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A Focus for Analytical Chemistry in Europe

8th PT/EQA Workshop - Berlin 2014

Report from WG 1B
Review of ISO/IEC 17043

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Review of ISO/IEC 17043

- Convenors:
  - Ian Mann, SAS Swiss Accreditation Service, Switzerland
  - Michael Koch, University of Stuttgart, Germany

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Participants

- 19 PT providers
- 10 Accreditation bodies
- Others (metrology institute, laboratory, regulator, lab association)

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Which requirements in the standard have caused most debate/discussions with regards to the interpretations/implementation? Discuss from point of view of both accreditation body and PT/EQA provider?

- AB/PTP Subcontracting
  - Difference subcontractor/supplier/collaborator/partner?
  - Homogeneity testing, is accreditation enough?
  - Suitable for the scope? How to assess the subcontractor, if not accredited?
  - Determination of assigned value when expert labs are used
- PTP Real world samples
  - Difficult to find the correct level, fit for the labs' needs
- PTP Number of parameters for homogeneity testing
- AB Authorization of people running the scheme and records about that
- AB Lack of harmonization between accreditation bodies
- AB Which part of PT activities should be witnessed?

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Which requirements in the standard have caused most debate/discussions with regards to the interpretations/implementation? Discuss from point of view of both accreditation body and PT/EQA provider?

- PTP Confidentiality (Lab codes not changing over time)
- PTP Statistics (validation of statistical calculations)
- PTP Stability of samples (shipment problems)
- PTP Metrological traceability
  - only for assigned values or also for homogeneity/stability tests?
  - No reference available
- PTP Reporting requirements (solution: preliminary and final reports)
- PTP Qualitative results (microbiology) difficult to assess
- PTP/AB Tolerance limits instead of z-Scores

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Which issues in Question 1 have not yet been fully resolved? Discuss from point of view of both accreditation body and PT/EQA provider?

- All of them

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Are there any sectors where the present standard has proved difficult to apply? Discuss from point of view of both accreditation body and PT/EQA provider?

- Microbiology
  - Statistics, different from chemical/physical analysis
  - Instability of samples
- Air monitoring / emissions
  - Getting representative samples
- Fuel analysis, bioterror agents, radionuclides
  - Real samples are not enough different
- PTs for expert judgements
- Sequential schemes
  - Ensure integrity of samples (acustic)

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Given the discussion in Questions 3, do you think detailed specific guidance is required (specify the sectors)?

- Air
- Biosubstances
- Microbiology (guide available for food microbiology)
- Some guidance documents available in China
  - Forensic
  - Medical qualitative
- Radionuclides

Who should write the guidance documents?

- Accreditation bodies (cannot do that)
- ISO (e.g. ISO 22117 for food microbiology) or technical committees