

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

Posts - Daily Summary

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Title	Modified	Modified by
FSMA - Laboratory Accreditation ...	1/2/2014 11:10 AM	APHLUser: New!
Title	FSMA - Laboratory Accreditation white paper	
Body	<p>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.</p> <p> FPT - Lab Accred.pdf</p> <p> Guidance-Selection-Commercial-Private-Microbiological-Testing-lab-062013.pdf</p>	

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!