cable Guard 2.0, which is a data-driven online monitoring solution, that assists system operators to prevent power outages by locating weak spots and faults in cables within minutes to an accuracy of 1% of the cable circuit length.** <http://tinyurl.com/lloa7by>
- **The Danish Agency for Science & Higher Education has granted FORCE Technology funds to launch new drone activities. The two-year project will develop new drone-based solutions within environmental measurements and contact-based inspection.** <http://tinyurl.com/mnctpd3>
- **Eurofins and the US Pharmacopeia Convention (USP) are to combine expertise to assist the sector in combatting food fraud.** <http://tinyurl.com/m2ndys6>
- **Eurofins Food and Water Testing has unveiled plans to invest £1.5m in its Wolverhampton laboratory. The 10,763 sq ft extension will increase capacity at the company's i54 site. As part of the project, the ground floor food microbiology laboratories will be expanded while water hygiene testing will be expanded in a new first floor extension.** <http://tinyurl.com/kzfp944>
- **Reliance's Head of Metrology, David Torr, was part of a select group of delegates invited to meet with Lord Prior of Brampton, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State. Lord Prior launched the UK Measurement Strategy at the National Physical Laboratory's (NPL) North of England base in Huddersfield. As the UK's National Measurement Institute, NPL led the development of the strategy, which supports the Government's Industrial Strategy, with its national measurement laboratory partners.** <https://tinyurl.com/yb9axepp>
- **SGS has set up a new laboratory for insect/pest rearing and established a dedicated entomological group to serve the industry's need for insect inoculum, bioassay testing, and the collection and mass rearing of insects. The focus is on the testing of resistance against Genetically Modified (GM) crops as well as on crop protection products.** <http://tinyurl.com/lffuvs>
- **SGS has officially opened its new 68,000 sq. ft. laboratory in Brookings, South Dakota.** <http://tinyurl.com/n8gqoeq>
- **SGS has increased its capabilities to undertake extractables and leachables (E&L) testing at its Shanghai, China, laboratory.** <http://tinyurl.com/yaudzh25>
- **SGS has announced the opening of a sample preparation facility in Lagos, Nigeria, strategically located to service the growing needs of the exploration and mining industry in Nigeria. The Lagos Sample Preparation facility will process exploration samples from Nigeria and ship the prepared pulps to SGS's existing commercial laboratory in Tarkwa, Ghana for geochemical analysis.** <http://tinyurl.com/ybfaloex>
- **SGS has announced the opening of a new vehicle inspection station in Nabbingo, Uganda, the second of seven-fixed vehicle inspection test stations being constructed around the country. The facility is located on Masaka road about 19 kilometers from the capital city, to the southwest of Kampala. Light vehicles, such as private cars, minivans and motorcycles, will be inspected there.** <http://tinyurl.com/y7vrqqtq>
- **SGS has launched its Zero Discharge Holistic Solution, using an assertive approach supported by a diverse range of technical solutions to assist textile and footwear brands and retailers to move a step closer to their zero-discharge goal.** <http://tinyurl.com/y8hzbqj>
- **SZU was approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) both as an EPA-approved Test Lab and as an EPA-approved**
- **Hikvision and SGS signed memorandum agreement for joint laboratory collaboration. The memorandum will pave the way for joint efforts in testing, inspection, verification, and certification of**

Business news

Hikvision products. It will also see the two companies cooperating strategically in various areas, including: mutual technology exchange, training, information sharing and platform establishment. <http://tinyurl.com/yahap3ka>

- TÜV SÜD and the Argentine Institute of Standards and Certification (IRAM) have validated a memorandum of understanding (MoU). This agreement paves the way for mutual recognition of certificates and tests by IRAM and TÜV SÜD's subsidiaries, Munich-based TÜV SÜD Product Service GmbH and TÜV SÜD PSB PTE. Ltd. in Singapore. <http://tinyurl.com/lo3agto>
- TÜV SÜD has expanded its lab in North Carolina to include full EMC testing capabilities. <http://tinyurl.com/yddebok>
- TÜV Rheinland announced that it is now offering chemical analysis of beer for craft brewers, in order to remain compliant with new FDA and Beer Institute guidelines. <http://tinyurl.com/ybwnr62q>
- TÜV Rheinland announced that it now offers information security testing for the automotive industry. Based on the Trusted Information Security Assessment Exchange (TISAX), the company can now verify that manufacturers and service providers within the automotive supply chain meet the VDA ISA information security standard. <http://tinyurl.com/ybuyplep>
- The Carbon Trust has been officially accredited by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) for delivering certification to ISO 50001, the international standard for energy management systems. <https://tinyurl.com/yd4tp27f>
- UL announced a new Plastics for Additive Manufacturing Program (Blue Card Program). Specifically targeting materials for 3D printing, this new program serves as an extension of UL's existing Plastics Recognition Program (Yellow Card Program). <http://tinyurl.com/k22dk6x>
- UL announces that its wire and cable laboratory, PT UL International Indonesia, located in North Jakarta is officially opened. <http://tinyurl.com/lj4hux4>
- UL and Relux Informatik AG, a company focused on the development, production and marketing of lighting planning and product presentation software, announced the signing of their agreement, based on the launch of the new UL marketing claim Verification program. It which verifies photometric data against ISO/EN 13032 or LM 79- that for the first time enables lighting manufacturers to have third-party verification of their declared photometric data of their lighting products and share this information using Relux's transparent, easy-to-use database. <http://tinyurl.com/kh6y955>
- UL is expanding its service offerings further into the Building Envelope and Building Sciences market with the acquisition of CLEB, the Canadian Building Science and Building Envelope service provider. CLEB provides a wide range of building science services, including building envelope testing services, building forensic services, and field testing and building system commissioning services for architects, building owners, manufacturers and others in the building construction markets across North America. <http://tinyurl.com/y7l3k2vb>
- UL has received a grant from the U.S. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) for cybersecurity testing of Internet of Things (IoT) gateways for industrial control system (ICS) applications to help mitigate security risks. <http://tinyurl.com/yeh9ecr4>

Business Results 2016

Bureau Veritas

- Revenue of €1.14 billion in the first quarter (Q1) 2017, +7.4% vs. Q1 2016
- Organic growth at +1.9%
- External growth of +3.5%: Three acquisitions closed year to date supporting the Building & Infrastructure/ Agri-Food SmartWorld Growth Initiatives <http://tinyurl.com/mcag3www>

Policy news

Chemicals

- MPs have called on the UK government to provide certainty to the chemical industry over the future of its regulation urgently as the country negotiates Brexit terms. <http://tinyurl.com/mcaulze>
- The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission reached a political agreement on the WiFi4EU initiative and its funding which supports installing free public Wi-Fi hotspots in local communities across the EU: in public squares, piazzas, parks, hospitals and other public spaces. <http://tinyurl.com/y8mp7v8q>
- The EU Agency for Network and Information security – ENISA – together with industry recently reached a common position on cybersecurity, that reflects the concerns of industry and provides a set of suggestions for policy makers. The paper focuses on four main areas actively debated at the EU level: standardisation and certification, security processes and services, security requirements and implementation, and the economic dimensions. <http://tinyurl.com/y9ln85tx>
- The European Commission has published mid-term review of the 2015 Digital Single Market strategy: <http://tinyurl.com/ycl95mag>

Consumer Protection

- The Council Directive amending, for the purpose of adapting to technical progress, Annex II to Directive 2009/48/EC on the safety of toys as regards lead was published in the Official Journal of the EU on 27 April 2017. The Directive will enter into force 20 days following its publication, namely on 17 May 2017.
- The European Commission released a report called “DigCompConsumers: The Digital Competence”, in order to define the competence consumers need to function actively, safely and assertively in the digital marketplace. <http://tinyurl.com/lo6yvvue>
- The European Commission and EU consumer protection authorities launched a coordinated EU-wide screening of price comparison and travel booking websites. The consumer protection authorities of 28 countries (26 EU countries, Norway and Iceland) checked a total of 352 websites comparing offers and prices, mainly in the travel sector. <http://tinyurl.com/mxgw8po>

Energy & Environment

- European Commissioner for Energy and Climate Action Miguel Arias Cañete was in Rome from 9-10 April to represent the European Union at the G7 Energy Ministerial. This meeting focused on energy security, including cybersecurity, natural gas and Ukraine; and on the new energy drivers such as renewables energy, sustainable alternatives fuels, energy efficiency and innovation in clean technologies. <http://tinyurl.com/lqc5yv9>
- European Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel Arias Cañete met Algerian Minister for Energy Nouredine Boutarfa in Brussels. They discussed the strategic energy partnership between the EU and Algeria. <http://tinyurl.com/m5lxuwH>
- The European Commission has published a Re-port on EU energy efficiency requirements for products generate financial and energy savings. A newly updated report shows how the EU's codesign and energy labelling requirements for products are saving consumers both energy and money. It tracks the progress of an ongoing study of the impact of these requirements. <http://tinyurl.com/lvb2nkj>
- The Latvian gas market has been opened to competition: instead of one single supplier, consumers in Latvia will be able to choose between several possible suppliers. This is part of a wider effort to develop diversified and secure gas markets in the Baltic countries integrated with the gas infrastructure and markets of other EU countries, and with reduced dependence on energy sources from Russia. <http://tinyurl.com/ld3y3qs>
- The European Commission published a new study on potential of biogas as source of clean energy. The study examines the use of biogas – gas produced from organic waste – as an energy source in Europe, and shows that it has not yet reached its full potential. As the EU works towards its ambitious energy and climate targets for 2020 and 2030, biogas can be a flexible and sustainable alternative source of energy, which supports energy security and greenhouse gas emission reduction in electricity, heating and transport. However, in some EU countries the absence of policies promoting biogas means that currently its full potential is not being used. <http://tinyurl.com/k2peve5>
- The EU and Vietnam conclude negotiations on a Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT). The agreement will help improve forest governance, address illegal logging and promote trade in verified legal timber products from Vietnam to the EU, and other markets. <http://tinyurl.com/yc2l4pq5>
- The European Commission is moving to end the export of old raw ivory as of 1 July, with the adoption of new guidance on the EU rules governing ivory trade. The decision, foreseen in the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking, will help to prevent that legal ivory trade fuels international ivory trafficking, which has risen significantly over the last decade. <http://tinyurl.com/y8ftuwjq>
- The European Commission is taking Italy to the Court of Justice of the EU for its failure to rehabilitate or

close down 44 landfills, which represent a serious risk for human health and the environment. Despite earlier warnings from the Commission, Italy has failed to take measures to rehabilitate or close down 44 non-compliant landfills, as required by article 14 of the Landfill Directive (Council Directive 1999/31/EC). <http://tinyurl.com/y8bvvg9b>

- **The European Commission and the European Investment Bank (EIB) have signed a new delegation agreement reinforcing the ELENA (European Local Energy Assistance) facility.** ELENA provides grant funding to support the preparation of large-scale investment programmes in the area of energy efficiency, distributed renewables, and sustainable urban transport. <http://tinyurl.com/k8ddx54>
- **New statistics published by Eurostat show that CO2 emissions from burning fossil fuels decreased in 2016, compared with the previous year.** Eurostat estimates that in 2016 carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions from fossil fuel combustion decreased by 0.4% in the EU, compared with the previous year. CO2 emissions are a major contributor to global warming and account for around 80% of all EU greenhouse gas emissions. They are influenced by factors such as climate conditions, economic growth, size of the population, transport and industrial activities. <http://tinyurl.com/mpnz4iq>
- **The European Commission, together with 14 EU countries (Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain, and Sweden) have signed a political declaration to launch the new 'Clean Energy for EU Islands' initiative.** Aimed at accelerating the clean energy transition on Europe's

more than 2700 islands, this initiative will help islands reduce their dependency on energy imports by making better use of their own renewable energy sources and embracing more modern and innovative energy systems. <http://tinyurl.com/y9ju3y6r>

Energy policy-makers from the EU and Japan met in Brussels to discuss topics that include electricity market design, renewable energy and energy efficiency policy, and energy research and innovation. They also focused on the global liquid natural gas (LNG) market, in preparation for a bilateral Memorandum of Cooperation to promote the liquidity, flexibility and transparency of this market. <http://tinyurl.com/y8uz8bkx>

The European Commission has adopted a communication presenting the revised schedule and budget estimates for European participation in the ITER project. This international project aims to build in Europe a key facility for testing the possibility of generating sustainable energy from fusion. <http://tinyurl.com/y6ujyomp>

The latest meeting of the EU-China Energy Dialogue took place in Brussels. It was co-chaired by Miguel Arias Cañete, European Commissioner for Energy and Climate Action, and Nur Bekri, Vice Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission and Administrator of the National Energy Administration of China, who signed the [2017-2018 Work Plan](#) to implement the EU-China Roadmap on Energy Cooperation. Both China and the EU are highly dependent on imports of fossil energy sources and respectively represent approximately 22 and 12.5 % of global energy consumption. They are faced with many similar challenges in the pursuit of energy security and cleaner energy. <http://tinyurl.com/y77o5938>

Food

- **On Wednesday, April 19 the Italian government introduced the obligation to indicate the country of origin on the labels of all the packages of milk and dairy products.** The labels must indicate the name of the country in which the milk was milked and the time that was conditioned or transformed. <http://tinyurl.com/n44hzq3>
- **New data out of the European Union (EU) shows that food consumed in that region is still mostly pesticide-free.** A monitoring report published by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has found that foods tested primarily contain pesticide residues that fall within the region's legal limits more than 97 percent of them, to be exact. Over half (53 percent) were completely free of quantifiable pesticide residues. These figures are from samples collected across the EU in 2015. <http://tinyurl.com/mdtyu6q>
- **Comments, that began on April 4, 2017 and continue to June 27, 2017, are being taken by the Food Standards Agency for Northern Ireland about enforcement of novel foods by food businesses.** The agency says its aim is to ensure effective, consistent and proportionate enforcement of the new novel foods regulations, known as (EU) 2015/2283. <http://tinyurl.com/m7lyd7o>
- **Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products ('Official Controls Regulation') entered into force on 27 April 2017. It was published in the Official Journal on 7 April 2017.**

Members of the EP's environment committee proposed several measures to help reduce the estimated 88 million tonnes of food that goes to waste in the EU each year. Deputies called on EU countries to achieve food waste cuts by 30 per cent by 2025 and 50 per cent by 2030. Croatian Socialist MEP Biljana Borzan, who is drafting a report on the issue of food waste for Parliament, said her report will call for a coordinated policy on labelling, liability and education, because "most consumers do not understand the precise meaning of 'best before' and 'use by' labelling." <http://tinyurl.com/m3g4uso>

A new system of electronic certification to better monitor imports of organic products became applicable on 19 April 2017, making the EU a global leader in traceability and in the collection of reliable data on trade of these products. This pioneering e-certification system will contribute to enhancing food safety provisions and reducing potential fraud. It will also reduce the administrative burden for operators and authorities, and provide much more comprehensive statistical data on organic imports. <http://tinyurl.com/knwcveb>

The European Union and Chile have signed their agreement on trade in organic products reached last year. The agreement means that the EU and Chile will mutually recognise the equivalence of their organic production rules and control systems, allowing all organic products produced and controlled according to EU rules to be directly placed on the Chilean market, and vice-versa. The organic logos currently used by the EU and Chile for their products will also be protected as part of the deal. <http://tinyurl.com/y77o5938>

- tinyurl.com/k9fs9gu
- **EFSA has published its Annual Activity Report, presenting the results of its work carried out in 2016.** From providing scientific risk assessments to implementing new methodologies and developing guidance documents, EFSA has addressed a wide range of issues in the field of food safety. The year 2016 also brought many changes and new aspects to EFSA's work. EFSA Strategy 2020: "Trusted science for safe food". <http://tinyurl.com/mpqh6m9>
 - **EFSA is inviting its registered stakeholders to join two ad-hoc discussion groups that will assist in the development of draft guidance documents on the assessment of feed additives.** The initiative is part of EFSA's Stakeholder Engagement Approach, under which discussion groups act as "learning systems" that allow EFSA to capitalise on stakeholders' specialist knowledge in specific areas. They are consultative bodies. <http://tinyurl.com/ks2fu9n>
 - **The ENVI committee held the annual exchange of views with the Executive Director of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Dr. Bernhard Url.** This exchange of views gave Members an opportunity to discuss the main issues that EFSA worked on in 2016 (Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2016) and the Programming Document 2017-2019 (including the Multi-annual Programming 2017-2020 and the Work Programme 2017). <http://tinyurl.com/c8miphx6>
 - **Thermo Fisher Scientific joins the INTELLI-trace Work Package (WP) 18, part of the European Food Integrity Project aimed at developing a validation of untargeted methods to assure the quality, authenticity and safety of the food chain.** <https://tinyurl.com/kqgnpzi>
 - **On the occasion of the European Business Summit, as part of a panel on "Sustainable Living: Foresights for 2050", FoodDrinkEurope launched a Call for Action to help improve diets and promote good nutrition and health.** In so doing, the organisation of Europe's food and drink industry calls upon all interested parties and stakeholders to join forces and look ahead to tackle today's societal challenges related to nutrition and health. <https://tinyurl.com/m7gszt7>
 - **Irish and international food group Dawn Meats has agreed a strategic partnership with Dunbia, the Northern Ireland-based meat processor, to establish a majority owned joint venture in the United Kingdom comprising the UK operations of both organisations.** Dawn Meats will separately acquire Dunbia's operations in the Republic of Ireland. The deal is subject to approval by the relevant competition authorities. <https://tinyurl.com/kco2t8w>
 - **Nestlé has inaugurated its new SF145 million (€132 million) Al-Maha factory in Dubai, which produces Nescafé coffee and Maggi cooking aids for the local and regional market.** Now operating at full capacity, the site employs 340 people from 20 countries. 60% of the team are under 30 years of age. The environmental performance of the factory will contribute to Nestlé's 2030 ambition to strive for zero impact in our operations. The plant recycles 100 percent of waste from products and raw materials, reaching zero waste to landfill in that area and helping fulfil the company's commitment to send zero waste for disposal by 2020. <https://tinyurl.com/kb4l8fg>
 - **MEPs advocate efforts to halve by 2030 food waste in the EU, by lifting existing restrictions on food donations and eliminating confusion about "best before" and "use by" labels.** <http://tinyurl.com/yaa4ng3t>
 - **The Commission adopted a delegated act specifying the conditions under which the name of the teran wine grape variety may appear on wine labels of the Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) Hrvatska Istra, a Croatian wine, allowing its producers to use the name teran in the labelling of their wines under specific conditions.** <http://tinyurl.com/yae7gckg>
 - **EFSA scientists have devised a way to more accurately estimate consumer exposure to enzymes used in food production, improving their safety evaluation as required by EU law.** <http://tinyurl.com/y84exmzt>
 - **The EU Food Fraud Network and the System for Administrative Assistance & Food Fraud published its Annual Report 2016:** <http://tinyurl.com/ybfsnrwn>
 - **EFSA has published supplementary guidance on allergenicity to further strengthen risk assessment of genetically modified (GM) plants.** The document considers new scientific and regulatory developments, complementing recommendations in existing guidance and regulations. <https://tinyurl.com/yauchtch>
 - **EFSA confirms safe levels for nitrites and nitrates added to food.** Existing safe levels for nitrites and nitrates intentionally added to meat and other foods are sufficiently protective for consumers, EFSA has concluded after re-evaluating their safety. Consumer exposure to nitrites and nitrates as food additives is within safe levels for all population groups, except for a slight exceedance in children whose diet is high in foods containing these additives. However, if all dietary sources of nitrites and nitrates are considered, the safe levels (ADIs) may be exceeded for all age groups. <https://tinyurl.com/ya5sgseq>
 - **EFSA has launched a new support initiative for applicants from small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).** In the next six months, SMEs in the areas of feed additives and novel foods (excluding traditional food) can request an administrative check of their draft dossiers prior to submission. The support will be provided via teleconferences. <https://tinyurl.com/y8jgyh8q>
 - **More independence for the European Food Safety Authority.** The European Food Safety Authority the agency has adopted a new, robust and well-balanced independence policy that includes several new measures to further strengthen the Authority's impartiality and protection against improper influence. The new policy will be implemented by the end of 2017 so that the new rules can be used in the renewal process for our scientific panels, which begin new terms in 2018. <https://tinyurl.com/y9ntqpey>
 - **New EFSA enzyme tool paves way for deeper safety evaluations.** The European Food and Safety Authority (EFSA) have revealed a new approach to assessing consumer exposure to food enzymes, tightening up their safety profile in line with current EU law. <https://tinyurl.com/y7sm7bjy>

International Free Trade Agreements

- **The 18th round of negotiations between the EU and Japan took place in Tokyo on 3-5 April 2017.** Work progressed in a constructive atmosphere, with both sides working with a renewed sense of urgency in order to respect the objective set by the leaders to conclude as soon as possible in 2017. All issues to be covered by the agreement were discussed, including the market access for goods and services. <http://tinyurl.com/kmd2le3>
- **The third round of EU-Mexico talks for a modernised trade agreement were held in Brussels.** The aim of the round was to put on the table proposals covering all negotiating areas and start to merge texts coming from both sides. The [EU proposals presented so far](http://tinyurl.com/n2m5zpx) covered rules of origin, public procurement, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, energy and raw materials, intellectual property rights and trade by small and medium-sized businesses. <http://tinyurl.com/n2m5zpx>
- **The Commission published a report summarising the progress made during the latest round of negotiations for a trade agreement between the EU and Mercosur (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay) which took place in Buenos Aires during the week of 20 March.** <http://tinyurl.com/m657qp4>
- **The European Commission has decided to impose definitive anti-subsidy measures on imports from China of certain hot-rolled flat steel products (HRF).** <https://tinyurl.com/yast4fho>
- **The European Commission has proposed texts for the trade deal with Indonesia.** The text submitted so far are available on the Commission's [website](http://tinyurl.com/yast4fho). These texts only constitute the European Union's initial proposals for legal texts on topics in the EU-Indonesia trade agreement. The EU aims at concluding an agreement similar in coverage to what the EU achieved in its trade agreements with Singapore in 2014 and Vietnam in 2015.
- **The European Commission has announced that the EU would remove a significant part of the remaining import duties on Sri Lankan products as from 19 May.** This will be in exchange for the country's commitment to effectively implement 27 international conventions that it has ratified on human rights, labour conditions, protection of the environment and good governance. <https://tinyurl.com/ycnqlwkp>
- **The European Court of Justice has issued its much-awaited opinion on the EU-Singapore Free Trade Agreement.** By unequivocally spelling out which exclusive external competences the EU enjoys and which external competences are shared with the Member States, the Court of Justice has cleared an issue which had clouded EU trade policy for a long time. Trade MEPs have also debated the implications of this sweeping ruling. <https://tinyurl.com/y9d87pq7>
- Robert Lighthizer was sworn in as the 18th **United States Trade Representative (USTR)** just after he had been confirmed by the US Senate with 82 votes in favour and 14 against. The Office of the USTR is in charge of developing U.S. trade policy and supervising negotiations with third countries.
- The General Court of the European Court of Justice **has annulled the Commission decision** refusing the registration of the proposed European citizens' initiative 'Stop TTIP'.

Public Consultations and Call for Tenders

- **The European Commission launches public consultation on Database Directive.** Deadline: 30 August 2017. <http://tinyurl.com/y8cmq3ea>
- The European Commission has launched a **stakeholder consultation** for the evaluation of EU legislation on blood, tissues and cells. Deadline: 31 August 2017
- The European Commission has launched a **public consultation** on the evaluation of the TEN-E regulation. Deadline: 4 September 2017
- **EFSA has launched a public consultation on its draft guidance on the assessment of the safety of feed additives for the consumer.** Deadline: 21 July 2017. <https://tinyurl.com/ybhffgc9>
- **EFSA's Panel on Additives and Products or Substances used in Animal Feed (FEEDAP) has launched an open consultation on a draft guidance on the assessment of the safety of feed additives for the consumer.** This document proposes guidance to applicants for the preparation and the presentation of an application for authorisation of a feed additive. Deadline: 21 July 2017. <http://tinyurl.com/ybexs3of>
- **EFSA has opened a public consultation on its scientific opinion looking at the use of epidemiological studies in risk assessment of pesticides.** Deadline: 28 July 2017. <https://tinyurl.com/y9r6pwbh>
- **EFSA has launched a public consultation on its draft guidance document on the characterisation of microorganisms used as feed additives or as production organisms.** Deadline: 15 September 2017. <https://tinyurl.com/ybpg7ba5>

Álvaro Silva Ribeiro participated at the IAF-ILAC Mid-Term Meetings 2017, which took place from 1st to 4th April 2017, in Frankfurt.

IC (Inspection Committee) Meetings

Convenor – A. Lund (WG 3 - Lutz Höhne)

The following topics were discussed:

- “Guideline for the Accreditation for Non-Destructive Testing” as guidance paper not mandatory paper.
- Use of BIPM VIM for the definitions.
- Introduction of a scheme to show the type of definitions related to calibration, function check and other types of process to assure the quality of measurement.
- Include note in the guide for safety related to transport of radioactive materials, to be included in item 12 (handle of items and components).
- ILAC Guidance on Measurements Performed by part of an Inspection Process - Ballot (66 yes / 3 no – 96% in favour).

LC (Laboratory Committee) Meetings

Convenor – S. Sidney

The following topics were discussed:

- LC White Paper on Accreditation Harmonisation
Discussion of the content of the international survey and final approval. The results will support the white paper to be developed in order to be presented to ILAC BoA during the October IAF-ILAC meetings (2017).
- Transition of ILAC AB's to ISO17011:2017
 - ⇒ Self-Declaration' and LC as Assessment Observers in ILAC peer reviews
 - ⇒ Criteria for changing through “self-declaration”. Members voted against “self-declaration” without supporting evidence. Some form of peer review was suggested (JG) and a Policy and procedure was recommended (GH). Proposal of Internal review of evidence with a “light” external assessment, not full assessment. A document related to transition should be developed.

ILP Program 2017 - 2018 Call for participants Global Proficiency Testing

The UILI ILP committee has launched the final call to participate in the UILI Interlaboratory Practice Program, a global comparative study of laboratory analysis.

Challenge your lab in a true global laboratory comparative study

Our 2017 and 2018 Interlaboratory Practice Program will focus on 8 different materials. The methods of testing for each lab are free.

Final call for participants

Register before July 15th 2017. As of today 117 laboratories did already register for our 14th UILI ILP. To give more laboratories the possibility to participate in our true global inter laboratory comparison the ILP committee has decided to extend the possibility to sign up for the 15th, 16th and 17th UILI ILP. See the attachment for more information about the Interlaboratory Practice or [download ILP Program 2017-2018](#). You can subscribe on the Interlaboratory Practice by fill in this form or e-mail to secretariat@uili.org or [subscribe online](#). For each scheme a detailed instruction sheet will become available.

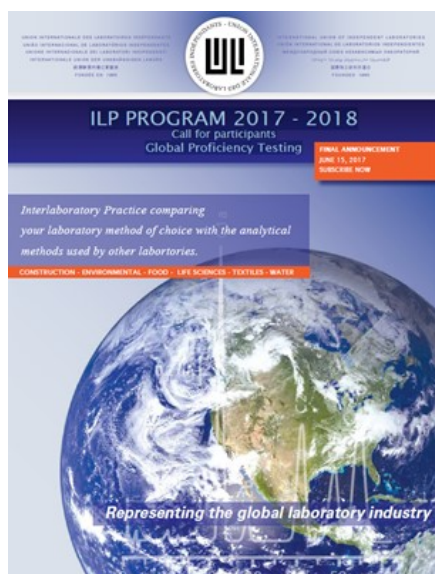
Global proficiency testing schemes

The UILI ILP for 2017 comprises the following four programs:

- 14th UILI ILP 2017: Phosphate, Silicate and Nitrate in water. (Download [Instruction Sheet](#))
- 15th UILI ILP 2017: pH, Density, Alcoholic Strength, Total Acidity and Total Sugars in wine. (Download [Instruction Sheet](#))
- 16th UILI ILP 2017: Dimensional Stability during laundering and domestic drying, Force by Traction and lengthening at rupture point, Abrasion Resistance – Martindale in textiles. (Download [Instruction Sheet](#))
- 17th UILI ILP 2017: Conductivity, Sedimentable solids, Solid soluble sulfides, COD, BOD, Hydrocarbons, Coliforms, Detergents, Phenolics and Metals in river water. (Download [Instruction Sheet](#))

The UILI ILP for 2018 comprises the following four programs:

- 18th UILI ILP 2016: Cations and anions in natural water. (Download [Instruction Sheet](#))
- 19th UILI ILP 2016: Bituminous mixture and bitumen. (Download [Instruction Sheet](#))
- 20th UILI ILP 2016: Waxes, Free Acidity, Peroxide Value, UV Spectrophotometric Test, Fatty Acid Methyl Esters and Stigmastadienes in virgin olive oil. (Download [Instruction Sheet](#))
- 21th UILI ILP 2016: Total energetic value (calories), Carbohydrates, Proteins, Total fat, Saturated fat, Trans fat, Dietary fiber, Ash, Total volatile loss by drying at 105°C, Iron, Sodium, Calcium, Phosphorus in corn flour. (Download [Instruction Sheet](#))



Upcoming EUROLAB Events

- **EUROLAB Board Meeting**, in Brussels, 25 September 2017
- **JTC PTC**, in Paris, 4 - 5 November 2017
- **TCQA Meeting**, in Paris, 16 November 2017
- **EUROLAB Board meeting**, in Paris, 17 November 2017
- **EUROLAB National Members' Meeting**, in Paris, 16 - 17 November 2017
- **EUROLAB General Assembly and Annual Meetings**, in Varna, 19 - 20 April 2018

International Events

Course on "Use of reference materials and the estimation of measurement uncertainty"

The European Commission's science and knowledge service will hold an instance of the course "[Use of reference materials and the estimation of measurement uncertainty](#)" on 11 - 12 October 2017. During 1 ½ days participants will learn the basics of estimating measurement uncertainties and the use of reference materials and will apply their new knowledge to exercises done in small groups.

The course provides participants with the theoretical basis for the estimation of measurement uncertainty and establishment of traceability. The course is intended for laboratory managers and practitioners in analytical laboratories who use reference materials for statistical quality control, method validation and calibration and need to assess measurement uncertainties on customer's demand or as requirement of ISO 17025.



A Master Class For those who train staff from accredited laboratories - Cost-effective and efficient approaches

The International Master Class for those who train staff from accredited laboratories, will take place on 24-26 September in Lisbon. This Master Class is jointly organised by European Centre for Laboratory Excellence, Croatian Metrology Society and Portuguese Society of Chemistry. The primary aim of this Master Class is:

- Keeping trainers' technical knowledge updated, as well as pedagogic expertise and competence;
- Enhancing their training effectiveness and efficiency;
- Establishing a long-term community of practice.

For further information, the leaflet of the event can be downloaded [here](#).

International Events

Croatian Food Safety and Quality Congress - New Achievements and Future Challenges

The first Croatian Food Safety and Quality Congress with international participation – 'New Achievements and Future Challenges', will take place on 21-24 November 2017, in Opatija, Croatia, at Grand Hotel 4 Opatijska Cvijeta.

Congress Program covers topics in the following areas: safety and quality of food, with an emphasis on the effects on human health; contaminants in food and new trends in the analysis of contaminants; protection of originality and geographical origin of products; organic production; labeling and product identification; environmental influences on food safety and quality; assessment and risk management; problems related to adulteration of food and its detection; latest analytical possibilities and methods in the identification and quantification of biological, chemical and physical hazards in food; examples of good manufacturing practice; security measures and quality management in the production and distribution chain; infrastructure components of quality – accreditation and certification.

Conference topics are intended for professionals of different profiles: medical doctors, nutritionists, laboratory analysts, chemists, agronomists, veterinarians, biochemists and pharmacists, and accreditation and certification bodies, the relevant regulatory and supervisory authorities, as well as manufacturers and distributors of food products and consumer associations.

Participants may register online at: www.foodsq-congress.eu.

For further information, please access the event [announcement](#).

REGISTRATION
Participants may register for participation online at: www.foodsq-congress.eu

REGISTRATION FEES

	Participant	Sponsor (abstract)
Early September 15, 2017	€ 800,00	€ 800,00
Until September 15, 2017	€ 800,00	€ 1100,00

FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY CONGRESS
with international participation
New Achievements and Future Challenges
November 21-24, 2017 | Opatija, Croatia

DEADLINES
Abstract submission deadline: September 1, 2017
Abstract acceptance deadline: September 15, 2017
Early registration fee deadline: September 15, 2017
Accommodation booking deadline: October 20, 2017

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM INFORMATION:
20 Academic Sessions | Teaching Institutes of Public Health
Dr. sc. Adela Knežević, dipl. ing.
T +385 1 4886 241
E-mail: adela.knezevic@tempar.hr
prof. dr. sc. Jozsef Balazs, dipl. ino. ing.
T +385 1 4886 228
E-mail: jozsef.balazs@tempar.hr

TECHNICAL ORGANIZER
Studio Ring Ltd.
Hrvatska, Osijek, Jugoslavina 4, HR-10000 Zagreb
T +385 1 6182 145, F +385 1 6181 452
Registration fee: www.studioring.hr

www.foodsq-congress.eu



2017 International Summer School on Analytical Sciences, Metrology and Accreditation

The 2017 International Summer School on Analytical Sciences, Metrology and Accreditation will take place on 9-22 July 2017 in Druskininkai, Lithuania.

The school was initiated in 2008 by the European Commission Joint Research Centre, in view of the importance of quality assured analytical measurement data for many European policies.

Typically some 40 people come together for a two week intensive school to learn about how to obtain quality in chemical or bio-analytical measurements by understanding and practicing how to apply the international standard (ISO/IEC-17025) and of the role of metrology and accreditation.

If interested, please send a motivation letter and a CV to mscsummerschool@gmail.com

For further information, please access the [leaflet](#).



International Events

18th International Metrology Congress 2017

The 18th International Metrology Congress will take place on 19-21 September 2017 in Paris. The conference will present the technologies in measurement, explore industrial challenges and the latest innovations through a diversified conference programme, round tables sessions, technical site visits, demonstrations, and an exhibition showcasing innovations.

Some key topics at the conference will be: dynamic measures, data metrology, new ISO 17025, pharmaceutical industry, smart grids, sources and energy consumption.

For further information please visit the website: <http://www.cim2017.com/index-en.html>



- **11th annual International Law Enforcement IP Crime Conference** which will be co-hosted by INTERPOL and the U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE), National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center (IPR Center), in partnership with UL (Underwriters Laboratories) and the International Anti-Counterfeiting Coalition (IACC) in New York, 28-30 August 2017
- **XXI World Congress on Safety and Health at Work 2017** in Singapore, 03-06 September 2017
- **6th World Congress of Clinical Safety 2017** in Rome, 6-8 September 2017
- **The 14th International conference "Application of Contemporary Non-destructive Testing in Engineering"** in St. Bernardin/Portož, Slovenia, 04-06 September 2017
- **4th European Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion 2017** in Amsterdam, 21-22 September 2017
- **WOS2017 - 9th International Conference on the Prevention of Accidents at Work** in Prague, 03-06 October 2017
- **The 6th International Proficiency Testing Conference** in Cluj-Napoca, 04-06 October 2017
- **Joint IAF-ILAC Annual Meetings** in Vancouver, 21-30 October 2017
- **FOSFA Annual Dinner** in Antwerp, 31 October 2017
- **International Petroleum Week** in London, 21-23 February 2018