

# EUROLAB NEWSBRIEFING

July - September 2014

## Foreword

Dear EUROLAB Members,

Please find below the third EUROLAB Newsbriefing for this year informing you about EUROLAB achievements so far and plans for the rest of 2014.



### Inside this issue:

Focus of the Month	2-3
National Members' News	4-5
Accreditation & Standardization	6
Business News	7-8
Policy News	9-10
Personal Developments	11
Reports	11-15
Upcoming Events	16

### 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](mailto:info@eurolab.org)

In April, the EUROLAB General Assembly approved key changes in the EUROLAB Statutes which allow for more open membership whilst still focussing on European issues. More changes are being prepared for an extraordinary GA which will take place along with the National Members meeting in Lisbon on 7th October 2014.

During the holiday period we were preparing reports needed for top meetings of ISO CASCO, ILAC and EA which are planned for autumn period. ILAC received EUROLAB's position on document G17 which should set the general policy on expression of measurement uncertainty in laboratories. In fact there is a quite wide range of opinions in this world organisation starting from minimalistic requirements to technically sound solutions which are being suggested from Europe. The issue will be discussed in coming ILAC meetings.

EUROLAB took also active part in a specialised two days seminar for assessors of TURKAK (Turkish accreditation body) working in the field of European regulation 305/2011/EU for construction products and a one day top level seminar for Turkish Government officials on protection of consumers and product safety. EUROLAB received first (not very encouraging) experiences with the implementation of ILAC P10 document on calibration traceability (use of accredited calibration services including handling internal calibrations in laboratory) and prepared a document for EA Laboratory Committee and ILAC LC.

It is to be emphasised that EUROLAB is still expecting more information from you and your practical experiences with implementation of P10.

Although EUROLAB has not supported the revision of ISO/IEC 17025, this revision is apparently going to happen. Therefore you received a questionnaire to collect your opinions and suggestions. This is to express my personal thanks to all who sacrificed their time and shared their best experiences with EUROLAB. Your responses were processed and the EUROLAB position is prepared for external presentation. Since the revision of ISO/IEC 17025 will be a long lasting process you will be receiving regular updates on this issue and reports from our representatives who will take part in relevant meetings.

Our objective is to be involved in this revision at the highest possible level as ISO/IEC 17025 is firstly a standard for laboratories on how they should operate and secondly a technical specification for accreditation bodies. We still count on and very much appreciate your active participation in this exercise.

Our secretariat and Communication Committee are busy with preparations of publications for the coming 25th anniversary of establishing of EUROLAB. All past presidents were contacted to share their memories and experiences from their era and prepare for you a lively overview of EUROLAB history. We would also very much appreciate more contributions especially from those who took an active part in EUROLAB Board and committees.

As time is running on, please note that the EUROLAB – IFIA – CEOC Safety Seminar will take place as last year in the Renaissance Palace in Brussels on 5th November. We will focus on expectations of our customers and on the comparison of conformity assessment systems between EU and US mainly in relation with the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) which is being discussed in EC circles.

We are all looking forward to learning from you as much as possible in order to serve you better.

Yours faithfully

Jiří Sobola  
President EUROLAB



## 2014 - A year of changes in the Institutional Triangle

Jean-Claude Juncker, the European Commission President-elect has announced the new 27 Commissioners and the distribution of their portfolios. The new College will have a different structure with seven Vice-Presidents. Each of them will lead a project team of Commissioners and will steer and coordinate their work.

The portfolios of our interest are:



**Health & Food Safety — Vytenis Andriukaitis (LT)**

**topics:** EU's capacity to deal with crisis situations in food safety or pandemics.



**Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs — Elżbieta Bieńkowska (PL)**

**topics:** completing the internal market for goods and services, extending the principle of mutual recognition; raising the profile and importance of industry in the economy — from less than 16% today towards an aspirational 20% of EU GDP by 2020.



**Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality — Věra Jourová (CZ);**

**topics:** human rights; gender equality; consumer rights; data protection; assessment of the performance of judicial systems; independent European Public Prosecutor's Office in place by 2016.



**Research, Science & Innovation — Carlos Moedas (PT)**

**Topics:** improving research infrastructure and making better use of research results; developing new activities and boosting the productivity and competitiveness of the economy.

You can find the new structure by following the link: [http://ec.europa.eu/about/juncker-commission/structure/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/about/juncker-commission/structure/index_en.htm)

The European Parliament (EP) has to approve the Commissioners-designate. During the hearings starting on 29th September, the candidates have to demonstrate that they are apt for the position they have been appointed to. If confirmed by the EP's plenary vote in October, the European Commission will take office on 1st November 2014.

The key Commissioners-designate for our sector will be interviewed during the hearings in the following EP Committees:

- **Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) — Vytenis Andriukaitis on 30 September**  
**ENVI Chair:** Giovanni La Via (EPP, IT).
- **Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) & Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) — Elżbieta Bieńkowska on 2 October**  
**IMCO Chair:** Vicky Ford (ECR, UK); **ITRE Chair:** Jerzy Buzek (EPP, PL).
- **IMCO & Legal Affairs (JURI) & Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) & Women's Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM) — Věra Jourová on 1 October**  
**JURI Chair:** Pavel Svoboda (EPP, CZ); **LIBE Chair:** Claude Moraes (S&D, UK); **FEMM Chair:** Iratxe García Pérez (S&D, ES).
- **ITRE — Carlos Moedas on 30 September.**

You can find an overview of the hearings of Commissioners-designate by following the link: [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/EPRS/Commissioner\\_hearings/EPRS-Overview-of-Hearings-of-Commissioners-designate.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/EPRS/Commissioner_hearings/EPRS-Overview-of-Hearings-of-Commissioners-designate.pdf)

## The Italian Presidency of the Council of the European

From 1st of July until 31st December 2014 Italy will host the Presidency of the Council of the European Union.



2014  
Presidenza Italiana del Consiglio  
dell'Unione Europea

The most relevant priorities for our business which the Italian Presidency will pursue are:

- **Health and Consumer Protection:** focus on the review of the Regulations on medical devices and in-vitro diagnostic medical devices. The Presidency also intends to make « significant progress » on the GMO cultivation dossier.
- **Internal Market and Industry:** the Italian Ministers attach the utmost importance to the « two Regulations » package of Consumer Product Safety and Market Surveillance, which is aimed at both strengthening consumer protection and creating a level playing field for businesses. Rules on the origin of goods represent a major step in this respect.
- **Research:** continue the work on the revision of the 2020 Strategy; foster public / private partnership in research; promote, simplify and streamline research and innovation policies; promote social innovation.
- **Food:** continue to raise awareness on food security; updates on the legislative initiatives concerning Novel Foods and Cloning for Food Production; review of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 on official controls aiming to achieve a legislative update of health and safety throughout the agro-food chain.
- **International Trade:** support development of EU-US relations encouraging significant progress in the negotiations for a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, which is the EU's top trade priorities.

These priorities have been presented in detail to the respective parliamentary committees during the hearings held in July and in September. You can find further information on the [official website of the European Parliament](#).

### Consumer Product Safety and Market Surveillance Package (CPSR)

#### Background

The European Commission has proposed a new package of legislative and non-legislative measures to improve consumer product safety and to strengthen market surveillance of products in the EU.

The package, adopted by the European Commission on 13 February 2013, has been discussed in the European Parliament, particularly, in the Internal Market and Consumer Protection committee (IMCO).

IMCO report on CPSR has been adopted on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

The EP Plenary has adopted both reports on 15th April 2014.

**Rapporteurs:** Christel Schaldemose (Product Safety) and Sirpa Pietikäinen (Market Surveillance).

The Greek Presidency did not reach an agreement with COREPER (responsible for preparing the work of the Council) for a mandate to enter dialogue negotiations (European Parliament, European Commission, and Council). According to its programme, the Italian Presidency's objective will be to achieve agreement on both proposals.

Rapporteur Christel Schaldemose has been re-elected and she is once again member of IMCO committee. She has also been re-appointed as rapporteur. Rapporteur Sirpa Pietikäinen has been re-elected but she is no longer member of IMCO committee. A new rapporteur will be appointed.

EUROLAB, together with IFIA and CEOC International, published with regard to the CPSR legislation two joint position papers:

- [CEOC International, IFIA and EUROLAB Position on Product Safety and Market Surveillance Package](#) adopted by European Commission on 13th February 2013
- [CEOC International, IFIA and EUROLAB, Position Paper](#) - European Parliament seeks to enhance product safety in Europe

## National Members' News

### BMTA News



Promoting measurement and testing - speaking with one voice to Government, UKAS and the European Laboratory Community

#### **Construction Products Regulations: Emission of Chemicals from Products and Materials, Markes International, Llantrisant, South Wales, 21 October 2014**

BMTA, in conjunction with its member company, Markes International, will organise an event on the topic of the Construction Products Regulations following its conference held at BRE in 2010. In addition to a range of presentations from well-regarded speakers in their field, delegates will benefit from afternoon workshops and the opportunity to visit some of Markes' laboratories.

#### **BMTA Conference: Accreditation, Communication and Innovation WWEM, Telford on 6 November 2014**

This BMTA Conference is aimed primarily at managers and senior staff in environmental laboratories but the techniques and quality procedures discussed will be of interest to staff in other types of laboratory. The presentations deal with the methods of achieving quality and consistency in sampling and in laboratory measurements. The speakers represent the national accreditation body, UKAS, large water companies and commercial laboratory-based organisations.

The main conference session at WWEM is split into two day sessions, Day 1 (Wednesday 5th) covers Regulation Updates for Process Operators and Day 2 (Thursday 6th) focuses on Laboratory Techniques and Quality Procedures.

See more at: <http://www.wwem.uk.com/conference-programme/>

### Fenelab News



**Accreditation has become a highly important topic in Europe. Fenelab is active promoting the added value of accreditation for their costumers but also for the end-users in the markets.** As a branch society you cannot do this on your own and because of this Fenelab is working together with the local stakeholders.

- Close cooperation with the Dutch Accreditation Council (RvA). Fenelab representatives are member of different (advising) boards of the RvA.
- The Dutch Government is in the process of revising their Accreditation policy. Fenelab teams up with the Dutch Society for Certification Companies (VOC) and works together with the policy makers.
- Together with the Dutch Society for Certification Companies (VOC) a workshop is planned where ISO auditors will be trained in the basics of Metrology, Testing and Calibration.

An important yearly event of Fenelab is the Lab-Day. This year's host was NLR, The National Aerospace Laboratory (www.nlr.nl). It was a unique possibility to see their facilities such as the German-Dutch Wind tunnels.

### EUROLAB Denmark main activities:

#### **Dedicated effort on the revision of ISO/IEC 17025**



As a follow up upon the answers to the Danish version of the TCQA questionnaire on a TOP 5 of subjects for main concern in the revision process, Eurolab Denmark arranged on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August a members meeting (but also inviting non-members from accredited laboratories and from DANAK – the Danish NAB) to discuss the up-coming revision process from different angles:

- summaries of the TCQA and ILAC questionnaires
- what are the difficult parts in the standard (seen from an experienced user)
- what should/could be the requirements in the standard in relation to use of IT in the laboratories (a LIMS provider)
- what could be the perspectives of having the management part in the standard more in line with the new ISO 9001? (a management expert)
- what is the actual process of revision of the standard?

We had a very interesting day with lots of good and relevant discussions among the nearly 50 participants, and we may arrange a follow-up event by the end of the year

#### **Planned meetings in our technical networks:**

- Network for Analytical Chemistry: "Selection of methods – are we doing it well enough?" (25<sup>th</sup> September)
- Network for QA & Accreditation: "Assessment of quality – quality of assessments!" (1<sup>st</sup> October)
- Network for Calibration: (no specific subject – but discussion of latest ILCs) (22<sup>nd</sup> October)
- Network for Microbiology: "References for microbiological tests – RMs and ILCs, are they useful?" (3<sup>rd</sup> November)



## Main Turklab activities in 2014



**26th February 2014.**

**Advisory Council Meeting of National Metrology Institute (NMI).** Dr. Ömer Güzel participated to this meeting representing Turklab. Interests of Turklab members and relations with NMI were discussed in detailed.

### **15th March 2014 TURKLAB National Members Meeting.**

Turklab members discussed different sectoral problems and possible solutions for remedy. Five major improvement areas were determined. Strategies were decided:

- High cost of AB inspections.
- Unfair competition; public laboratories vs private laboratories.
- Unfair price competition in private testing sector.
- Problem with supplier companies.
- Non-harmonized practice of AB inspectors.



### **13 -14th June 2014, "1st National Workshop for Testing & Inspection."**

The two-days workshop was performed by the sponsorship of Science, Technology and Industry Ministry (STI). Deputy Minister Prof. Dr. Davut Kavranoglu Chaired the opening session. President of Turklab, Dr. Ömer Güzel had a presentation entitled "Conformity Assessment activities in the framework of 10th Improvement Plan". Board members of Turklab, Mehmet Hüsrev, Neşe Güneş, Hakan Tan, Numan Çakır and members Derya Turgay, Aliye Kıyıcı, Serkan Çelebi participated to the meeting and working group activities. Ministry of STI published the results of the workshop as a strategy paper.



President of EUROLAB Mr. Jiri Sobola invited by Turklab as key note speaker and expert in the field.

### **17th July 2014, Ankara, TÜRKAK Meeting.**

TURKLAB and UDDER Presidents, Ömer Güzel and Ayfer Adıgüzel visited TÜRKAK, NAB, for preparation of CPR Inspectors Educational Workshop which will be held in Istanbul, 19-20 September.

### **Turkish Accreditation Body TÜRKAK, Turklab, Eurolab and Udder organized two-days workshop for Construction Products Regulation.**

The workshop was held in Istanbul, on 19-20 September, at the Renaissance Hotel. During the first day TÜRKAK inspectors attended the meeting. The second day Notified Body representatives, and different ministry and public authority representatives attended the workshop. The very positive outcome of this workshops satisfied all parties. Mr Jiri Sobola, EUROLAB President, was the key note speaker of the two days. All participants had the chance to ask questions on the debated topics.

It was a successful collaboration between Turklab, Eurolab and Türkak.

## Accreditation

- The document **IAF PL7:2014 IAF Quality Manual (Issue 2)** has been published on the IAF website (iaf.nu).
- The following documents have been published on the IAF Website (iaf.nu) : **IAF MD14:2014 Application of ISO/IEC 17011 in Greenhouse Gas Validation and Verification (ISO 14065:2013) (Issue 1)**; **IAF ID8:2014 IAF Informative Document for the Transition of Food Safety Management System Accreditation to ISO/TS 22003:2013 from ISO/TS 22003:2007 (Issue 1)**
- Following the **IAF Resolution 2013-06 – (Agenda Item 6.1) Appointment of IAF Treasurer**, The General Assembly resolved that the IAF Board should appoint a Treasurer from the IAF Membership and amend the mandate of the current Treasurer's position in the IAF Secretariat to that of Chief Financial Officer (CFO).
- Nominations have been accepted for an Association Body Member of the Financial Oversight Committee (FOC) in accordance with **Section 7.1.1 of IAF PL5 document**.
- The **ILAC JDSC (Joint Development Support Committee) Funding Policy** has recently been revised (version 24-07-2014). The revised policy is available from the members area of the ILAC website. This revised policy will be used to determine the eligibility of ILAC members from developing countries to receive funding to attend the 2014 ILAC-IAF Annual Meetings in Vancouver.
- The Result of the Ballot - **Application by Gulf Cooperation Council Accreditation Center (GAC) for Accreditation Body Membership in IAF** has been published. Members voted in favour.
- The IAF Technical Committee Task Force on Witnessing has submitted a new draft document titled "**IAF MDX:201X: IAF Mandatory Document Witnessing Activities for the Accreditation of Management Systems Certification Bodies (Issue 1)**", to all IAF members for a 60-day comment period.
- The main up-dates on the ILAC's progress regarding matters on the 2013 ILAC General Assembly resolution are related to: **ILAC licensing and sub-licensing process and documentation; 2014 Registration of the ILAC MRA Mark;**
- A Draft Revision to **IAF PL6 Issue 4 Memorandum of Understanding** has been distributed among the members for comments.
- ILAC has distributed among the members the final draft of the **Joint ILAC-OIML assessment procedure in the field of legal metrology**. The purpose of the document is to provide guidelines related to the assessment of testing laboratories in the field of legal metrology.
- REMCO has agreed to transform the **ISO Guide 34:2009, General requirements for the competence of reference material producers**, into an international standard. For this purpose, a Joint Working Group (JWG43) has been established between REMCO and CASCO.
- ILAC has called nominations for the ILAC Executive Committee for several positions. The voting will take place during the ILAC General Assembly, on Friday 17 October 2014 in Vancouver, Canada.
- A commenting period of 30 days regarding the draft document **IAF IDX: IAF Information Document – Transition Planning Guidance for ISO 14001:2015** has started. This document is the result of the collaboration and consensus of the IAF Task Force on Transition for ISO 9001 and ISO 14001.
- The new ILAC website is available for use (<http://ilac.org/>).
- Following the ballot held last month, the document **ILAC G19:08/2014 Modules in a Forensic Science Process** has been published on the website.
- The IAF Technical Committee (TC) has submitted the new **IAF Informative Document titled: IAF ID X:201X Transition Planning Guidance for ISO 9001:2015** to all Members for a 30-day voting period. The Draft IAF Informative Document provides guidance for the transition from ISO 9001:2008 to ISO 9001:2015.
- The IAF Executive Committee (EC) has submitted a revised IAF Policy document titled "**Structure of the International Accreditation Forum, Inc. (IAF PL5:201X, Issue 5)**" to all IAF members for a 30-day voting period.

## Standardisation

- The ballot on **ISO/DTS 17021-7 - RTS Competence requirements (Conformity assessment -- Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems -- Part 7: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of RTS/road traffic safety management systems)** is closed.
- ISO/CASCO has established a **Working Group (42) for the revision of ISO/IEC 17011 Conformity assessment — General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies**. The official co-convenors of the WG 42 are **Dr Cynthia Woodley** nominated by ANSI and **Mr Alister Dalrymple** nominated by AFNOR. The ILAC representatives in the WG are **Ms Jennifer Evans**: Chief Executive Officer, National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia (NATA) and **Dr Andreas Steinhorst**: Executive Secretary, European cooperation for Accreditation (EA).
- The **DIS 2 ballot of ISO/IEC 17021-1 Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems Part 1: Requirements** has been opened.
- **Mr Christian Priller (DE)** has been appointed as **CENCLC TC 1 Chairperson**. The appointment has been approved unanimously with 17 positive votes, 0 negative votes and 3 abstentions.

## Business News

## Food Testing:

- The Food Standards Agency (FSA) is undergoing “major restructuring” creating an estimated 50 new jobs as it sets up the food crime unit (FCU) following the publication of Professor Chris Elliott’s report into last year’s horsemeat scandal. <http://www.foodmanufacture.co.uk/Food-Safety/Government-must-raise-FSA-s-funding-to-curb-food-fraud>
- Food Safety Testing & Diagnostics Market Forecast 2014-2024. The world market for the Food Safety Testing & Diagnostics will reach \$11.03bn in 2014. Quality and safety testing of food is an area of growing importance, where accurate analytical results are critical, be that for exporters, importers or government bodies. <http://www.prnewswire.co.uk/news-releases/food-safety-testing--diagnostics-market-forecast-2014-2024-266028481.html>
- Eurofins plans to establish four labs to support food testing growth. Eurofins is planning to add 100,000m<sup>2</sup> of laboratory space in the next two years to maximize synergies and optimize efficiencies across the businesses. <http://www.foodqualitynews.com/Industry-news/Eurofins-adds-lab-space-to-meet-industry-demand>

## Other news

- The AIOICI (Italian Association of the Independent Certification and Inspection Bodies) and ALPI Executive Boards have decided to sign a partnership agreement with the objective to harmonize their positions and to express the unified opinions of their members.
- Exova Metech, the calibration and metrology division of Exova, has acquired the calibration operations of Raufoss Offshore in Norway. The acquisition follows as a next step in Exova Metech's positive trend and expansion, further extending our geographical reach in the European market for metrological services.
- Exova Metech has signed a new contract with the defence and security company Saab, worth up to £20 million over five years.
- Exova Metech has won an outsourcing deal with the wind turbine manufacturer, Vestas, to become its preferred supplier of calibration services.
- Exova Metech has acquired GSMobile Calibration of the Czech Republic. The move will facilitate growth of the Exova Metech business into a range of new sectors in Eastern Europe.
- Exova METECH and Teknologisk Institutt, TI, in Norway (The National Institute of Technology) have signed a contract whereby Exova METECH acquires the calibration operations from Teknologisk Lab in Sweden.
- Exova METECH strengthens its offering in the Life Science field by acquiring the calibration facilities from Coor Service Management in Uppsala.
- FORCE Technology will be represented at the Danish Maritime Days to take place on 6th to the 10th October 2014 in Copenhagen. Danish Maritime Days is a major new event for the global maritime industry which will bring together a broad spectrum of leaders from across the industry with the objective to find new solutions to the most important challenges facing the industry today and in the future.
- EUROLAB – Deutschland has published its 2013 Annual Report (German version).
- EUROLAB - Poland will organise a workshop for internal auditors 1 - basic level. The training is addressed to those people who have recently started a career as internal auditors in laboratories and to those who intend to perform such a function. The main goal of this training is to strengthen the knowledge of accreditation requirements through exercise. The admission condition is the knowledge requirements of the standard 17025. <http://pollab.pl/Warsztaty.doskonalace.dla.auditorow.wewnetrznych.1.-poziom.podstawowy.281.html>
- ABC Research Laboratories has become a General Mills Approved Laboratory. <http://www.foodqualitynews.com/Industry-news/General-Mills-backs-ABC-Research-Laboratories>
- ABC Research Laboratories have announced they had expanded their ISO 17025 accreditation in their chemistry laboratory in the following areas: Histamine testing; Caffeine Testing; Water Activity Testing and Testing PH in Food. <http://info.abcr.com/Blog/bid/353692/Food-Safety-News-ABC-Research-expands-its-ISO-17025-accreditation>
- Advanced Biological Laboratories (ABL) S.A and Mayo Medical Laboratories have announced a collaboration agreement to develop a deep-sequencing pipeline for novel diagnostic laboratory-developed tests. [http://www.pharmweb.com/PressReleases/pressrel.asp?ROW\\_ID=97722#.VA7xrKO4KSoixzz3CownR5Y4](http://www.pharmweb.com/PressReleases/pressrel.asp?ROW_ID=97722#.VA7xrKO4KSoixzz3CownR5Y4)
- Aflatoxin testing method removes need for organic solvents. Vicam has introduced a method for detecting aflatoxins in grains without organic solvents such as methanol. <http://www.foodqualitynews.com/Industry-news/Vicam-unveils-Afla-V-AQUA-aflatoxin-testing-system>
- ALS has been awarded a minimum three year operational contract for the on-site mine support laboratory at the Tabakoto Gold Mine in Mali.
- ALS has announced the opening of the new coal analytical laboratory at Tavan Tolgoi mine in South Gobi, Mongolia.
- Anachem, the UK & Ireland pipettes, tips & laboratory products supplier, has urged all accredited laboratories in the UK to embrace the new ISO 15189



standards for UKAS accreditation, believing that positive support for the new standards will only increase confidence in the results they produce by eliminating wherever possible the causes of variability in their protocols. <http://www.pharmaceutical-int.com/article/laboratories-should-embrace-iso-15189-says-anachem.html>

- **Bureau Veritas Group and their partner Soget have launched the pilot phase of the Single Window concession for maritime imports into Togo.** The pilot phase allows the testing of the electronic platform for its technical and organizational dimensions and will permit the assessment of user acceptance.
- **Bureau Veritas Consumer Products Services (BVCPS) has announced the relocation of its consumer products testing laboratory in Katubedda, Sri Lanka.**
- **Core Lab has published its [semi-annual financial report](#).**
- **CSA Group has announced the launch of a new laboratory in Bangalore, India.** It will offer testing and certification for medical and healthcare, industrial control products, automation and IT/AV technology products, appliances, and control equipment.
- **The Engineering Test Institute (SZU) and Korea Gas Safety Corporation, a Korean state agency, have signed an agreement on co-operation (MoU).** The MoU makes mutual co-operation possible with emphasis on the testing of gas appliances and pressure equipment both for the EU and the Korean market.
- **Eurofins has delivered solid [half year 2014 results](#).**  
⇒ Revenues in H1 2014 were EUR 644m, representing an increase of 12.8% (15.5% at constant currencies) on organic growth of over 6.5%.  
⇒ Net profit stable at EUR 23m  
⇒ 12 acquisitions with total annualized revenues in excess of EUR 150m
- **Eurofins Scientific (EUFLPA) has announced that it had signed an agreement to acquire Analytical Technology ("Anatech"), an environmental testing service provider in Brazil.** <http://www.eurofins.com/en/media-centre/press-releases/2014-07-02.aspx>
- **Eurofins Scientific has announced the successful closing of the transaction to acquire 100% of ViraCor-IBT Laboratories, Inc. (VIBT), an esoteric reference laboratory serving 550 institutional clients and over 4,000 affiliated clinicians as well as 12 pharmaceutical compa-**

nies across the US. <http://www.eurofins.com/en/media-centre/press-releases/2014-07-01.aspx>

**Intertek has inaugurated a comprehensive testing facility in Bangladesh to support the growing business volume of the ready-made garment (RMG) industry in South Asia.** Located in Tejgaon, Dhaka, the lab is a one-stop facility for all quality and safety assurance solutions for diverse industries in South Asia for countries like India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bhutan.

**Intertek has expanded the Antwerp, Belgium, laboratory with engine coolants quality testing capabilities.** The ISO 17025 certified Antwerp laboratory has added a full range of engine coolants tests, in accordance to international standards.

**A report commissioned by the Lloyd's Register Foundation, reviewing the potential implications of nanotechnology on the safety and performance of engineering assets and the infrastructure on which modern society relies on, finds that nanotechnology will have a far reaching impact on almost every industry including energy, transportation, manufacturing, medical, computing and telecommunications.**

**Luxcontrol has signed an agreement for co-operation with Catarc "China Automotive Technology & Research Center", a technical laboratory and research center in China.**

**SGS has acquired Advanced Testing and Engineering Inc. (ATE), and Commercial Aging Services, LLC (CAS), headquartered in Taylor, Michigan.** ATE is a fatigue durability testing laboratory, specializing in exhaust, suspension and emissions systems and serving the automotive, heavy truck and motorcycle markets. With these acquisitions, SGS is expanding and further diversifying its vehicle and engine testing services in North America.

**SGS Indonesia has announced the opening of a new agricultural laboratory, located in Banjarmasin, South Kalimantan, Indonesia.** It is an analyst member of FOSFA (Federation of Oils, Seeds and Fats Association).

**SGS has announced the opening of its new office and laboratory in Newport News, Virginia, USA.**

**UL has announced the opening of its new consumer products testing laboratory in Shanghai.** It will help customers address safety and quality issues for products ranging from home appliances, to textiles, toys, cosmetics, and food, as well as ensure the quality of lighting products and furniture.

## Policy news

### Chemicals

- **The OECD has launched a new Adverse Outcomes Pathway (AOP)-wiki, which is a web-based platform gathering knowledge on how chemicals can induce adverse effects.** The platform is a focal point for AOP development and dissemination. [http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal\\_content/title/new-web-platform-available-on-adverse-effects-of-chemicals](http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal_content/title/new-web-platform-available-on-adverse-effects-of-chemicals)
- **Information on imported and exported hazardous chemicals subject to the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Regulation as well as details on the importing and exporting countries is now publicly available on ECHA's website.** [http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal\\_content/title/easily-accessible-trade-data-on-hazardous-chemicals-now-available](http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal_content/title/easily-accessible-trade-data-on-hazardous-chemicals-now-available)
- **Following a correction exercise of the provisional list of active substances and suppliers, the first official Article 95 list under the Biocidal Products Regulation is now available on ECHA's website.** From 1 September 2015, a biocidal product



cannot be made available on the EU market unless either the substance supplier or the product supplier is included in the Article 95 list. [http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal\\_content/title/official-article-95-list-for-biocides-published](http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal_content/title/official-article-95-list-for-biocides-published)

- The European Commission has issued its first decision to authorise a specific use of plasticiser Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) during the diffusion bonding and manufacture of aero engine fan blades. The authorisation is valid till 21 February 2022. The authorisation holder is Rolls-Royce plc. <https://osha.europa.eu/en/news/eu-first-decision-on-an-application-to-use-a-substance-subject-to-authorisation>
- EU – ECHA has published an illustrative example of exposure scenarios for a hypothetical hazardous substance to be annexed to a safety data sheet. The main objective of the publication is to promote ways of efficiently communicating on the safe use of chemicals down the supply chain. [http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal\\_content/title/echa-publishes-an-illustrative-example-of-exposure-scenarios-for-communication-in-the-supply-chain](http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal_content/title/echa-publishes-an-illustrative-example-of-exposure-scenarios-for-communication-in-the-supply-chain)
- EU – ECHA has published a new **eGuide**. It provides detailed information on the different sections of the safety data sheet and support for checking exposure scenarios. <https://osha.europa.eu/en/news/echa-published-an-eguide-on-safety-data-sheets-and-exposure-scenarios>
- EU – ECHA has published a Transitional Guidance document for the Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR) entitled "Efficacy Assessment for Product Type 22 Embalming Products". It gives technical advice on how to perform an efficacy assessment for applications for authorisation for embalming products and will be incorporated in due course into Volume II of the new BPR Guidance structure. <http://>

[echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal\\_content/title/new-biocides-transitional-guidance-document-on-embalming-products](http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal_content/title/new-biocides-transitional-guidance-document-on-embalming-products)

- ECHA and the Commission have agreed to publish the company names of non-EU entities together with their EU-representatives in the Article 95 list of the Biocidal Products Regulation. [http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal\\_content/title/non-eu-companies-to-be-indicated-in-the-list-of-biocidal-active-substances-and-suppliers](http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal_content/title/non-eu-companies-to-be-indicated-in-the-list-of-biocidal-active-substances-and-suppliers)
- ECHA has published an update of the Guidance on Information Requirements and Chemical Safety Assessment – Chapter R.7a. [http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal\\_content/title/updated-guidance-on-testing-for-mutagenicity](http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal_content/title/updated-guidance-on-testing-for-mutagenicity)
- The European Commission has adopted an implementing Regulation under the Falsified Medicinal Products Directive (2011/62/EU) which sets out the design for a common logo for online pharmacies, and the technical requirements for ensuring its authenticity. The logo will fully be available in second half of 2015. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-14-712\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-712_en.htm)
- ECHA has published a **Practical Guide on the Biocidal Products Regulation** (BPR). To help companies to better fulfil their obligations and tasks under the BPR, this Practical Guide is structured in sections describing what the principles behind each obligation are.
- From now on, ECHA's website gives advance notice on the substances being considered by authorities for regulatory risk management, together with the routes that are being considered. [http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal\\_content/title/echa-provides-advance-notice-on-substances-being-considered-for-risk-management](http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal_content/title/echa-provides-advance-notice-on-substances-being-considered-for-risk-management)

## Consumer Protection

- **Better regulation shouldn't mean 'one-sided reduction' for businesses, BEUC warns new Commission.** The new European Commission's 'better regulation' mission must keep consumer welfare in mind and not translate to a "one-sided reduction" for businesses, the European Consumer Organisation (BEUC) has warned. <http://www.foodanddrinkeurope.com/Consumer-Trends/Consumer-group-reacts-to-new-European-Commission>
- **Pursuant to the Consumer Rights Directive adopted by an overwhelming majority in the European Parliament in June 2011, contracts concluded after 13 June 2014 should comply with its provisions.** The Directive foresees, among others, a longer cooling off period for distance and off-premises contracts as well as greater price transparency. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/divers/join/2014/518771/IPOL-IMCO\\_DV%282014%29518771\\_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/divers/join/2014/518771/IPOL-IMCO_DV%282014%29518771_EN.pdf)
- **Over 70 000 counterfeit goods have been seized during a major Joint Customs Operation (JCO) code-named "ERMIS".** The Operation has focussed on postal and courier mail traffic, to identify fake products shipped through small consignments. [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item\\_id=7651&lang=en&title=Operation-ERMIS%3A-70-000-counterfeit-goods-seized-in-EU-joint-customs-operation](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=7651&lang=en&title=Operation-ERMIS%3A-70-000-counterfeit-goods-seized-in-EU-joint-customs-operation)
- **Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) committee members have validated the Coordinators' recommendations to continue the work on the Consumer Product Safety Regulation and Market Surveillance Package.** Christel Schaldemose has been re-appointed as rapporteur for CPSR.

## Environment

- The European Commission has published a Guidance document "**Streamlining environmental assessment procedures for energy infrastructure - Projects of Common Interest (PCIs)**".
- The European Commission has published a **Communication on "Energy Efficiency and its contribution to energy security and the 2030 Framework for climate and energy policy"**. It assesses whether the EU is on track to reach its 2020 target to increase energy efficiency by 20% and proposes a new energy saving target of 30% by 2030.
- **Ventilation units will become more energy-efficient and less noisy.** As of 1 January 2016 a new Ecodesign Regulation will ensure that newly produced residential ventilation units will have to fulfil minimum energy efficiency requirements as well as maximum noise emission requirements. [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item\\_id=7655&lang=en&title=Ventilation-units-more-energy-efficient-and-less-noisy](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=7655&lang=en&title=Ventilation-units-more-energy-efficient-and-less-noisy)

## Food

- Commission hopes horse 'passports' will stop food fraud. Member states have endorsed European Commission proposals to tighten identification rules for horses as part of post horsemeat scandal efforts to clean up food chains. <http://www.foodnavigator.com/Legislation/EU-tightens-rules-on-horse-passports>
- Consumers want clarity in food labelling, says survey. Consumers demand simpler labels and fewer additives, according to a new survey commissioned by a British-owned clean label ingredient specialist Ulrick & Short. <http://www.foodanddrinkeurope.com/Consumer-Trends/Food-labelling-consumers-want-simplicity-says-survey>
- Commission has published encouraging second round of EU-wide test results for horse meat DNA in beef products. The findings show that the situation has significantly improved, with only 0.61% of samples testing positive. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-14-877\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-877_en.htm)
- The promised launch of the Communication on Sustainable Food by the European Commission, initially planned for 2013, has once again been postponed. The initial aim of the Communication on Sustainable Food, as conveyed by the Environment directorate general, was to limit waste throughout the food supply chain, and find ways to lower the environmental impact of food production and consumption

patterns. [http://www.euractiv.com/sections/agriculture-food/commission-needs-comply-promised-launch-sustainable-food-communication?utm\\_source=EurActiv+Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=08463fd996-n-e-w-s-l-e-t-ter-sustainable\\_development&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_bab5f0ea4e-08463fd996-245746785](http://www.euractiv.com/sections/agriculture-food/commission-needs-comply-promised-launch-sustainable-food-communication?utm_source=EurActiv+Newsletter&utm_campaign=08463fd996-n-e-w-s-l-e-t-ter-sustainable_development&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_bab5f0ea4e-08463fd996-245746785)

EFSA takes 'e' path to cut red tape for health claims and more. The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has introduced an 'e-service' to speed applications for health claims and food and feed additives. <http://www.foodnavigator.com/Science-Nutrition/EFSA-takes-e-path-to-cut-red-tape-for-health-claims-and-more>

BEUC has launched a campaign for the period September 2-30 in order to extend 'Country of Origin Labelling' (COOL) to all meat in processed food such as lasagne, ham and nuggets sold in Europe. While fresh meat's origin will soon be no more mystery, there are no labelling plans yet for meat in processed foods. <http://www.eubusiness.com/Members/BEUC/meat-origin>

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has published a [report with results from the trace-back investigation of food items connected with a multinational outbreak of hepatitis A in European Union / European Economic Area](#) (EU/EEA) countries coordinated by EFSA.

## Medical Devices

- BEUC, the European Consumers Organisation together with 27 other NGOs have addressed an [open letter to President-Elect Jean-Claude Junker](#). They have expressed their astonishment and concern regarding his decision to move the competence for medicinal products and health from the Commissioner in charge of Health to the Commissioner in charge of Internal Market and Industry within the new Commission.
- Manufacturers of medical devices from Japan have focused on advance technology. Using the original technology, Fujifilm's digital X-ray imaging mammography greatly improves the usability and detection of breast cancer. [http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/manufacturers-of-medical-devices-from-japan-focuses-on-advance-technology-114070800794\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/manufacturers-of-medical-devices-from-japan-focuses-on-advance-technology-114070800794_1.html)

## Transport

- EU regulators are preparing draft legislation that will require vehicle fuel use to be tested on roads rather than in laboratories, looking to close loopholes that allow car makers to exaggerate fuel-saving and emissions credentials. <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/transport/eu-regulators-look-close-car-emissions-testing-loopholes-307875>

## Public Consultations and Call for Tenders

- The Commission and the Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks have launched a [public consultation on the preliminary opinion on "The safety of dental amalgam and alternative dental restoration materials for patients and users"](#). Deadline: 16 November 2014.
- ECHA has launched an additional public consultation on the harmonised classification and labelling (CLH) for reproductive toxicity of acetochlor (EC No 251-899-3, CAS No 34256-82-1). Deadline: 6 October 2014.
- The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is launching a public consultation on new draft guidance that sets out the information to be provided for the agronomic and phenotypic characterisation of genetically modified (GM) plants. Deadline: 6 November 2014.

## Personal Developments

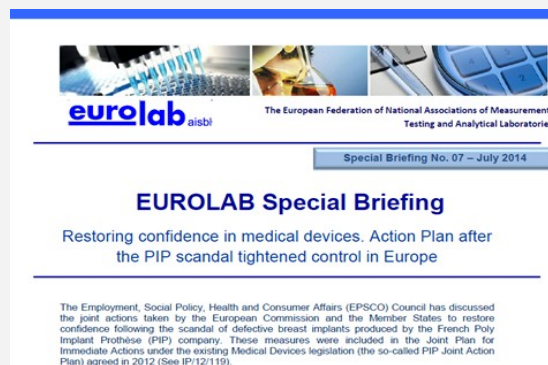
- ⇒ Christian Priller (DE) has been appointed as CENCLC TC 1 Chairperson. The appointment has been approved unanimously with 17 positive votes, 0 negative votes and 3 abstentions.
- ⇒ Testing, calibration and advisory services firm Exova has appointed Dionisis Theodosios as head of chemistry for its UK food testing business.
- ⇒ The Royal Society of Chemistry, UK's professional body for chemical scientists, has welcomed Professor Dominic Tildesley as its new president at the Annual General Meeting.
- ⇒ British gene and cell therapy company Oxford BioMedica has appointed Dr Paul Blake as Chief Development Officer of Oxford.
- ⇒ Ismail Albaidhani has joined ISO Central Secretariat as Director of the ISO Academy.
- ⇒ Vicente Catalan, EUROLAB Spain, has been appointed as the EUROLAB representative for the joint working group 43 on the revision of ISO Guide 43

## EUROLAB Special Briefings



### EUROLAB Special Briefing No 6 on Food safety – protecting people and animals.

*The EU's food safety early warning network strengthened its vital role in keeping dangerous food products off the shelves in 2013, and aims to lead the fight against fraud. Europe is reliant on its Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) to ensure that the food meets some of the highest food safety standards in the world. Besides its main role of ensuring food safety since its creation 35 years ago, a 2013 RASFF annual report shows that it is an important tool to trace back and withdraw products where fraud was detected.*



### EUROLAB Special Briefing No 7 on Restoring confidence in medical devices. Action Plan after the PIP scandal tightened control in Europe.

*The Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs (EPSCO) Council has discussed the joint actions taken by the European Commission and the Member States to restore confidence following the scandal of defective breast implants produced by the French Poly Implant Prothèse (PIP) company.*

### **The EUROLAB President, Jiří Sobola, attended the ILAC IC meetings held in Frankfurt on 26 April 2014. The items discussed were, among others:**

- IC introduced Question Format which can be used by any member to formulate question and specialised ad hoc group will provide official answer. This will be available on internet. EUROLAB can use this facility.
- Type examination (type approval).
- ILAC strategic planning is in process.  
Comments from membership were asked in July. Information was brought together and there was session here.  
Now revised version of strategy paper is available. 60 days commenting period will start in June. It will be updated for Bangkok meeting. Stakeholders will be allowed to comment also this document.
- Registration of trade marks: Madrid Agreements: the meeting will take place and the report will be available for Bangkok. It concerns intellectual property of ILAC. Non-signatories of Madrid Agreement must undergo individual registration.
- Inspection committee should be appropriately represented in ILAC marketing documents.
- More brochures and publications should be available – the main goal is to emphasise corporate identity. ILAC is not only for laboratories but also for inspections, certifications, etc.
- Route to signing the agreement (MRA) will be newly described. There must be common way of presenting MRAs.
- P9: application of PT to inspection. There will be a statement included in P4, P5 and P9. P9 was updated for that statement (it was included). P9 will be published as soon as it is agreed what is appropriate for inspection bodies. Normal transition of 12 months from the date of publication is expected.
- **WG 3 Inspection Scope.** Geoff Hallam is the convenor. EUROLAB is involved in this WG and it should prepare its position. Especially experience with flexible accreditation and results of EUROLAB survey would be very important. ILAC WG 18 is under revision. There should be harmonisation between WG 3 and G18 revision group. The stakeholders' view on how they need the scope to be expressed will be very important.

### **The EUROLAB President, Jiří Sobola, attended the ILAC AIC, ILAC LC and ILAC WG PT meetings held in Oslo from 07 to 10 April 2014. The items discussed were, among others:**

- Two workshops have been planned.
  - 1) How to deal with uncertainty in testing – policy and guidance.
  - 2) Revision of ISO 17025; WG 2 was established to handle it
- Three documents are under preparation: WG 10 works on document for forensic laboratories, PT WG reviews ILAC PT 09, and WG 6 works on ILAC Guide 26 – Implementation of ISO 15189. ILAC G18 on Scopes and G 11 on Assessor's Qualification are foreseen.
- Proposed P13 will be reviewed – it concerns accreditation of PT providers.
- Other guidance: G33 Use of reference materials
- ILAC was asked to develop accreditation processes for activities related to green house emissions and the climate change.
- **ILAC/IAF liaison with OIML**  
MOU between ILAC and OIML will be revised by end of the year. The issue is accreditation of mutual recognition of load cells, non-automatic weighing instruments and water meters. Special accreditation for those is needed. The document was finished and it will go for comments to whole ILAC.  
OIML suggests that experts performing accreditation and OIML assessment should be shared. Majority of countries prefer the accreditation way, only two countries are using OIML peer assessment. Comments should be submitted before ILAC GA in Bangkok.  
Some ABs have used this document for joint assessment with OIML. But it is important to specify what main document is to be used for joint assessment. Links to OIML web are in annex B. of the document.
- **ILAC P10**  
Internal calibration is covered by P10 and it is allowed
- **Revision ISO 17025**  
There was survey performed among members of AIC. It started in Seoul and the results were collected between December and February. The majority answered that there is no need to make change. The majority of respondents is favouring clarification of management requirements. EUROLAB may distribute the same survey as AIC to compare opinions of ABs and laboratories. In case those opinions are quite close to each other it will be advantageous position for both ILAC and EUROLAB. It was agreed that ABs should approach national standardisation bodies together with national associations of laboratories (stakeholders).

#### **ILAC Laboratory Committee**

- **ILAC Strategy document**  
Final version of strategy will be discussed in Frankfurt. Voting will take place in Bangkok. Last version of strategy will be distributed after Frankfurt meeting. There will be LC position but individual ILAC members (EUROLAB) can submit their own comments directly to ILAC. EUROLAB should prepare comments, submit them to ILAC LC and at the same time EUROLAB can submit its own comments directly to ILAC GA and discuss it there.



- **Revision ISO 17025**

The aim is to work together with AIC. LC should work on technical section in particular.

ILAC LC is expecting results of EUROLAB survey in Bangkok.

NCSLI made their own research of comments to ISO 17025. They used exactly AIC questions.

NATA Survey: Nearly the same results – no need for change just some clarifications are needed.

Actions to be taken: Results from stakeholders will be compared with AIC results.

Eurachem completed their survey and will provide results.

Standardisation body South Africa as a member of ISO CASCO suggested, in response to initiative ILAC LC early revision of ISO 17025 and requested ISO CASCO to prepare new work item. Process is already on the way. Approval by ISO CASCO is expected by the end of the year.

- **Report on revision of ILAC P9 document**

Document was opened on request of inspection committee. All comments were accepted except suggested transition period for which there are other rules. Document is ready for voting within ILAC.

Chair of inspection committee checked revised P9 in detail. ILAC rules require to specify implementation period if document is not intended for immediate implementation. P9 is now less prescriptive. It leaves more room for experts in the field.

- **ILAC P13**

Application of ISO 17011 is problematic. Investigation is necessary if the revision is needed or not. The basic question is if ISO 17011 will be revised. Use of this document (P13) is very low as it is not clear if it is for accreditation of PT providers or for laboratories. Since there is no MRA for accreditation of PT providers it is not used. WG recommends not opening this document and leaving it for next year.

- **EA PT WG for testing**

Cooperation with IRMM was promoted and focused on RM production. There is 5 years plan for PT in calibration. There are 5 quantities where PT providers are able to organize PT.

Some schemes are only for Europe, some are open. Especially calibration is critical because of limited number of specimens. BAM/EPTIS are informing EA on new PTs. PTs will be offered also to other regions.

- **EEE-PT**

EA, EUROLAB and Eurachem. The objective is the harmonization of the approach of ABs to accreditation and the use of PT. The document is ready and will be issued as Guidance document. Other activity is ILC – exchange samples among laboratories. Third activity is accreditation PT for sampling. It concentrates on the use of ISO 17043 in sampling PTs. It is important for PT providers. There are more requirements from PT providers than from accreditation bodies. Next Eurachem PT workshop together with SITAC will be in Berlin.

## **Manfred Golze attended the meeting of the EA Laboratory Committee in Winsor on 10 – 11 September 2014**

During this meeting of the EA Laboratory Committee (EA LC) two main topics were discussed in detail:

⇒ **Opinions and interpretations (O&I) in test reports**

EUROLAB's survey as well as an EA survey later on revealed considerably different approaches of the National Accreditation Bodies (NABs). Trevor Thompson, the convenor of the respective Task Force Group (TFG), gave a presentation and asked the EA LC for advice concerning the way forward. The following discussion was controversial, but revealed more support for the acceptance of O&I this time than previous discussions had done. The opposition came mostly from the calibration sector. Trevor concluded his presentation by highlighting some topics to be included in a possible guidance document:

- Acknowledgement that O&I has a role in ISO/IEC 17025,
- It is neither mandatory nor prohibited nor needing disclaimer,
- Laboratories need to document their system for it,
- NABs assess it and feature this assessment in their reports,
- Accreditation scopes show it.

The EA LC was invited to comment on his presentation by the end of November 2014. A second draft of the guidance document will be available for the next meeting.

⇒ **Future Multilateral Agreement (MLA) for the accreditation of Proficiency Test Providers (PTP) and Reference Material Producers (RMP)**

Mario Mosca, the convenor of this TFG, reported that the group had agreed to use ISO/IEC 17043 as basis for accreditation of PTP and that no additional guidance document would be necessary. After agreement with the EA/EUROLAB/EURACHEM Working Group on Proficiency Testing (EEE-PT) the TFG felt that they have concluded this task. The TFG was developing a guidance document, which will be submitted to the EA LC members for comments after discussion in the TFG.

EUROLAB's question concerning the use of calibration services provided by the (unaccredited) manufacturer of the equipment was lively discussed. EA's answer will emphasise that the accredited laboratory has to decide on the way traceability is established and that the NAB would assess this decision. Principally, the use of non-accredited calibration services is acceptable but it will cause an in-depth assessment by the NAB to prove whether the conditions of ILAC P10 are fulfilled.

Manfred Golze gave a presentation on EUROLAB addressing among others EUROLAB's position on the revision of ISO/IEC 17011 and ISO/IEC 17025. Concerning the draft revised ILAC Guide G17 on measurement uncertainty (MU) in testing he questioned whether the situation concerning the awareness of MU and the expertise to evaluate it would be mature enough in all technical areas to strengthen the current practice.

The EA LC approved the following draft documents and submitted them for vote or to the EA Executive Committee or the General Assembly for endorsement:

- revised Terms of Reference of the EA LC,
- guidance document on assessment of laboratories against EN ISO 15189 and EN ISO 22870, Point of Care Testing (POCT),
- revised EA-04/15 on Accreditation of Non-Destructive Testing (NDT),
- paper on "Benefits and importance of the participation in EA highlighted PT schemes" as informative document.

During the next meeting of the EA LC in Athens on 18 – 19 March 2015 elections of the chairman will take place.

### **Peter Blinksbjerg attended the ISO/CASCO meeting in Geneva, on 24th-25th September 2014**

The first day consisted of rather thorough reports from selected WG (and WG's to come). The highlights were:

- ISO 17021 is expected to be final in January. The risk based approach is applied. There were some comments indicating some confusion with system certification and consumer safety.
- ISO 17011 is started as WG 42, and the first meeting is scheduled to November 11.-13th. Due to the short notice the second meeting is planned to take place at February 3.-5th, in Geneva so far.
- ISO 17025 the ballot closed just before plenary meeting, so it is now final, that a revision will be done (see more detailed information later).

The first day was closed with some "mini-workshop" activities focusing on future possibilities/needs for CASCO. Presentations and written reports are available.

The second day was dedicated to the reports presented by the chair secretariat. Written reports are available. Most focus was given to the road map, where the (former) chair of CEN TC 1 raised questions in relation to the process for the decision of the revision of ISO 17011 and ISO 17025, where the later was related to the procedure for election of convenor (underlining, that there is no question to the capacity of the person most likely to be convenor of the WG for revision of ISO 17025).

ISO 17025, and the revision hereof were discussed on both days. It was discussed whether it is going to be a management standard (like ISO 9001), and then follow the high level structure within ISO, or it shall continue as a laboratory standard. The later choice was the conclusion. Due to the process for the NWIP, there were several comments to the fact, that so far only Ilac documents perform the basis for revision and the Ilac survey was shortly presented. EUROLAB representative mentioned that EUROLAB have made a survey, where we got more or less the same results, but our conclusion was the opposite (no need for revision due to many good sections of 17025). Furthermore we have several documents (Cook Books) which could be valuable for the revision process. During the "coffe-break-discussions" it became clear, that EUROLAB has to be active in the future WG.

Due to ISO rules, the first meeting in a Working Group shall be held within 3 months from the end of the ballot, consequently, the first meeting in the new 17025-revision WG needs to be planned before Christmas. According to the CASCO-secretariat all members will be contacted in order to nominate experts to the WG.

### **Horst Czichos attended the National Conference of Standards Laboratories (NCSLI) which took place in Berlin on 28 August 2014**

This report gives a summary of the following NCSLI activities in which he participated as Representative of EUROLAB:

1. NCSLI Board of Directors Meeting, July 27, 2014
2. International Workshop and Symposium of NCSLI, July 28 – 31, 2014  
General Theme: "Measurement Science and the Environment"
3. Exhibition of Measuring Instruments

#### **1. NCSLI Board of Directors Meeting 2014**

NCSL International was formed in the USA as *National Conference of Standards Laboratories, Inc.* in 1961 and was incorporated in 1987 in the State of Colorado ([www.ncsli.org](http://www.ncsli.org)). It has about 900 Members from academic, scientific, industrial, and commercial and government facilities. NCSL International is a nonprofit organization, whose membership is open to any organization or individual professional with an interest in the science of measurement and its application in research, development, education, or commerce. EUROLAB and NCSLI under-signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2010.

Secretary Dana Leaman ((NVLAP), President Lonnie Spires (Trescal), Executive Vice President Roger Burton (Sandia National Laboratories), incoming President 2015/2016



The NCSLI BOD Meeting had a very comprehensive agenda with many details of the internal operation of NCSLI. As general topics, five strategic areas have been identified as key objectives for NCSLI:

1. Making the Case for Metrology
2. Learning and Development
3. International and National Collaboration
4. Products and Services (Member Benefits and Marketing)
5. Organizational Infrastructure/Support

The Executive Vice President (incoming NCSLI-President for 2015 and 2016) gave an overview of the “NCSLI Guiding Principles” and the “NCSLI Vision 2020” with the following viewgraphs:

### NCSLI Guiding Principles

#### Vision:

To be the Recognized Leader for Excellence in Measurement Science.

#### Mission:

- Invest in the Advancement of Measurement Science
- Promote Education and Skill Development
- Provide Tools and Resources to Enhance Member Processes
- Drive Technical Integrity in Documentary Standards Programming and Education

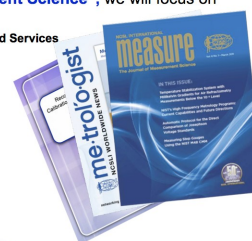


### 2020 Vision

In order for NCSLI “**To be the Recognized Leader for Excellence in Measurement Science**”, we will focus on key objectives:

#### Provide Top Quality Products and Services

- Workshop and Symposium
- MEASURE Journal
- Metrologist Magazine
- Publications
- Tech Exchange
- Training
- Regional / Local Meetings
- Business Office / Website



## NCSLI Workshop and Symposium 2014

The 2014 Workshop and Symposium had about 110 Technical Presentations, accompanied by 25 “Tutorials”, and was attended by more than 1000 participants from 26 countries (about 730 workshop participants and 310 tutorial participants).

The Plenary Lecture, entitled Measurement Science and the Environment, was presented by Dr. Martin Milton, the new Director of the International Bureau of Weights and Measures BIPM (Bureau international des poids et mesures)

The BIPM-Director emphasized in his talk that the basis for (environmental) measurements is “Metrological Traceability”: the property of a measurement result whereby the result can be related to a reference through a documented unbroken chain of calibrations each contributing to the measurement uncertainty (International vocabulary of metrology, VIM 2007).

**Measurement results (and uncertainties) that are traceable to the International System of Units (SI) are:**

1. Stable – The same measurement made against the same references will be stable overtime.
2. Comparable – Results of the same measurements against the same references in a different laboratory will be comparable (the same!).
3. Coherent – Results of the same measurements against different references will be coherent (the same!).

Dr. Milton concluded that for further success in environmental measurements we must:

- Build the case for measurement results that are traceable (to the SI)
- Develop new ways to disseminate traceability (e. g. reference networks)
- Prepare for new approaches to measurement (e. g. citizen science, big data, networking)
- Expect high standards from society for transparency

The Conference Program, following the Plenary Lecture, was organized in parallel Sessions consisting of two to three lectures. The Sessions covered a broad variety of themes, which can be grouped in three categories:

These topics obviously reflect the professional areas of interest of NCSLI in 2014. Summaries of the lectures are provided as Proceedings CD ([www.ncsli.org](http://www.ncsli.org)) to the conference attendees.

- Dimensional Metrology I, II
- Mass/Force Metrology, Weighing Instruments
- Energy I, II, III
- Temperature I, II
- Electrical I, II, II
- Instrumentation

- Traceability and Conformity Testing I, II
- Proficiency Testing I, II
- Uncertainty Determination
- Laboratory Quality
- Training Activities in Metrology

- Environmental Measurements
- Climate Change Measurements I, II
- Healthcare Metrology
- Nano-Manufacturing and Advanced Communication
- The Future of Measurement Science

## Exhibition of Measurement Instruments

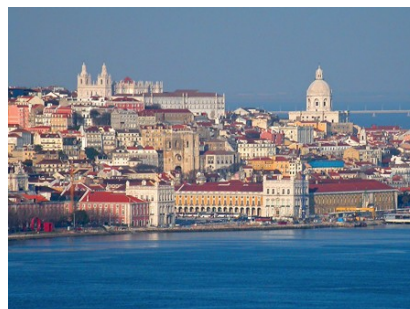
The NCSLI Conference was accompanied by an exhibition of about 100 Exhibitors, e.g. Agilent, Bruel & Kjer, Fluke, GE Measurement and Control, Keithley, Lockheed Martin, Mahr, Mettler-Toledo, Northrop Corporation, Pratt & Whitney, Sartorius Mechatronics, Trescal, Tektronix, who exhibited instruments of interest to the measurement and testing community.



Partial view of the Exhibition Hall for measurement instruments

### Upcoming EUROLAB Events

- **EUROLAB Board meeting**, 30 June - 1st July, Brussels, Belgium
- **National Members Meetings/Extraordinary General Assembly, Lisbon, Portugal**
  - ⇒ 6th October – TCQA
  - ⇒ 7th October – BoA, NMMs (+Extraordinary General Assembly)
  - ⇒ 8th October – EUROLAB International Workshop *The role of Laboratories in the Global Economy*
- **EUROLAB Board meeting**, 4th November, Brussels, Belgium
- **EUROLAB - CEOC - IFIA Safety Seminar**, 5th November, Brussels, Belgium
- **JTC PTC meeting**, 6th November, Brussels, Belgium
- **JTC PTC meeting**, 13th-14th March 2015, Milano, Italy (tbc)



Lisbon

### International Events

- **11th ECNDT meeting**, in Prague 5th to 11th October 2014
- **EU-ASEAN Forum on Food Safety**, in Kuala Lumpur, 13th and 14th October 2014
- **Food Safety Conference 2014: Safe and legal food in a changing world**, at Heritage Motor Centre, in Gaydon, Warwickshire Wednesday, 15th October 2014,
- **EA Certification Committee**, in Athens, 30 September – 3 October 2014
- **ISO TC 135 Plenary**, in Prague 5th to 11th October 2014
- **BST EMEA Safety in Action Conference**, in Noordwijk aan Zee, 8th - 9th October 2014
- **13th Measurement and Metrology Days**, in Stella Plage, France, 13 to 16 October 2014
- **Joint IAF - ILAC Annual Meetings**, in Vancouver, 08-17 October 2014
- **EAAB-CAB College meeting**, in Brussels, 21 October 2014
- **EAAB meeting**, in Brussels, 22 October 2014
- **EUROPEAN CHEMICALS AGENCY (ECHA): Topical Scientific Workshop – Regulatory Challenges in Risk Assessment of Nanomaterials**, in Helsinki, Finland, 23-24 October 2014,
- **Applying ISO14971:2012 and IEC62304 - A Guide to Practical Risk Management**, in Berlin, 23rd-24th October 2014
- **25th meeting of the General Conference on Weights and Measures**, in Palais des Congrès de Versailles, France, 18-20 November 2014
- **EA General Assembly**, in Den Haag, 19-20 November 2014
- **Energy Storage Global Conference**, in Paris, 19-21 November 2014
- **EA Certification Committee**, in Switzerland – (tbc), 3 – 6 March 2015
- **EA Laboratory Committee meeting**, in Athens, 18 - 19 March 2015
- **EA General Assembly**, in Krakow, 1 - 5 June 2015
- **2015 International Congress of Metrology**, in Porte de Versailles, Paris, 21 to 24 September, 2015