

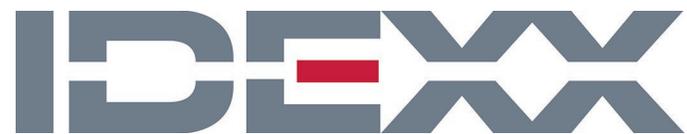


# Forum on Laboratory Accreditation

January 27 – 30, 2014  
Louisville, Kentucky



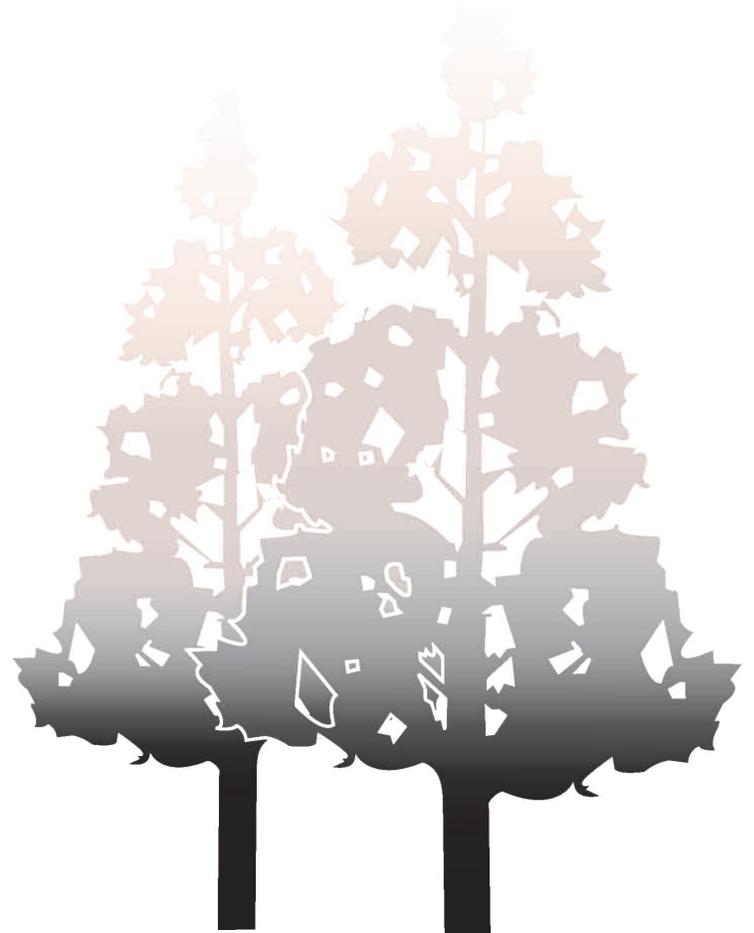
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# Forum on Laboratory Accreditation

## Agenda



## TNI Mobile Phone App

For up-to-the-minute information about the Forum, download the TNI Mobile App to your smart phone or tablet.

Features include:

- Daily Schedule;
- List of Exhibitors;
- An Area Map; and
- TNI News and General Information.

Search for "TNI" in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store on your device. If you have trouble locating the app, visit [nelac-institute.org/mobile](http://nelac-institute.org/mobile) for help.

Twitter feed: [nelacinstitute](https://twitter.com/nelacinstitute)



## Internet Access

Internet access in your room is complimentary.

Free internet access is also available in the conference area and hotel lobby.

## Meals and Breaks

Continental breakfast is served daily from 7:30 – 8:00.

Mid-morning and mid-afternoon breaks are provided daily.

Lunch is provided Tuesday and Wednesday beginning at noon.

If you have special dietary needs, inform the registration staff.

# Monday, January 27

## 8:00 – 10:00 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board -----Regency North



Session Chairs: Lara Phelps, USEPA, Office of the Science Advisor; and Patsy Root, IDEXX Laboratories, Representing Laboratory Product Developers

The Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board (ELAB) is managed in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) to solicit consensus advice on issues such as:

- Enhancing EPA's measurement programs; and
- Facilitating the operation and expansion of a national environmental accreditation program.

All ELAB meetings are open to the public.

### Overview of TNI Programs and Activities ----- Regency South A

The NELAC Institute (TNI) is a non-profit organization with a mission to foster the generation of environmental data of known and documented quality through an open, inclusive, and transparent process that is responsive to the needs of the community. Among other activities, TNI manages the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP), a program internationally recognized as the gold standard for ensuring the competency of environmental testing laboratories. Over 2,000 US laboratories have been accredited under this program. TNI also manages the National Environmental Field Activities Program (NEFAP), a program that accredits Field Sampling and Measurement Organizations (FSMOs). TNI is a voluntary consensus standards body accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

### TNI Committee Chair Training ----- Regency South B

This free training course is designed to provide information for committee chairs, committee members, and any others interested in the operation of TNI committees.

### 10:00 – 10:30 BREAK ----- Regency Foyer

### 10:30 – 12:00 TNI Annual Meeting -----Regency North

This session will highlight 2013 activities of TNI programs and discuss plans for 2014.

- Consensus Standards Development Program
- National Environmental Field Activities Program
- National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program
- Proficiency Testing Program
- General and Administrative

### 12:00 – 1:30 Lunch on your own

## 1:30 – 5:00 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### TNI Laboratory Quality Systems Committee-----Regency Center

Committee Chair: Paul Junio, Northern Lake Services

The Laboratory Quality Systems Committee develops a standard for the quality systems in environmental laboratories. The elements of the quality system include organizational structure, responsibilities, procedures, processes, and resources (e.g., facilities, staff, equipment) for implementing quality management in testing operations.

### TNI Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee----- Regency South B

Committee Chair: Stacie Metzler, Hampton Roads Sanitation District

The purpose of the Proficiency Testing (PT) Executive Committee is to establish and maintain a national PT program to support a national environmental accreditation program.

### Use of Non-Governmental Accreditation Bodies for NELAP ----- Regency South A

Moderator: Alfredo Sotomayor, Wisconsin DNR

TNI's Non-Governmental Accreditation Body Working Group has developed preliminary plans for allowing non-governmental accreditation bodies to accredit laboratories to the TNI standard. This special session is designed to solicit feedback on the proposed plan.

### 3:00 – 3:30 BREAK ----- Regency Foyer Sponsored by BT LIMS



### 5:30 – 7:00 Reception and Exhibition ----- Regency Foyer

**Reception and Exhibition**  
**Monday**  
**5:30 – 7:00 pm**  
**Regency Foyer**

# Tuesday, January 28

## 8:00 – 12:00 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### **Cryptosporidium Program ----- Regency South B**

This special session is being held to discuss options for transitioning EPA's laboratory approval program for the analysis of cryptosporidium into NELAP.

### **Proficiency Testing Expert Committee -----Regency Center**

Committee Chair: Shawn Kassner, Phenova

The mission of the Laboratory Proficiency Testing Committee is to develop standards for the:

- development and testing of PT samples;
- evaluation of PT Providers;
- evaluation of PT Provider Oversight Organizations; and
- use of PT samples by laboratories and laboratory accrediting bodies.

### **Radiochemistry Expert Committee----- Regency South A**

Committee Chair: Bob Shannon, Quality Radioanalytical Support, LLC

The mission of this committee is to maintain the radiochemistry standard (TNI Environmental Sector Volume 1, Module 6) based on public input; to provide technical assistance on issues related to radiochemistry; and to develop tools that facilitate the implementation of the standard.

### **Stationary Source Audit Sample (SSAS) Committee -----Kentucky Suite**

Committee Chair: Maria Friedman, TestAmerica, Inc.

The Stationary Source Audit Sample (SASS) Committee develops consensus standards for the manufacture and analysis of air proficiency testing for source emission testing.

### **10:00 – 10:30 BREAK ----- Regency Foyer**

### **12:00 – 1:00 LUNCH PROVIDED -----Regency North**

## 1:00 – 5:00 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### **NELAP Accreditation Council ----- Regency Center**

Council Chair: Aaren Alger, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

The purpose of this program is to establish and implement a program for the accreditation of environmental laboratories.

### **Microbiology Expert Committee -----Regency South B**

Committee Chair: Robin Cook, City of Daytona Beach

The mission of this committee is to maintain the microbiology standard (TNI Environmental Sector Volume 1, Module 5) based on public input; to provide technical assistance on issues related to radiochemistry; and to develop tools that facilitate the implementation of the standard.

### **Radiochemistry Expert Committee (Continued) ----- Kentucky Suite**

### **2:45 – 3:15 BREAK -----Regency Foyer**

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# Wednesday, January 29

## 8:00 – 10:00 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### Assessment Forum -----Regency South B

Session Moderator: Jack Farrell, Analytical Excellence, Inc.

The Laboratory Accreditation Systems Executive Committee hosts an Assessment Forum at each TNI's semi-annual meeting to share information on topics of interest related to laboratory assessments.

#### TOPICS

- Practicing Root Cause and Corrective Action
- Microbiology QA / QC Requirements
- New Standards Interpretation Process & Resolution of Standard Interpretation Requests (SIRs)
- Wastewater Resources Guidance

### Chemistry Expert Committee ----- Regency Center

Committee Chair: Richard Burrows, TestAmerica, Inc.

The Chemistry Expert Committee is chartered to develop measurement tools to improve the quality of method information, understanding, and flexibility. This includes measurement tools for the calculation of limits of detection (LOD), limits of quantitation (LOQ), calibration curves, and other related values with the most common and diverse techniques.

### Field Activities Committee ----- Kentucky Suite

Committee Chair: Justin Brown, Environmental Monitoring and Technology

The Field Activities Committee develops standards for the accreditation of field sampling and measurement organizations (FSMOs).

### Laboratory Accreditation System (LAS) Executive Committee -----Regency South A

Committee Chair: Judy Morgan, ESC Lab Sciences

The mission of the LAS Executive Committee is to manage TNI's efforts in supporting a national program for the accreditation of environmental laboratories. Activities of the Committee include developing and establishing policies and procedures, interpretations, guidance documents, and any related tools used by accreditation bodies to implement NELAP.

## 10:00 – 10:30 BREAK-----Regency Foyer

## 10:30 – 12:00 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### Information Technology Committee----- Kentucky Suite

Committee Chair: John Kuhn, JEA, Retired

The Information Technology Committee provides recommendations for the design and content of the TNI website; manages the TNI Laboratory Accreditation Management System (LAMS); and maintains TNI databases such as technology codes, method codes, and analyte codes.

### Assessment Forum (*Continued*) ----- Regency South B

### Chemistry Expert Committee (*Continued*)-- Regency Center

### Laboratory Accreditation System Executive Committee (*Continued*) -----Regency South A

## 12:00 – 1:00 LUNCH PROVIDED ----- Regency North

## 1:00 – 5:00 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### Assessment Forum (*Continued*) ----- Regency South B

### Chemistry Expert Committee (*Continued*) ----- Regency Center

### National Environmental Field Activities Program (NEFAP) Executive Committee -----Regency South A

Committee Chair: Kim Watson, Stone Environmental

The National Environmental Field Activities Program (NEFAP) involves the recognition of accreditation bodies for the accreditation of field sampling and measurement organizations (FSMOs) as defined in the TNI field activities standards. The NEFAP Executive Committee is responsible for the recognition of accreditation bodies to ensure consistent implementation of the TNI field activity standards.

### 1:00 – 3:00 Laboratory Accreditation Body Committee----- Kentucky Suite

Committee Chair: Joe Aiello, New Jersey DEP

The Laboratory Accreditation Body Committee develops the standard for operation of laboratory accreditation bodies.

## 3:00 – 3:30 BREAK -----Regency Prefunction

### 3:30 – 5:00 Advocacy Committee ----- Kentucky Suite

Committee Chair: Steve Arms, Florida Department of Health

The Advocacy Committee is charged with promoting the efforts of TNI.

## 5:30 – 7:00 TNI Committee Member Reception ----- Spire

# Thursday, January 30

## 8:00 – 11:00 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

**TNI Advocacy Committee (*Continued*) ----- Regency South**

**Consensus Standards Development  
Program Executive Committee ----- Kentucky Suite**

Committee Chair: Bob Wyeth, Independent Consultant

The purpose of this program is to develop consensus standards for use by TNI's accreditation and proficiency test programs.

**Mentor Session: Meeting TNI Standard Requirements  
in the Microbiology Laboratory ----- Regency Center**

Moderator: Betsy Kent, Reedy Creek Improvement District

**11:15 – 12:00 General Session:  
Committee Reports ----- Regency South**

Moderator: Sharon Mertens: Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District

All of the TNI committees will report on their progress.

**12:00 – 1:00 Lunch on your own**

**1:00 – 5:00 Department of Defense Quality  
Systems Manual Training ----- Regency South**

The Department of Defense (DoD) Environmental Data Quality Workgroup (EDQW) presents the final version 5.0 of the Quality Systems Manual (QSM) for Environmental Laboratories. The QSM provides baseline requirements for the establishment and management of quality systems for laboratories performing analytical testing services for the DoD. This version will be used to accredit all DoD-Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) laboratories with the goal of complete compliance within the next two and a half years.

## Exhibitors

Absolute Standards, Inc.  
ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board  
A2LA  
BT Lims  
Environmental Resource Associates  
IDEXX Laboratories  
Laboratory Accreditation Bureau  
NSI Lab Solutions  
Phenova

PRōMIUM  
QEC  
Qualtrax, Inc.  
Restek  
SCP Science  
SigmaAldrich / RTC

### Exhibit Hours

Monday

10:00 – 10:30

3:00 – 3:30

5:30 – 7:00

Tuesday

7:30 – 8:00

10:00 – 10:30

2:45 – 3:15