APHL-led Activities of the Associations Cooperative Agreement

Shari Shea, Director, Food Safety Program
AAFCO Mid-Year Meeting
January 2014
Member Involvement

SUBCOMMITTEES AND WORKGROUPS
Food and Feed Testing Subcommittee

- Monitor, update, and improve the content and utility of the on-line document repository
- Market the availability of these resources
- Work with QA Officers to create summaries of lessons learned, accreditation strategies, and best practices
- Contribute to, market, and help improve the Food/Feed Accreditation Discussion Board
Food and Feed Testing Subcommittee

• Continue to assess the current accreditation status of food and feed testing laboratories as well as the resources available to support accreditation

• Develop and work within a national work plan to move all labs toward accreditation
F/F Data National Users Group

• Discuss strategies for implementing the recommendations made in the discovery document finalized in Year 1
• Evaluate need for further standardization within the FDA-required eLEXNET data elements
• Provide input, review, and validate the technical recommendations for eLEXNET data exchange options
Accreditation Training Steering Committee

• Advise the development of 1-5 courses on prioritized aspects of ISO 17025 accreditation
• Suggest topics to address short, medium, and long-term accreditation training needs
• Contribute ideas for a mentoring program for laboratories that are seeking to achieve ISO 17025 accreditation
Equivalency Workgroup

- Review the Best Practices Document from the PFP Laboratory Task Group
- Educate members of the Associations on the content as related to equivalency standards
- Determine positions and actions the Associations can take to support laboratories that want to demonstrate equivalency to such standards
Clinical Isolate Submission Workgroup

- Identify pre-existing tools and develop additional resources that will assist states in improving rapid isolate submission to PHL’s
- Disseminate and market these tools and resources
- Develop pilot projects around activities that have been demonstrated to improve rapid isolate submission
Year 1 Products

DISCUSSION BOARD, RESOURCES, TRAINING, AND REPORTS
Discussion Board

• Food/Feed Laboratory Accreditation Discussion Board, an on-line forum for the exchange of information related to becoming accredited to the ISO 17025 standard
• Must request a link to sign up for access
• Accessible through MyAPHL anywhere on the APHL website
• Open to state and local food and feed testing personnel
### FSMA - Laboratory Accreditation ...

**Title**: FSMA - Laboratory Accreditation white paper

**Body**: A paper entitled "The Food Safety Modernization Act - Article 7. Laboratory Accreditation" featured in the January / February issue of Food Protection Trends and a USDA/FSIS's Establishment Guidance for the selection of a commercial or private Microbiological testing laboratory.

![FPT - Lab Accred.pdf](FPT - Lab Accred.pdf)

Resources

• Creation of **web pages** to support Food/Feed Testing Laboratories seeking Accreditation
• Accessible from **www.aphl.org**
• Housed on our Food Safety Program pages

• Repository of **ISO 17025 resources**
• Open to anyone in the governmental food and feed testing community (password protected)
Association Training

• Creation of a prioritized list of training topics
• Maintaining a spreadsheet of currently available ISO/IEC 17025:2005 training
• Offering a pre-recorded webinar “ISO/IEC 17025 Road to Accreditation: Where to Start and What to Consider”
Partner Training

• Delivery of three live webinars (2 on Document Control Software, and 1 on Compliance Management Software) to demonstrate commercially available tools that may be of value to laboratories seeking accreditation
Reports

• Discovery report on data exchange among food and feed testing laboratories and FDA’s eLEXNET

• Report on successful partnerships that improve Clinical Isolate Submission to Public Health Laboratories
Little Rock, AR June 1-4, 2014

ANNUAL MEETING SESSIONS
Pre-Conference Workshop

“Here we Go! ISO! How your colleagues began their path to ISO accreditation”

At the end of the session, the participant will:

• Identify three significant reasons why it is valuable to implement systematic processes in the laboratory to meet ISO standards

• Discuss possible approaches/pathways a laboratory may follow to achieve ISO accreditation
Break Out Sessions

• Pesticides, Drug Residues and Metals, Oh My! Exploring the Landscape of Chemical Testing in Food and Animal Feed
• The Evolution of Foodborne Surveillance: How Whole Genome Sequencing is Transforming Public Health
• Global Challenges to Ensuring a Safe Food Supply
Round Tables

• Modern and Hip or Cultured to Perfection? The Current State of Culture-Independent Diagnostics in Food Safety Testing

• Overview of APHL Assessment Tools (includes our Food Safety Self-Assessment Tool)
Direct Assistance to Unfunded Labs

• Site visit for consultation and to provide an extra pair of hands
• Perform data input to relieve QM of this duty
• Organize and review records or documents
• Provide internal audits
• Search for and provide sources
• Available by phone to provide information and suggestions
What else do you need?
How can we help?

Thank you!