

July - September 2016



Foreword

Inside this issue:

Focus of the Month **2-3**

National Members' News **4-9**

Accreditation & Standardization **10-11**

Business News **12-13**

Policy News **14-17**

Reports **18**

Events **18-19**

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/>



Dear EUROLAB members,

Please find below the third EUROLAB newsletter of 2016 with information regarding the actions carried out by EUROLAB and developments relevant to the Laboratory Community.

The annual EUROLAB National Members' Meeting took place in September, in Lucerne, aiming to promote a joint analysis of the role of EUROLAB facing the expectations of its Associate members and the planning for future actions. This meeting of National Members, who are its key element, was a moment to evaluate the fundamental aspects of the relationship between the members and the governing bodies, namely, analyzing the effectiveness of the actions developed considering the objectives and the expectations. Some topics for the discussion were pointed out:

- The mission and goals that are established are consistent with the current reality?
- The representation and relationship with other stakeholders are those that members feel necessary and the performance of EUROLAB representatives is an added value for the members?
- Members actively contribute to the strengthening of EUROLAB, in particular, for cooperation in streamlined network projects?
- The channels of information are appropriate for sharing and to increase knowledge in the Community?

In today's world, where information is essential for knowledge, strengthen communication and networking are crucial tasks for the successful performance of EUROLAB as representative of Laboratories Community. In this sense, EUROLAB is preparing a strategic document that seeks to clarify and provide guidance to our common European project that is EUROLAB. This document is called "EUROLAB Policy Paper", being important that each members reflect on the content and message, contribute with its own vision and act accordingly to support the creation of a strong network of cooperation.

A final message to the members of the National Associations, the Laboratories that conduct daily measurement & testing activities. Knowing that the day-to-day activity gives always many concerns and are often intense, the involvement of the Laboratories in the global issues like international market, fair competition and the definition of European policies should also be considered as it will determine the medium and long term success of organizations regardless of their size or nature.

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.

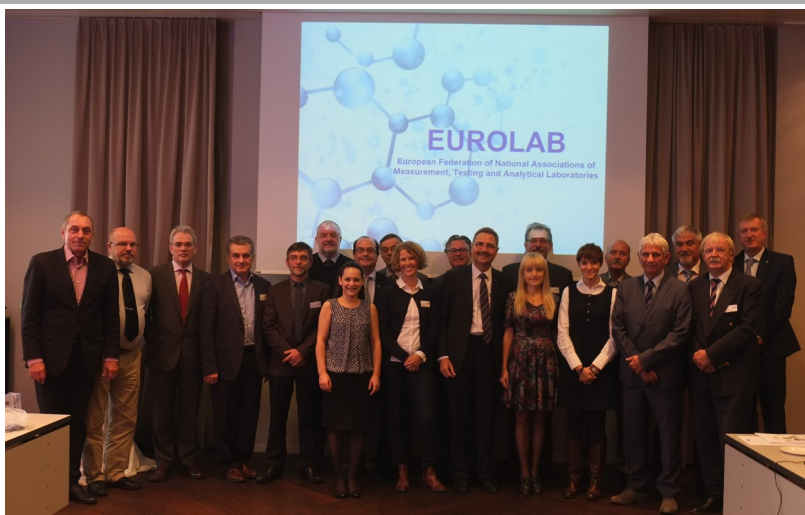
Yours Sincerely,

EUROLAB President

Álvaro Silva Ribeiro

**EUROLAB National Members' Meeting 2016, TCQA meeting &
EUROLAB-CH International Seminar**
27 - 29 September 2016, Lucerne, Switzerland

The EUROLAB National Members' Meeting, TCQA meeting and EUROLAB-CH Seminar took place in Lucerne, Switzerland, from 27th to 29th September, kindly hosted by EUROLAB-CH in conjunction with the Swiss Association for Standardization.



The EUROLAB National Members' Meeting, TCQA meeting and EUROLAB-CH International Seminar took place in Lucerne, Switzerland, from 27th to 29th September, kindly hosted by EUROLAB-CH in conjunction with the Swiss Association for Standardization.

The events started with the EUROLAB TCQA meeting, on 27th September where, among others, the following topics were discussed:

- TCQA documents, such as: Continuous improvement within QM systems; Internal audits; Risk-Based approach; Traceability of measurement in medical laboratories; Decision Rules; new cookbooks on how to Plan Quality Assurance activities and how to handle electronic information; new cookbook on the new ISO / IEC 17025 standard and the need to update the existing EUROLAB cookbooks in order to align them with it;
- TCQA projects: Harmonisation of Assessors; Selection and Use of Reference Materials; Use and Promotion of the EUROLAB cookbooks;
- TCQA Working Groups (WGs) and Experts Advisory Groups (EAGs);

TCQA and standardization with the main focus on ISO / IEC 17011 and ISO / IEC 17025. The TCQA meeting was followed the next morning by the EUROLAB-CH International Seminar entitled 'Revision of ISO/IEC 17025 and its new aspects of leading a testing laboratory'. During the Seminar experts from Europe and Switzerland provided the participants with first-hand information on various topics. The Seminar was opened by the host, Urs von Känel, President of EUROLAB-CH who welcomed the participants and gave an introductory presentation about EUROLAB-CH. Urs Fischer, Vice-President of SNV, presented the Swiss Association for Standardization (SNV) including its structure, organisation, main areas of focus and activities.



Álvaro Silva Ribeiro, the EUROLAB President, introduced EUROLAB aisbl, with an overview of the EUROLAB creation and objectives, role and added-value, today's challenges and the TIC sector. Irache Visiers, the Chairwoman of the EUROLAB Technical Committee for Quality Assurance (TCQA), provided the participants with information about the TCQA tasks, structure and projects, documents produced and cooperation with other organisations. Drewin Nieuwenhuis, the Secretary General of CEOC International and EUROLAB, informed the participants about the current developments of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and its impact on accreditation and laboratories. Other presentations were:

- Accreditation in Switzerland and the challenges for the Swiss Accreditation Service (SAS) and the laboratories by Rolf Straub, Deputy Head of Swiss Accreditation Body;
- Revision of ISO/IEC 17025:2005 – Direct voice from the standardization group by Gabriele Dudek, Head of Section S.2. Accreditation and Conformity Assessment, BAM and Christian Müller-Schöll, Mettler Toledo GmbH;
- Is ISO 9001 good enough for covering the general management system of a Test- or Calibration Laboratory? by Paul Greenwood, UKAS Divisional Director (Operations).



The Seminar continued with a panel discussion on the 'Implementation of the new aspects of ISO / IEC 17025 – What can we do today to be prepared for tomorrow?'. The Seminar ended with closing and thanking remarks addressed by Urs von Känel.

The Board Meeting and National Members' Meeting took place on 29th September. During the National Members' Meeting the EUROLAB members discussed, among others, the developments and topics of the newly-created EUROLAB EAGs, the participation of EUROLAB in the ECVET-LAB Project: Erasmus+ KA2, the publication of the EUROLAB Policy Paper and the activity of the technical committees and working groups. The members also proposed topics for discussions, including the format of future National Members' Meetings, EUROLAB strategy, cooperation & communication with other stakeholders.

The upcoming major EUROLAB events were presented:

- The 7th International Safety Conference titled "How to ensure product safety in a global market?", 8th November 2016, Brussels, presented by Drewin Nieuwenhuis;
- The General Assembly 2017, 3rd and 4th May 2017, Bologna, Italy, presented by Paolo Moscatti.



The meeting finished with thanking remarks addressed by the EUROLAB President, Álvaro. S. Ribeiro, to Urs von Känel and the EUROLAB-CH team for hosting the EUROLAB National Members' Meeting and for the very good organisation.

News CROLAB

The CROLAB Twelfth International Conference "Laboratory Competence 2016" will be held in Vinkovci, hotel Slavonija from 19th to 22nd October 2016. The EUROLAB President Álvaro Silva Ribeiro will participate the event and will give a presentation titled; 'Can EUROLAB and the European Laboratory Community meet the challenges ahead ?'



News ALPI

Technical comparison between ALPI and ACCREDIA - The efficiency of accreditation process and surveillance activities involving all stakeholders, the Accreditation Body, Labs and customers – ALPI's Lab Working Group



The aim of ALPI's Lab WG was to analyze if there are some actions to reduce the uneconomic or unfertile activities, in the relationship between Italian Labs and Accreditation Body, during the accreditation process. The relationship with Accredia's Auditors and Quality Manager or Technicians, many times may become critical, because there are two different points of view, conformity to a Standard from one side and Business & Customer satisfaction from the other side.

Having in mind this question, ALPI Associazione organized a Working Group of skilled Technicians and Quality Managers to verify if it is possible to suggest some topics to Accredia to improve the quality of the accreditation process. In other words, Labs don't need less controls from the Accreditation Body, but they would that every audit can be an occasion for developing confidence and improving new actions to follow the market wishes.

After some meetings of the ALPI's Lab Working Group (conventions and video call conferences), a detailed report with some suggestions has been written, not only a "*cahier de doléance*", to present the point of perspective of Accredited Labs looking for the best solutions respecting the specific roles.

At the end of the work, ALPI and Accredia met together, in a collaborative context; on 21th of July 2016 ALPI presented some **"improvement suggestions regarding problems experienced by testing and calibration Labs in accreditation and surveillance activities"**. The aim of the meeting was to provide a useful return on the approach to the assessment required by the different Accredia Auditors and the identification of formal requirements difficult to be reached by from Labs' Customers. Some significant points were, e.g.: Subjectivity in the system audit, Technical Auditor's skills, Specificity of the technical checklist, Planning verification, Combined Audits and others.

Accredia's Management, the General Director F. Trifiletti and Dpt. Directors S. Tramontin/ R. Mugno, welcomed the Alpi's Lab Working Group suggestions, and committed themselves for applying all what they think may be possible, according to the EA / ILAC requirements.

One point is clear: Accredia and ALPI's WG are working for the same target in order to meet the customer's value.

News EUROLAB-CZ



Technical and Test Institute for Construction Prague, SOE, member of EUROLAB-CZ is now opening a new facility for the measurement of sound absorption of building and road traffic noise reducing devices.

The newly constructed reverberation room 205 m³ in our Teplice branch meets all the requirements of the relevant technical standards EN ISO 354 Acoustics - Measurement of sound absorption in a reverberation room and EN 1793-1 Road traffic noise reducing devices -Test method for determining the acoustic performance - Part 1: Intrinsic characteristics of sound absorption, providing our customers with excellent service.



Contact: Pavel Rubáš, PhD., rubas@tzus.cz, Phone: +(00)420602115450

News RELACRE

1st Conference on Testing and Experimentations in Civil Engineering (TESTE2016)

Portugal, 4-6 July 2016

Young Masters in Experimentation Award

The Portuguese Association of Accredited Laboratories (RELACRE) and the Instituto Superior Técnico (IST) of the University of Lisbon organized the First Conference on Testing and Experimentation in Civil Engineering held in Lisbon, Portugal, 4-6 July 2016. This conference aimed to be a scientific and technical forum for promoting the exchange of ideas and experiences on testing and experimentation in the practice of high quality, innovative, safe, competitive and sustainable civil engineering. The main topic of the conference was: Testing to Rehabilitate.

Over one hundred participants including engineers, contractors, academics and product specialists attended the conference arranged into four keynote lectures, two plenary sessions, eight parallel sessions, two thematic courses, one technical visit and one technical exhibition (teste2016.tecnico.ulisboa.pt). A total of 54 oral presentations were related to: evaluation of structures and of their performance; identification and characterization of materials; environment, risk and safety; development and use of non-destructive techniques; activity of standardization, regulation, accreditation, research and teaching; metrology, instrumentations and control.



During the conference, a poster session was dedicated to the first edition of the Young Masters in Experimentation Award. This competition aimed to promote academic teaching and research in civil engineering or a related area and was addressed to young students that have developed a master's dissertation including a relevant testing and experimentation component. The participants of the conference have voted a total of 22 posters and four posters were awarded. A special ceremony of awards was held in the Civil Museum of IST, last September 15th.



News EUROLAB-Spain

Spain has a great representation in the 13 Experts Advisory Groups (EAGs) created by EUROLAB, to increase the visibility of the laboratory community and to promote meetings with the EU institutions and relevant stakeholders.

eurolab España

News Turklab**Analytical Methods Validation Seminar, 12-13 July 2016**

TURKLAB Academy realized the “**Analytical Methods Validation**” seminar successfully at the address Acibadem University Kerem Aydınlar Campus - Istanbul on 12-13 July 2016. Our gratitude is extended to all participants that attended the seminar.

**General Conditions Seminar for the Adequacy of TS EN ISO/IEC 17025 Experiment and Calibration Laboratories, 20-21 July 2016**

The seminar of “General Conditions for the Adequacy of TS EN ISO/IEC 17025 Experiment and Calibration Laboratories” was organised successfully by TURKLAB Academy at Yeditepe University R&D and Analysis Central Laboratory - Istanbul on 20-21 July 2016. Our gratitude is extended to all participants that attended the seminar.

**TURKLAB attended the “TÜRKAK Public Stakeholders Meeting” on 23 June 2016**

Board of Directors Chairman Ms. Neşe Güneş attended the “TÜRKAK Public Stakeholders Meeting.” Presentations were displayed by the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock and the Ministry of Labor and Social Security under the moderatorship of TÜRKAK in the meeting of creating awareness for the efficient use of accreditation in public regulations. The applications of competent authorities have been discussed.

After the meeting, a reception was organized by TÜRKAK.

TS ISO/IEC 17020 Seminar, 04-05 August 2016

The seminar of “**TS ISO/IEC 17020 Compliance Assessment - Conditions for the Operation of Various Inspection Institutions**”, organized successfully by the TURKLAB Academy, provided exclusively to Oxigen Analysis Laboratory Services personnel on 4-5 August 2016. Our gratitude is extended to Oxigen Analysis Laboratory employees.

**09-10 August 2016, Measurement Traceability and Measurement Uncertainty Seminar**

TURKLAB Academy organized successfully the “Measurement Traceability and Measurement Uncertainty” seminar at the Acibadem University Kerem Aydınlar Campus - Istanbul on 9-10 August 2016. Our gratitude is extended to all participants that attended the seminar.

**Food Committee Meeting was organised on 27 July 2016**

On 27 April 2016, the Food Committee meeting was organised at the Yeditepe University Research and Development and Analysis Center Laboratory auditorium with high attendance. Our gratitude is extended to all laboratories that attended the meeting.



TÜRKAK visited TURKLAB in order to collect preliminary information for the “TÜRKAK 2017-2021 Strategical Plan Study.” 20 June 2016

Our association was visited by TÜRKAK Assistant Secretary General Mr. Kayıhan Cabioğlu. Mr. Kayıhan Cabioğlu who came to Istanbul and visited TURKLAB on Monday, 20 June 2016, in order to obtain TURKLAB opinion and suggestions for the “TÜRKAK 2017-2021 Strategical Plan Study.” The Board of Directors Chairwoman Ms. Neşe Güneş, Vice Chairman Mr. Mehmet Hüsrev and Board of Directors Member Mr. Halit Karaboğa attended the meeting to represent our association. A transparent, efficient and successful meeting was organized, where the issues of our members and the expectations of the sector from TÜRKAK were discussed.

The “TÜRKAK - TURKLAB Auditor Harmonization Project” Kick Off Meeting was held on 27 June 2016

The decision to give a start to the ‘Harmonisation of Assessors’ Project of TCQA Working Committee led by TURKLAB was taken in East Kilbride, Scotland EUROLAB General Assembly on 21 April 2016. The aim of the project is to address the lack of harmonization of assessors at the European level.

On 27 June 2016, “TÜRKAK - TURKLAB Auditor Harmonization Project” kick-off meeting was held with the cooperation of TÜRKAK and TURKLAB hosted by TÜRKAK and with the attendance of TÜRKAK top management. The meeting was attended by the Association’s Honorary President Mr. Ömer Güzel and the Board of Directors Chairwoman Ms. Neşe Güneş. In the meeting, the issues encountered by Compliance Assessment Institutions and Accreditation Agencies were evaluated and it was decided that an action plan for the management of the project would be prepared as well as guiding documents. The term of the project was defined for 2 years.

TÜRKAK and TURKLAB agreed for the project in principle and both stated their good faith for an efficient and productive cooperation.

The Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock was visited. 22 July 2016

It was stated in the interview which was made by TURKLAB with the Deputy Undersecretary Dr. Nihat Pakdil that, as per the “Import Application Instruction for Materials and Substances in Contact with Food”, we conveyed our concerns regarding the impact of decreasing the analysis frequency of imported products on food safety and reliability. Particularly in such a case, it was stated that consumption of a defective product or raw material by consumers entering our country without being analyzed could have negative impacts on public health and the prestige of our Ministry could be damaged. At the end of the meeting, Mr. Pakdil expressed that he would deal with this subject matter.

TURKLAB Contributed in the External Stakeholder Workshop within the Scope of “TÜRKAK 2017-2021 Strategical Plan Study” - 28 July 2016

TURKISH ACCREDITATION AGENCY organized the “2017-2021 TÜRKAK Strategical Plan External Stakeholder Workshop” in Ankara on 28.07.2016 with the attendance of approximately 75 people comprising TÜRKAK stakeholder organizations and institutions, trade bodies, non-governmental organizations and university representatives within the scope of the 2017-2021 strategical plan preparation studies.

Representation of TURKLAB in the preparation stage of “Turkish Accreditation Agency (TÜRKAK) 2017-2021 Strategical Plan” was provided by Board of Directors Chairman Ms. Neşe Güneş. Contributions in accordance with the association’s opinion and policies regarding the below issues have been made in the workshop.

- Studies to be made in order to develop the TÜRKAK accreditation and compliance services,
- Problems faced within cooperation with TÜRKAK and areas of improvement,
- Potential cooperations to be developed in the near future,
- Studies anticipated to increase the TÜRKAK brand awareness,
- Studies to be conducted to increase accreditation awareness within the public

As the output of the workshop, the impact of national and global developments on TÜRKAK activities have been evaluated, the structural and legal restrictions in TÜRKAK field of activity have been defined and the achieved outputs were decided to constitute an input for the strategical plan in long term point of view and in issues for defining privileged fields to be focused on.



On 26 July 2016, the opening meeting of TR 13 IB AG 03 AB Twinning Project was realized

The opening meeting for 'Official Controls, Animal Welfare, Zoonoses and Development of Capacity Related to Animal By Products' 'TR 13 IB AG 03 AB Twinning Project' which is carried out jointly by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, French Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Hungaria National Food Chain Safety Office was realized on date 26 July 2016 within the scope of the financial cooperation before the Turkey-EU participation.



Our Food Committee President Tolga Tellibayraktar attended the meeting to represent TURKLAB, where Dr.Nihat Pakdil, the Deputy Undersecretary of Food, Agriculture and Livestock made the opening speech.

Within the scope of this twinning project, a training related to EU legislation, applications and laboratory analysis will be given to one thousand four hundred personnel in charge for official controls in issues of food and feed safety by means of preparing audit procedures that are fully compliant with EU and multi-year national control plan and the project will continue until May 2018. A hundred thousand Euro will be covered by Turkey for the project and its total budget will be two million

News BMTA



ISO17025 Seminar and Assay Tour

On the 5th July BMTA held a seminar on the upcoming changes to ISO 17025 at the Assay office in Birmingham.

This was a very popular event with roughly 70 delegates in attendance. Visitors were a mixture of members and non-members, and covered a variety of different industry sectors.

The seminar began with a presentation from Trevor Thompson, Head of Operations Support at UKAS. Trevor has been the BSI member on ISO/IEC/CASCO WG44 who are revising ISO/IEC 17025:2005, and so was able to discuss his first-hand knowledge about the upcoming changes.

After Trevor Thompson's Presentation Carol Stewart, Technical Director at Exova gave a presentation about the impact the changes will have from a Laboratory manager's perspective, and how best to prepare for this.

Trevor Thompson and Carol Stewart then led a discussion session, where they answered questions and discussed issues directly relevant to the delegates.

As the event was being held at the Assay Office Birmingham, Nyasha Pitt gave a very informative presentation on the work carried out by the Assay office, which was followed by an excellent tour around the working floor to see the hallmarking in action.

Standardisation

- A three month ballot on **ISO/IEC DIS 17011, Conformity assessment —Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies** has opened on 2016-08-25 and will close on 2016-11-17.
- The **confirmed minutes of the 25th ISO CASCO CPC meeting** have been circulated.
- The following documents have been posted on the ISO/TC 34/SC 17 eCommittee: - **SC17 N431 2nd ISO CD 22000 FSMS - Requirements for any organization in the food chain**; - **SC17 N430 Observed comments on CD 22000 from 4th and 5th WG 8 meetings**; - **SC17 N429 ISO Directives - Info on changes in 2016 versions**.
- N 450, Ballot opened on **ISO/IEC NP 17029, Conformity Assessment – General requirements for bodies performing validation and verification activities**. The launch of this NP was decided by ISO/CASCO at its plenary meeting, May 2016 and is linked to the work carried out within ISO/CASCO WG 46 Validation and verification. The **New Work Item Proposal (NWIP) to develop ISO/IEC 17029, Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies performing validation and verification activities**, was approved by 51 out of 55 ISO/CASCO P-Members and 25 out of 28 IEC P - Members.
- Systematic reviews opened for **ISO/IEC TS 17021-4:2013 Conformity assessment -- Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems -- Part 4: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of event sustainability management systems** and **ISO/IEC TS 17023:2013 Conformity assessment -- Guidelines for determining the duration of management system certification audits**.
- Mr. Alister Dalrymple is the new co-convenor of **PC302 "Guidelines for Auditing Management Systems"**.
- The voting results on the **ISO/FDIS 17034 General requirements for the competence of reference material producers** were published. Members voted in favour of the ballot.
- The results on the ballot **ISO/IEC DIS 17021-2 Conformity assessment -- Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems -- Part 2: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of environmental management systems** have been published. The members voted in favour of the ballot.
- Based upon communication among **FSSC22000**, ISO Central Secretariat and the **ISO/TC 34/SC 17** secretariat, it was proposed that an official **D-liaison between FSSC22000 and ISO/TC 34/SC 17/WG 8** is established.
- The ISO 2016 key areas of interest to consumers in standards has been published. New areas include: vape and vape products, healthcare services, consumer warranties and guarantees. For additional information you can visit the following link: http://www.iso.org/iso/key_areas_programme_copolco.pdf
- The ballot on **ISO/IEC 17029 Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies performing validation and verification activities** is now closed. The **members voted in favour of the ballot**.
- The **STADIST - Standards distribution newsletter/Week 34** has been published.
- The following committees have been created as active:
 - **ISO/CP 308 Chain of custody**
 - **ISO/TC 307 Blockchain and electronic distributed ledger**
 - **ISO/TC 309 Organizational governance**
- CASCO and COPOLCO members and organizations in liaison to have been invited to propose candidates for co-convenorship and nominate experts with relevant expertise for a **CASCO/COPOLCO JWG on ethical labelling**. Those who are interested should fill in the expert nomination form in Annex 3 and sending it by email to the COPOLCO Secretariat (copolco@iso.org), by 31st October 2016. The first JWG49 meeting will be held from 13-14 December 2016, at the ISO Central Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland.
- CEN and CENELEC have revised their Cooperation Agreement with the Standardization Administration of the People's Republic of China (SAC). You can find the press release here: http://www.cencenelec.eu/News/Press_Releases/Pages/PR-2016-005.aspx
- A conformity assessment query has been published on a CEN/CLC EN 124-2 standard. For more information, see the enclosed document.
- A CEN-CENELEC Press Release on CEN and CENELEC position on Standard Essential Patents and Fair, Reasonable and Non-Discriminatory (FRAND) commitments has been published. The full version of this press release can be found on the [CEN-CENELEC website](#).
- **ASTM has published method D8045 for the determination of Acid Number (AN) in crude oil and petroleum products**. The new method describes thermometric titration and was developed by Metrohm together with industry leaders using the 859 Titrotherm titrator. Method D8045 demonstrates the superiority of thermometric titration for complex petroleum samples, as it provides for better reproducibility of results, is significantly faster, and consumes less reagent than the commonly used method D664.

Accreditation

- The document **EA-3/13 M 2016: EA Document on the Application of ISO/IEC 17021-1 for the Certification of Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (OH&SMS)** has been approved with some minor changes following a ballot in May. The document has also been published on the EA website at: <http://www.european-accreditation.org/publication/ea-313>
- The latest **EA Multilateral Agreement (EA MLA) report** which provides statistical information on the EA MLA, as well as an overview of the key activities completed in 2015 to further develop the MLA coverage and to strengthen the operation of the EA peer evaluation system, has been released. The report can be found on the EA website: <http://www.european-accreditation.org/brochure/ea-mla-annual-report-2015>
- The **38th EA General Assembly** is planned to take place in Borås, Sweden on 23rd-24th November 2016.
- IAF has published the **2015 Annual MLA Report**. This report sets out the detailed activity that is carried out as part of the peer evaluation process, to ensure that regulators, specifiers, and businesses can have confidence in accredited certification and the IAF Arrangement. A copy of the report is available from the IAF website.
- **ILAC-P15:07/2016 - Application of ISO/IEC 17020:2012 for the Accreditation of Inspection Bodies** provides information for the application of ISO/IEC 17020:2012 *Conformity assessment – Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection* for the accreditation of inspection bodies has been revised and is available on the [Publications and Resources](#) section of the ILAC Website.
- The ILAC Marketing and Communications Committee (MCC) has submitted the document titled **ILAC-R4:draft 08/2016 – Use of the ILAC Logo and Tagline” to ILAC Full Members and Associates** for a 30-day voting period.
- The commenting period on the **EA 2025 Strategy report** has ended. The observations were discussed during the next project meeting, which will take place on the 22nd and 23rd September in Paris.
- The IAF/ILAC Joint Working Group (JWG) on A-Series Maintenance has submitted the **IAF/ILAC-A3:xx/201x - IAF/ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Reporting on the Performance of an Accreditation Body (AB) A Tool for the Evaluation Process** to all ILAC and IAF Members for a 60-day comment period.
- The Draft Agenda for the **20th ILAC General Assembly**, to be held in New Delhi, India, on the 2nd and 4th November 2016 has been circulated.

Business Results 2016

EUROFINS Q2

- Revenues of EUR 1,208m
- Adjusted EBITDA grew 52.3% to EUR 216.6m
- Adjusted net profit increased 51.5% to EUR 93.4m
- Operating Cash Flow grew 40.2% to EUR 128.6m

Business news

- **A new consultancy has been established to assist analytical chemists with complex or demanding applications using gas chromatography (GC).** SepSolve Analytical Ltd, a company of the Schauenburg International Group, provides a unique combination of expert advice, equipment from numerous suppliers, and applications support to the global analytical chemistry sector for the characterisation of complex mixtures by GC-based technologies.
- **The British Approvals Service for Cables (BASEC), has been designated by the UK Government Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) as a Notified Body for conducting cable testing to the Construction Products Regulation (CPR) and a Notified Body for cable product certification to the CPR.**
- **ClassNK appointed the Global Technology Assessment Center (GTAC) of TÜV Rheinland Japan as a certified laboratory today at an appointment ceremony held at GTAC in Yokohama.** The appointment is in accordance with a worldwide partnership agreement that the two parties entered into in September 2015 to expand their testing and certification services portfolio and better serve their clients.
- **CSA Group announced that its laboratory in Bangalore, India received the CB accreditation for IT, medical and lab, test and measurement equipment.**
- **DEKRA is expanding its testing and certification business in East Asia. DEKRA has established a testing laboratory for the "Internet of Things" (IoT) in the high-tech region of Linkou, Taiwan.** Meanwhile, a DEKRA laboratory for testing electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) and wireless technologies has been set up on the new campus of computer manufacturer Lenovo in Beijing, China.
- **AT4 wireless – a DEKRA company – will provide testing services to assess fair coexistence of Wi-Fi and LTE in unlicensed spectrum (LTE-U) devices in accordance with the Wi-Fi Alliance Coexistence Test Plan.** The testing assesses whether commercially available LTE-U devices coexist fairly with Wi-Fi in the same environment.
- **DNV GL joined SEA\LNG, a new cross industry initiative group to accelerate the use of liquefied natural gas (LNG) as a marine fuel.** The partners involved in the project are Carnival Corporation & plc, ENGIE, ENN, GE, GTT, Lloyd's Register, Mitsubishi Corporation, NYK Line, Port of Rotterdam, Qatargas, Shell, TOTE Inc. and Wärtsilä.
- **DNV GL has launched a new joint industry project (JIP) together with thirteen global partners to mutually develop a Recommended Practice for the coupled analysis of floating offshore wind turbines.**
- **Eurofins QTA Inc. (US) and Q-Interline A/S (Denmark) announced a signed collaboration for the North American market.** This process will take effect immediately and seeks to strengthen the market offering of both Eurofins QTA and Q-Interline.
- **Eurofins Digital Testing has joined a growing list of vendors and operators to license the Reference Design Kit (RDK),** the pre-integrated software stack for hybrid and IP-only set-tops and gateways being managed by Comcast, Liberty Global and Charter Communications.
- **Grain Farmers of Ontario and SGS Canada Inc. unveiled the Grains Analytical Testing Laboratory** with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday, July 11 SGS Canada and Grain Farmers of Ontario representatives outlined the lab is a historic joint venture as the first private commercial grains and analytical testing facility for cereal crops in Canada.
- **Intertek has supported Frugalpac, a pioneering UK packaging firm, in developing a recyclable coffee cup.** The innovative cup is now being trialled by some of the world's major coffee brands.
- **Intertek announced the expansion of the Lighting General Coverage Program to include a larger scope of LED products.**
- **Intertek has invested a further £800,000 in its Manchester corrosion and materials testing centre to offer world-leading facilities for innovative research, consulting and testing services.** Production and Integrity Assurance (P&IA), part of Intertek Exploration and Production, announced a £1.2 million investment in the centre last year and has since expanded the site to 40,000 sq ft, making it one of the largest integrated materials engineering consultancy and testing facilities in the world. It has now been re-named 'The Manchester Technology Centre'.
- **Intertek has announced that its food testing laboratory in Hyderabad has received accreditation from the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority.** The laboratory, which provides services to the agri-exporters' community, will now be able to provide the mandatory certifications for a variety of agricultural products being exported from India.
- **Intertek has launched a faster and more-specific test for Legionella, the water-borne bacterium that may cause Legionnaire's Disease in humans.** The test provides results in 24 hours, rather than the standard 10 days.
- **A new service has been introduced into the food manufacturing sector that investigates faults in foods.** The system is delivered by Public Analyst Scientific Services (PASS) – part of the Eurofins Scientific Group.
- **LE Global Services (LGMS) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with TUV Nord Malaysia to launch an advanced software security testing assurance program.**
- **Lloyd's Register's Notified Body services for European Union directives will not change following the recent UK referendum to leave the EU.** LR will continue to provide its current services to global companies while the UK Government sets out arrangements for the withdrawal from the EU.
- **Lloyd's Register has secured 2 of the 4 major UKCS projects recently tendered by the Oil & Gas Authority (OGA) for the UK Continental Shelf (UKCS).** The contracts are for the provision of Regional Exploration Maps and Regional and Field Support Engineering Services.
- **Lloyd's Register has announced the launch of a comprehensive new service focused on assets at late life stage and those nearing Cessation of Production.** The new service will assist operators with maximising economic recovery and reducing costs by eliminating inspection and maintenance activities that don't fulfil criteria.
- **Laboratory analysts from around the world will congregate in Telford (UK) on 2nd and 3rd November to focus on the testing, monitoring and analysis of water, wastewater and environmental samples.** Featuring a wider range of conferences, workshops, demonstrations and an international exhi-

bition, WWEM 2016 will be even larger than previous WWEM events, which stretch back over eleven years.

- **Market.Biz has recently launched new Market Research Report on "Environmental Testing Market" is a in-depth and professional survey on Environmental Testing Market.** The [research study](#) Global Environmental Testing Industry offers strategic assessment of the Global Environmental Testing market.
- **The collaboration between NATURKRAFT and TÜV AUSTRIA guarantees consumers, companies, cities, and municipalities a resource-friendly and sustainable supply of green electricity from Austria.** NATURKRAFT has set itself the goal of supplying customers with electricity exclusively from renewable energy sources (water, wind, biomass, geothermal, sun etc.). The source of electrical energy as well as the associated environmental impact is tested on an annual basis by TÜV AUSTRIA and confirmed by a certificate.
- **A new analytical test has been launched in the UK that provides sensitive, specific and efficient predictive analysis of a rare form of cancer from a simple urine sample.**
- **Samsung Electronics announced that its line-up of 2016 Smart TVs has been certified by TÜV Rheinland, for their usability.** TÜV Rheinland also validated Samsung Smart TVs for their remote features.
- **SGS announced the opening of a new laboratory, dedicated to the processing and analysis of asbestos -containing materials, in Toulouse.**
- **SGS opens coal sampling lab at Richards Bay Coal Terminal.** Richards Bay Coal Terminal (RBCT) has been in operation for 40 years and is one of the leading coal export terminals in the world.
- **SGS Oil, Gas and Chemicals Services has launched a new testing facility, dedicated to oil condition monitoring (OCM), in St. Petersburg, Russia.** The new laboratory will offer a complete range of OCM services to many industries, including factories, road transport, railway, marine, mining and power generation.
- **SGS has announced that it has opened a new facility in Wiesbaden, Germany, exclusively to offer extractables and leachables testing for the pharmaceutical and related industries.**
- **SGS's dedicated grains laboratory and panification facility in Canada, a joint venture with Grain Farmers of Ontario, was officially opened on July 11.**
- **SGS launches accredited analysis method for mineral oil hydrocarbons in food and food packaging.**
- **SGS has received approval from India's Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee (CIBRC) for two of its laboratories based at Chennai and Ahmedabad.**
- **SGS has developed an accredited method of analyzing the presence of mineral oil hydrocarbons (MOH) in food and food packaging.** Identified as potentially mutagenic and carcinogenic by the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA), MOH are used in packaging and as yet unregulated, though recommended limits do exist in Germany.
- **SZU was approved as a testing and certification body within the KEYMARK system for heat pumps.**
- **Tektronix in partnership with TTI Distribution, and University of Warwick, School of Engineering, announced the opening of a new fully equipped state-of-the-art undergraduate electronics teaching laboratory**

ry with wireless communications. Campden BRI is announcing new courses on Weights and Measures, Food Law and Labeling, starting with October 6. The first course, "Weights and Measures", deals specifically with the quantity control of food and drink. The course will be of particular benefit to production and quality assurance staff in companies whose products are sold by weight or volume but will also appeal to other staff who wish to improve their understanding of this complex subject.

- **Trescal has officially opened the doors to its brand new facility in Derby – the UK's only UKAS accredited rotary table Measurement Testing facility.**
- **Trescal has acquired Precision Metrology, a repair and calibration laboratory. Trescal has been backed by Ardian since 2013.**
- **UL has announced the official opening of the newest UL safety testing facility for appliances and controls in Toronto, ON.** This laboratory complements UL's existing service portfolio with a custom-designed safety testing facility.
- **UL has announced it has launched the Product Lens™ report, a new chemical disclosure tool to meet marketplace product transparency demands, providing clarity by putting chemical hazards into context.**
- **UL has announced an alliance with Marex Canada Limited to deliver field evaluation services for gas-fired equipment in the Province of Alberta.**
- **UL announced its new Advanced Inverter Testing and Certification Program.** As electric utilities continue to modernize their grids through the use of larger amounts of distributed generation and renewable energy sources, the UL service portfolio expands to meet the ever-changing needs for safety, performance and grid support functionality.
- **UL announced that it is entering into a relationship with world-renown toxicologists and researchers to develop a cutting-edge tool to predict the toxicity of chemicals.**
- **WTW (a Xylem brand) has announced new lab and field IDS digital multi-meters for pH, Cond. and D.O. measurement.** They work with WTW's new Bluetooth® wireless transmission modules, allowing a comfortable handling in confined spaces, e.g. under laboratory hoods and laminar flow benches.

Policy news

Chemicals

- The European Commission has recently amended the [Classification, Labelling and Packaging \(CLP\) Regulation](#), updating the list of substances with a harmonised classification. Companies have to apply the revised classifications for the safe use of these chemicals by 1 March 2018 at the latest. <http://tinyurl.com/zfez7r8>
- The REACH [requirements for skin sensitisation](#) are changing, making non-animal testing the default requirement. Registrants are encouraged to consider their testing strategies now for the 2018 registration deadline. The amended REACH annexes concerning skin sensitisation are expected to enter into force in autumn 2016. The information needed for the classification or risk assessment of a substance will then be obtained through non-animal methods as a first step. In vivo methods can only be used if the in chemico or in vitro test methods are not adequate for the substance or cannot be used for classification and risk assessment. <http://tinyurl.com/jmgdjwz>
- EU countries have voted in favour of a Commission proposal which will improve the availability of information on chemicals, needed in case of poisoning. This harmonisation will lead to better health protection for EU citizens and at the same time save EU producers and importers of chemical mixtures approximately €550 million annually. <http://tinyurl.com/hogm9ds>
- The Commission published a [report](#) prepared by the University of Bordeaux on the implementation of the Council recommendation of 15 November 2001 (2002/77/EC) on the prudent use of antimicrobial agents in human medicine. The report is based on questionnaires completed by EU and EEA Member States in 2015, which were analysed by the Bordeaux researchers. <http://tinyurl.com/zqv8xrd>

Consumer Protection

- The European Commission presented the preliminary results of the REFIT exercise on consumer and marketing law to the European Parliament's Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO), in particular in relation to the Consumer Sales and Guarantees Directive and the question as to whether the scope of the proposal on contracts for the online and other distance sales of goods could/should be extended to face-to-face sales.
- The European Commission [published](#) its 2016 Consumer Markets Scoreboard which monitors EU consumers' ratings of how 42 goods and services markets work. These ratings show that markets performance has improved since the last scoreboard in 2014. The positive trend observed since 2010 is speeding up, with financial services showing the biggest progress. <http://tinyurl.com/jgaehqf>
- The European Commission has carried out a study that provides fresh insights and recommendations on how consumer readership, comprehension and trust in T&Cs can be improved. The study will inform the ongoing [review of EU consumer and marketing law](#), as it is particularly relevant for the Unfair Contract Terms Directive.
- A new study from the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM), shows that the sales lost due to counterfeiting of sports equipment –not including sportswear– correspond to 6.5% of all sales in this sector across the 28 EU Member States. The study also shows that approximately 2,800 jobs are lost in this sector throughout the EU, as manufacturers sell less than they would have done in the absence of counterfeiting, and therefore employ fewer people.
- On 29 September AM, D. Dalton (ECR) presented his [draft report](#) on "Approval and market surveillance of motor vehicles and their trailers, and of systems, components and separate technical units intended for such vehicles". The regulation replaces the 2007 Framework Directive on type approval, making its provisions directly applicable. It aims to ensure a transparent and sustainable regulatory framework that provides a high level of safety and environmental protection.
- BEUC has published a new [position paper](#) on the need to better protect consumers. The report states that today's EU laws largely fail to protect consumers from exposure to endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs). That is because the EU lacks concrete criteria that define what EDCs are and how they should be regulated. <http://tinyurl.com/j8b8w8l>

Energy & Environment

- European Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel Arias Cañete participated in the second ever [G20 Energy Ministerial](#) meeting in Beijing, China. At the meeting, energy ministers agreed on a [communiqué](#) reaffirming their commitment to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. The communiqué recognises the key role of renewable energy in achieving the goals set at the Paris climate conference held in December last year.
- The European Commission adopted the first EU list of invasive alien species, an important step towards halting biodiversity loss. The list contains 37 species that cause damage on a scale that justifies dedicated measures across the Union. <http://tinyurl.com/zptuuhm>
- The European Commission has adopted a new set of ecological criteria under the existing EU Ecolabel scheme for the product groups of: Furniture, Footwear and Computers. From now on, manufacturers of footwear, furniture and computers (personal, notebook and tablet computers) who wish to benefit from the EU Ecolabel will have to comply with strict requirements that focus on the environmental performance of the

product, but also cover product safety and social aspects. <http://tinyurl.com/h8mwxvt>

- **The European Parliament's Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) has considered the amendments tabled to Mr Gyürk's (EPP) [draft report](#) on the EU strategy for liquefied natural gas and gas storage.** Members have tabled a total of 265 [amendments](#). Many of the amendments put more emphasis on the importance of lessening the EU's gas dependency in the long-term, reflecting its commitment to reduce GHG emissions and avoiding stranded assets in fossil fuel infrastructure. Other amendments stress the need to prioritise gas production in the Mediterranean, the Black Sea and the Caspian region and to interconnect landlocked countries in Central and South East Europe. The vote in ITRE Committee was scheduled for 26 September.
- **The ITRE Rapporteur, Mr. Zdzisław Krasnodębski (ECR), in his [draft report](#) presented in June, proposed 28 amendments to the Commission's proposal on "Establishing an information exchange mechanism with regard to intergovernmental agreements and non-binding instruments between Member States and third countries in the field of energy and repealing [Decision No 994/2012/EU](#)", which is part of the "Gas Package", as a step towards enhancing EU energy security.** After the consideration of the draft report, a further [203 amendments](#) were tabled. Most of the amendments strengthen the more 'European approach' taken by the Rapporteur, while others seek to give Member States more freedom in negotiating their IGAs. ITRE is expected to vote on its report in October.
- **ITRE will discuss [amendments](#) to the proposed Regulation on the security of gas supply on 13**

October 2016. Together with the amendments contained in the draft report, a total of 888 amendments were tabled, touching upon all major elements of the Commission proposal. They include amendments on the definition of "protected customer" and "essential social service", the composition of regions, supply standards and risk assessments as well as preventive action plans and emergency plans.

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) has published its [position paper](#) on improving the effectiveness of the European framework for energy infrastructure development.

Council and European Parliament reach provisional agreement on the revision of the National Emissions Ceiling Directive.

The European Parliament's committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) considered the 650 amendments for the Cost-effective emission reductions and low-carbon investments draft report. The possible review of the linear reduction factor after the stocktaking exercise foreseen in the Paris Agreement will be discussed, as well as the auction share, a possible tiered approach for carbon leakage and the compensation of indirect emissions costs.

ENVI Committee voted the [draft opinion](#) on an Aviation Strategy for Europe. The draft opinion stresses that any future European aviation strategy needs to consider as a key priority the sustainable development of the sector in order to avoid the environmental impacts of aviation, including climate change, stratospheric ozone depletion, air pollution and noise.

Medical Devices

- **Agreement has been reached on the new Medical Device Regulation, which will replace the current Medical Device Directive (93/42/EEC) and Active Implantable Medical Device Directive (90/385/EEC).** This text brings with it more scrutiny of technical documentation; it addresses concerns over the assessment of product safety and performance by placing stricter requirements on clinical evaluation and post-market clinical follow-up, and requiring better traceability of devices through the supply chain.
- **The Council approved at ministers' level in September the agreement reached with the European Parliament for better surveillance and traceability of medical and in vitro diagnostic devices.** Following their legal-linguistic review, the two draft regulations will be then adopted by the Parliament and the Council, probably at the end of the year or early 2017. The new rules will apply 3 years after publication for medical devices and 5 years after publication for in vitro diagnostic medical devices. The final texts of the two regulations were published on 27th June.

Food

- **Mordor Intelligence announced the publication of their research report on the global food safety testing market.** The report titled "[Global Food Safety Testing Market Segmented by Type of Contaminant and Geography](#)," discusses the current landscape and outlook of the market.
- **EU Health and Food Safety Commissioner Andriukaitis [welcomes](#) the political agreement reached on the EU proposal for revision of the provisions on official controls along the food chain.**
- **The European Union (EU) has recently amended the 'Food Contact Plastics' Regulation.** This comprehensive amendment will be implemented in two phases starting September 14, 2016.
- **[The Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed \(RASFF\) 2015 annual report](#) reveals that the European Commission last year received 3049 notifications of food or feed risks via this EU-wide alert system.** Of these notifications, 775 alerts concerned a serious health risk.
- **The Commission announced the composition of the EU Platform on Food losses and Food Waste.** Part of the 2015 [EU Action Plan for Circular Economy](#), the Platform is to bring together 70 member organisations, both from the public and private sectors, in order to maximise the contribution of all actors and support achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 12.3 to halve per capita food waste at the retail and consumer level by 2030, as well as to reduce food losses along the food production and supply chains. The Platform will have its kick-off launch meeting on 29 November. <http://tinyurl.com/zk6hzxs>

Food

- The Commission has published the [guidance](#) on food safety management systems including HACCP. It has been published in all EU languages a notice to facilitate understanding and implementation of food safety management systems by food business operators. It explains in concrete terms what is expected from them to ensure compliance with this basic requirement of EU food safety legislation, highlighting notably the possible facilitations offered by the EU legislation for small and medium size establishments (SMEs). <http://tinyurl.com/z4coemd>

International Free Trade Agreements

- A detailed [report](#) of the 14th round of TTIP talks is now available. It sets out progress achieved, chapter by chapter.
- The European Commission has published record number of EU proposals from the 14th round of talks for a trade agreement with the United States. <http://tinyurl.com/jh26kdu>
- The fifteenth round of EU-US negotiations on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) agreement took place in New York, from 3 to 7 October.
- The European Parliament's Committee on International Trade (INTA) held its first exchange of views on CETA, the trade agreement between the EU and Canada, since the European Commission adopted its draft proposal for signature and conclusion of the trade agreement on 5 July 2016. CETA is the first FTA the EU has completed with another major established OECD economy and its most far reaching trade agreement so far.
- The European Commission has given until 1 October 2016, the six better-off African countries that negotiated Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the EU, to move forward with putting them in place. Those who don't would be removed from the "Market Access Regulation" (MAR), which ensures temporary duty-free quota-free to the EU market for the non-LDC "EPAs countries", i.e. Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Namibia and Swaziland.
- The EU's agenda of trade negotiations remains very ambitious as outlined in the "Trade for all" strategy, covering TTIP, Japan, Mercosur, modernization of the Association Agreements with Mexico and Chile, Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA) and the WTO agenda. Members call for adequate appropriations for the trade-related budget lines to enable the Commission to pursue its ambitious trade agenda, which also implies sufficient financing to enable better monitoring of trade agreements.
- During the 4-7 July plenary sitting, the Parliament approved its position on the EU's [Trade Strategy](#) and voted a report on implementation of the Parliament's recommendation on social and environmental standards, human rights and corporate responsibility.
- A [study](#) conducted jointly by the OECD and the EU Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) measures the scale of counterfeit and pirated trade in order to provide policymakers with robust empirical evidence about this threat. The results show that trade in counterfeit and pirated goods amounted to up to 2.5% of world trade in 2013. This was even higher in the EU context where counterfeit and pirated goods amounted to up to 5% of imports.
- The Commission has published its [annual report](#) on trade defence action by third countries against the EU. The number of TDI measures in force affecting EU exports in 2015 was 151, which corresponds to an increase when compared to the 140 measures in place in 2014. There is a clear increasing trend in the number of measures in force since 2010, and the TDI activity remained quite important.
- The Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD) published a [new policy resolution on Technical Barriers to Trade \(TBTs\)](#) in the context of the proposed Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). The paper includes examination of the differences between the US and EU standards-making models and makes recommendations to EU and US negotiators on how these distinct approaches could be reconciled to bring about more cooperation, without lowering essential safety levels.

Single Market

- IMCO is starting its discussions on the "Fertilisers Regulation" with presentations and the first exchange of views. This proposal repeals the existing Fertilisers Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 and aligns it with the 2008 New Legislative Framework for product legislation in the EU. The Regulation should remove existing barriers to free movement of innovative fertilisers and facilitate the market surveillance. First, the Regulation will significantly ease the access of innovative organic and wastebased fertilisers to the EU single market through granting them access to CE marking. Second, the Regulation will update the current requirements for inorganic CE marked fertilisers.
- The Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs has published the latest edition of the [Single Market Scoreboard](#) that monitors the performance of EU and EEA countries in a series of policy fields and governance tools. The recently extended Scoreboard now evaluates compliance to EU law, contribution to a number of EU assistance services and how countries ensure fair competition in several sectors like public procurement and postal services. Compared to the results from the last Scoreboard (October 2015), there is a shift from average (yellow) or bad (red) to good (green) performance in 25 cases. On the other hand, performance worsened from green to yellow in 30 cases and from yellow (or even green) to red in 20 cases. <http://preview.tinyurl.com/j7mymag>

Single Market

- **IMCO is starting its discussions on the "Fertilisers Regulation" with presentations and the first exchange of views.** This proposal repeals the existing Fertilisers Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 and **aligns it with the 2008 New Legislative Framework for product legislation** in the EU. The Regulation should remove existing barriers to free movement of innovative fertilisers and facilitate the market surveillance. First, the Regulation will significantly ease the access of innovative organic and wastebased fertilisers to the EU single market through granting them access to CE marking. Second, the Regulation will update the current requirements for inorganic CE marked fertilisers.
- **The Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs has published the latest edition of the Single Market Scoreboard that monitors the performance of EU and EEA countries in a series of policy fields and governance tools.** The recently extended Scoreboard now evaluates compliance to EU law, contribution to a number of EU assistance services and how countries ensure fair competition in several sectors like public procurement and postal services. Compared to the results from the last Scoreboard (October 2015), there is a shift from average (yellow) or bad (red) to good (green) performance in 25 cases. On the other hand, performance worsened from green to yellow in 30 cases and from yellow (or even green) to red in 20 cases. <http://preview.tinyurl.com/j7mymag>
- **The European Commission has published the first Raw Materials Scoreboard prepared by the Joint Research Centre (JRC).** It highlights the need to address the EU's growing skills shortage, innovation needs and its import-dependency, providing valuable information for policy decisions. <http://preview.tinyurl.com/hxtryp8>
- **The European Commission has adopted a new report on the state of the implementation of the Construction Products Regulation, which lays down harmonised rules for the marketing of construction products in the EU.** The report shows that the implementation of the Regulation has started well, benefitting from the active involvement of stakeholders.

Public Consultations and Call for Tenders

- **The European Commission has launched a public consultation to seek views on strengthening product compliance with EU rules 'Internal Market for goods – enforcement and compliance'.** Deadline: 31 October 2016.
- **The European Commission has launched a public consultation on Single Market Information Tool.** Deadline: 7 November 2016.
- **The European Commission has launched a public consultation on the Single Digital Gateway, an instrument that will provide user-friendly access to information, e-procedures and advice services throughout Europe.** Deadline: 21 November 2016.
- **The European Commission has launched a public consultation on the implementation of an EU system for traceability and security features pursuant to Articles 15 and 16 of the Tobacco Products Directive 2014/40/EU.** Deadline: 4 November 2016.
- **The European Commission has launched a public consultation on the concept of 'similar medicinal product' in the context of the orphan legislation.** Deadline: 4 November 2016.
- **The European Commission has launched a public consultation on the first proposal for a framework of core EU indicators.**

Magnus Holmgren participated at the EEE-PT which took place from 17th-18th May 2016, in Morges, Switzerland.

Summary/ Main outcomes:

- Guidelines for the assessment of interlaboratory comparisons with few participants organised by laboratories in the process of laboratory accreditation was finalised.
- Guidelines for the application of ISO/IEC 17043 for the operation of PT for sampling. A new draft was discussed.

Magnus Holmgren participated at the HHC meeting which took place from 20th-21st September 2016, in Brussels, Belgium.

Summary/ Main outcomes:

- Postpone revision of EA-3/01 until the discussions in IAF and in the EA IC and LC have come to an end;
- The revised draft of EA-2/17 EA Document on Accreditation for Notification Purposes can be put out for voting;
- Set up a TFG to review the results of the survey on EA-2/13 and come up with a set of recommendations for consideration by HHC;
- Sub-contracting under the same legal entity as raised by TN PTP/RMP is not an issue for HHC;
- There is a need for criteria to be developed for accrediting multi-sites laboratories based on EA-2/13 and the new ISO/IEC 17011;
- EA 1/22 EA Procedure and Criteria for the Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes by EA Accreditation Body Members;
- HHC agrees to amend its ToR to provide that decisions can be made by ballot;
- The quorum for a valid voting will be met when half of the AB membership is voting or represented, and decisions will be taken by simple majority of the votes cast.

Upcoming EUROLAB Events

- **7th International Safety Conference**, 8 November 2016 , Brussels
- **JTC PTC**, 9 November 2016, Brussels
- **EUROLAB Board meeting**, 9 November, Brussels
- **JTC PTC**, 4 & 5 April 2017, Edinburgh, Scotland (tbc)
- **EUROLAB General Assembly and Annual Meetings 2017** in Bologna, 3-4 May 2017.

*International Events***MEDICAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION WORKSHOP, 22 NOVEMBER 2016, BRISTOL**

BMTA is running its 6th workshop for medical laboratories seeking UKAS accreditation. This event consists of various presentations and workshops focused on Traceability, Verification and Validation, and Measurement Uncertainty.

ASBESTOS SEMINAR

BMTA and SGS will be hosting their annual event on issues facing the asbestos industry. This seminar will be designed to bring asbestos practitioners up to date with wide ranging topics on all aspects of surveys, management schemes and asbestos on brownfield sites and in demolition situations.

For further information regarding these events and registration, please access BMTA website: <http://www.bmta.co.uk/>

- **CAB College meeting** in Brussels, 11/10/2016
- **EA Advisory Board (EAAB) meeting** in Brussels, 12/10/2016
- **Product Liability and Product Safety Summit 2016 Make the climb- preparing now for challenges in 2020** in Paris, Munich, Milan 18-20-25/10/2016
- **European Weeks for Safety and Health at Work** in Brussels, 24-28/10/2016-2017
- **UILI Lab Meeting** in New Delhi, India on 27 - 28/10/2016
- **Twelfth International CROLAB Conference of Laboratory Competence** in Vinkovci, Slavonia, Croatia, 19-22/10/2016
- **UILI LABMEETING – Governing Board and Working Group Meetings** in New Delhi, 27-28 /10/16
- **Joint Annual IAF- ILAC meeting** in New Delhi, 26/10—04/11/2016
- **International Product Safety Week (IPSW)** in Brussels, 14-18/11/2016.
- **EA General Assembly** in Boras, 23-24/11/ 2016
- **ISO/CASCO workshop with the insurance industry**, in London, 25/11/2016.
- **IAF - ILAC mid-term meetings** in Frankfurt, 20-26/04/2017
- **EA General Assembly** in Bled, 23/24/05/ 2017