

AFFILIATE LABORATORY PROGRAMS NEWS

NEWSLETTER SERVING AIHA LABORATORY ACCREDITATION, PROFICIENCY ANALYTICAL TESTING AND REGISTRY PROGRAMS, LLC

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IN THIS ISSUE

Joint APLAC- IAAC
Evaluation Conducted

Changes Planned for the 2009 AAB Member
Selection Process

Coming Soon, New Accreditation Logos and
Web Site Changes

LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAMS, LLC

AIHA LAP, LLC Accepted as ILAC Associate Member

AIHA Laboratory Accreditation Programs, LLC just learned that it has been accepted as an associate member of the International Laboratory Accreditation Council (ILAC). ILAC membership allows the LLC to build its international standing and knowledge base and is an important step in meeting the LLC's goal of international recognition by becoming an ILAC Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) signatory involves being (a) an associate member of ILAC and (b) approved by ILAC or an ILAC regional body like APLAC or IAAC as a MRA signatory. AIHA LAP, LLC will be represented at the ILAC meeting in Vancouver, Canada this fall to reinforce its interest in becoming part of the ILAC MRA. As a reminder, attaining international recognition (or ILAC MRA status) will put AIHA-LAP, LLC in a position to globally compete with other accreditation bodies especially as CPSC and other federal regulatory agencies continue to rely on third-party testing laboratories that are accredited by organizations that have ILAC MRA status. Contact Cheryl O. Morton at (703) 846-0789 or cmorton@aiha.org should you have questions about the international recognition process or ILAC. For more information on ILAC, please go to www.ilac.org.

LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAMS, LLC

Joint APLAC- IAAC Evaluation Conducted

AIHA Laboratory Accreditation Programs, LLC underwent a joint evaluation by the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC) and the Inter-America Accreditation Cooperation during the week of July 20. This was a very comprehensive audit of the LLC's laboratory accreditation staff, operations, quality management system and records by APLAC and IAAC representatives who hailed from accreditation bodies in Singapore, Brazil and Canada. The evaluators also accompanied six of our site assessors as they conducted assessments. The evaluation team identified a limited number of non-conformances, comments and concerns—many administrative things can be addressed, but some will involve other remedies such as conducting training on traceability and measurement uncertainty for site assessors as well as providing AIHA-accredited labs with better guidance so that the program truly operates like its international counterparts. The accreditation LLC team is now preparing responses to the findings for the evaluation team's consideration and is working toward a goal of having AIHA-LAP, LLC considered for entry into the APLAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) during next APLAC General Assembly that will be held in early December. AIHA-accredited laboratories will be notified immediately when and if AIHA-LAP, LLC receives international recognition. For more information on the evaluation and the specific findings, contact Cheryl O. Morton at (703) 846-0789 or cmorton@aiha.org.

Call for Papers

for the Symposium on
Surface and Dermal Sampling,
Oct. 14-15, 2010 • an Antonio, Texas

**DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION IS
JAN. 14, 2010**

For details about the call for papers and online abstract submissions, please visit www.astm.org/d22symp1010.htm.

AIHA's Laboratory Accreditation Programs, LLC FoodLAP program is for laboratories that perform tests on food products (including raw agricultural commodities), finished food products, and food ingredients.

FoodLAP offers accreditation in three critical areas:

- **Microbiology**
- **Chemistry**
- **Residue Chemistry**

Facilities that should consider FoodLAP include:

- **commercial laboratories**
- **in-company laboratories**
- **state and local health laboratories**
- **government laboratories performing food testing**
- **federal laboratories**

Special Offer: AIHA-LAP, LLC is now offering a discount of up to \$1300 to any laboratory interested in pursuing FoodLAP accreditation by the end of the year. For more on how you might obtain Food Laboratory Accreditation (FoodLAP) and receive this discount, please contact AIHA's Laboratory Accreditation Programs, LLC at (703) 846-0736.

LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAMS, LLC

Changes Planned for the 2009 AAB Member Selection Process

Currently, the AIHA-LAP, LLC's process for accreditation decisions involves rulings by the Analytical Accreditation Board (AAB), which is mainly comprised of representatives from accredited commercial laboratories. We believe this process is very solid and that AAB members are making objective and impartial judgments; however, to strengthen the process, we are making some changes (outlined below) to the AAB member selection process.

These changes are being made so that we can conform to the international standard AIHA LAP, LLC has to follow as an accrediting body—ISO/IEC 17011:2004 Conformity Assessment— General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies. This standard requires that we ensure that there is no dominance of one stakeholder group on the AAB, and that laboratories are receiving objective and impartial decisions on their accreditation.

Current Process for Selecting AAB Members

Each summer, a call for applications for AAB members is announced. The applications that we receive are then screened and ranked by the AAB Nominating Committee, which decides on a slate of candidates to appear on the election ballot. Each AIHA-LAP, LLC accredited laboratory is then encouraged to participate in the election and has one vote.

NEW PROCESS

Effective immediately, the AAB Nominating Committee will become the AAB Nominating and Appointment Committee and will be charged with selecting candidates for both appointment and nomination (if appropriate) to the AAB from a wider variety of industries to “ensure a balanced representation of interested parties…” (ISO/IEC 17011, 4.3.2). Individuals from academic and/or government laboratories, as well as those from government agencies (i.e., EPA, NIOSH), that are familiar with our accreditation programs will be considered for appointment.

To ensure that we meet the standard's requirements that we “safeguard the objectivity and impartiality of the process,” we will also discontinue the election of AAB members (which has been done entirely by accredited laboratories) until we can confirm that doing so does not violate the standard. The appointment process this year will be similar to that used for the Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) and a decision about whether to conduct an election (along with appointments) will be revisited next year by the AAB.

or this year at least, the AAB Nominating and Appointment Committee will appoint an estimated four new members from academic and/or government laboratories to have more balanced representation for the next AAB term, beginning Jan. 1, 2010. Additional appointments from the commercial laboratory sector will also be made to fill two vacant slots. Current AAB members whose terms continue into 2010 will be encouraged to serve out their terms. Members representing commercial accredited laboratories will continue to be eligible for AAB membership in the future, but there will be a limit on the number to ensure a balanced representation.

We acknowledge that it has been challenging to fill the slots on AAB with members who are stakeholders (primarily accredited laboratories), and it will likely be challenging to recruit other interested parties who have the time and required expertise. Additionally, a larger AAB will increase expenses for meetings and new members will have to receive more in-depth training than the members who joined in the past, since AAB members used to gain experience on the TAP before joining the AAB.

PATH FORWARD

The AAB application submission period has been reopened this year, and accepted applications, including those from persons from non-commercial laboratories. Applications received and deemed acceptable by the Nominating Committee will be included in the final slate of candidates. The AAB Nominating Committee will recommend a slate of candidates by AAB approval and new members will be announced in the 4th quarter 2009 with terms beginning Jan. 1, 2010.

If you have any questions or feedback on the new process or the international standard to which we must comply, please contact Margie Breida, senior manager, Operations, at mbreida@aiha.org or (703) 846-0713.

LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAMS, LLC

Coming Soon, New Accreditation Logos and Web Site Changes

Now that AIHA has formed a Limited Liability Company (LLC) for its accreditation programs, the accreditation logos will be modified and made available at the beginning of 2010. AIHA-accredited laboratories in good standing will continue to have the privilege of using these logos on their web sites and marketing materials once they sign the new licensing agreements. So that our logos look more like those of our domestic and international counterparts, the new logos will



SAMPLE

include language stating that the accreditation is to international standard ISO/IEC 17025:2005 and laboratory-specific identification numbers which will allow customers to look up information on the AIHA LAP, LLC web site. Plans are also underway to change the AIHA-LAP, LLC Licensing Agreement and Advertising Policy Module to clarify that we will allow laboratory staff (from accredited laboratories) to include the new accreditation logo on their business cards so long as they don't use them in a way to imply certification of personnel.

Regarding the web site, we anticipate maintaining Scopes Manager at www.aihaaccreditedlabs.com but other upgrades, such as a searchable field with laboratory's identification numbers and the posting of scanned accreditation and scope certificates, are being planned to allow the new logos to be used in concert with the website. Please contact Sage Morgante at smorgante@aiha.org or at (703) 846-0791 should you have questions or need more information about planned revisions to the accreditation logos, advertising policies, licensing agreements and/or the accreditation LLC web site.

ANALYSIS OF RELATED BODIES

In accordance with ISO/IEC 17011:2004 (clause 4.3.7) AIHA-LAP, LLC has developed an Analysis of Related Bodies, and welcomes comments from stakeholders and other interested parties. Comments should be sent to Margie Breida, senior manager, Operations, mbreida@aiha.org.

Revised & Updated
in 2009!

Laboratory Quality Assurance and Quality Control v3.0 Self-study Course

This new, intermediate level self-study course is designed to guide you through a series of lessons on laboratory quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) procedures.

Gain up-to-date knowledge on:

- Concepts of quality assurance and quality control
- Basic elements required to implement and evaluate an effective laboratory QA/QC program
- How defined principles affect analytical data
- ISO/IEC 17025 and AIHA-LAP, LLC compliance requirements such as internal audit and management review

Available in a NEW on-demand
electronic format

To learn more visit
www.aiha.org/SelfStudy

LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAMS, LLC

CONGRATULATIONS TO AIHA'S NEWLY ACCREDITED LABS

These labs became accredited between April 1, 2009 to Oct. 1, 2009:

Con-Test Analytical Laboratory
Liberty Mutual Group
The Scott Lawson Group, Ltd.
State of New Hampshire
ATC Associates, Inc.
PPG Industries, Inc.
RJ Lee Group, Inc.
Microbac Laboratories, Inc.
Eagle Industrial Hygiene Associates
Analytical Environmental Services, Inc.
TestAmerica Laboratories, Inc.
American Analytical Laboratories, Inc.
STAT Analysis Corporation
AnalyticaLab, Inc.
CHEMTEX
Sandia National Laboratories Industrial Hygiene Analytical Laboratories
LA Testing-Los Alamitos
EMSL Analytical, Inc
Lab/Cor, Inc.
RJ Lee
Okinawa Environmental Analysis Center
FREMAP Industrial Hygiene Laboratory
Michigan Department of Community Health
University of Iowa
EMSL Analytical, Inc.

Steve Moody Micro Services, LLC
Analytical Environmental Services International, Inc.
Safe State Environmental Laboratory
Environmental Diagnostics Laboratory (EDLAB) at Pure Air Control Services
Environmental Microbiology Laboratory, Inc.
Legend Technical Services of Arizona, Inc.
U.S. Micro Solutions
Bayer Crop Science
Orange County Public Health Laboratory
Pinchin Environmental Microbiology Laboratory
Southeast Environmental Microbiology Laboratories
AmeriSci Bio-Chem
Mould Works
Wampanoag Environmental Lab
NASA Johnson Space Center
Washington River Protection Solutions LLC
Environmental Microbiology Laboratory, Inc.
Qualtest, Inc.
Nansei Environmental Laboratory Co., Ltd.
Centek Laboratories, LLC
Assured Biotechnology Corporation
SafeBridge Consultants, Inc.
Advanced Technologies and Laboratories International, Inc.
City of Toledo- Environmental Services
EMSL Analytical, Inc.

PROFICIENCY ANALYTICAL TESTING PROGRAMS, LLC

AIHA's Proficiency Analytical Programs, LLC would like to welcome the members of it's newly formed Proficiency Analytical Board

Derek J. Popp
PAT Programs
Wisconsin Occupational Health Laboratory
Chair
Programs(s): IHPAT, ELPAT, Asbestos
PAT Board

Kimberly Ruthe, CIH
Bureau Veritas North America, Inc.
Vice Chair
Programs(s): IHPAT
Registry Programs

James S. Webber, PhD
Wadsworth Center, NYS Dept. Health
Registry Board
Member
Programs(s): IHPAT, Asbestos

Fred I. Grunder
Retired
Member
Programs(s): IHPAT, ELPAT, BAPAT, Asbestos

Scott W. VanEtten
EMSL Analytical, Inc - NJ
Member
Programs(s): IHPAT

Linda Youmans-Mcdonald
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC
Member
Programs(s): IHPAT, BePAT, BAPAT

Martin Harper, PhD CIH CChem MRSC
NIOSH -WV - Health Effects Laboratory Division
Member
Programs(s): IHPAT, Asbestos, ELPAT, BePAT, BAPAT

James Alexander Scott, PhD
University of Toronto
Member
Programs(s): EMPAT

PAT Schedule

MARK YOUR CALENDARS—Keep these PAT deadlines in mind:

Industrial Hygiene Proficiency Analytical Testing Program

Enrollment deadlines

Round #180..... 12/1/2009

Environmental Lead Proficiency Analytical Testing

Round #70..... 12/1/2009

Environmental Lead Proficiency Analytical Testing

Round #69..... 10/15/2009

REGISTRY PROGRAMS, LLC

AIHA's Registry Programs, LLC would like to welcome the members of it's newly formed Registry Board

Howard Varner
Chair
Environmental Hazards Services, LLC

Robert Lieckfield
Vice Chair
Bureau Veritas North America Inc.

Colleen Becker
Member
Marine Chemist Service, Inc.

Michael Brisson
Member
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions

Ed Cahill
Member
EMSL Analytical, Inc.

Jacob Paster
Member
RMD Instruments Corp

Charles Stoye
Member
Savannah River National Laboratory

Charles Tye
Member

Kenneth White
Member

Cynthia Ostrowski
Board Liaison
CAO Consulting, LLC

MARK YOUR CALENDARS ASBESTOS ANALYST TESTING DEADLINES

AAT Round 91

Results Post October 26, 2009

AAT Round 91 Retest

Order Form Due November 9, 2009

Round Closes December 1, 2009

Results Post December 14, 2009

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