

OELA REPRESENTS MEMBER LABS
OF OREGON AT THE FOLLOWING
ORGANIZATIONS AND MORE:

TNI

*The
NELAC
Institute*

DWAC

***Drinking Water Advisory
Committee***

ORELAP

***Oregon Environmental
Laboratory Accreditation
Program***

OTAC

**ORELAP Technical
Advisory Committee**



OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL
LABORATORY ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER Winter - 2009

- TNI Standards Approved – ready for implementation in 2010
- Forum on Lab Accreditation-Miami January 11-17, 2009 report
- OELA Annual Workshop 2009 at Black Bear Inn, Salem, OR, May 15.
- Benefits of being an OELA member.

For more information contact:

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**ATTENTION ALL NELAC LABS!
SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS NOW
FOR ASSESSOR FORUM AT OELA
SPRING WORKSHOP!**

For the first time, OELA will hold an Assessor Forum at our annual workshop. Questions may be submitted anonymously from any lab or employee concerning current interpretation of 2003 NELAC Standards or “deficiencies” on an on-site report. The top 10 questions will be given to ORELAP and another independent assessor for evaluation and justification. Questions and answers will be presented at our annual Spring Workshop.

2009 TNI STANDARDS-FINAL

1. Separate Lab Accreditation Standards – Volume 1 – Minor changes from 2003
2. All labs will need to purchase a copy of ISO 17025 either through ISO or through TNI by July 1, 2010. www.nelacinstitute.org
3. All standards now available for download at above website – must pay for the standards with ISO already in them.
4. Field Sampling & Measurement Organization (FSMO) standards finalized and now being implemented in 3 states – not going to work for Oregon though.
5. National Database of Accredited Laboratories finally ready for launch of their own website this spring 2009.
6. PT Number Subcommittee created to make recommendation on # of annual PTs

JAN 09 TNI FORUM - MIAMI

By Bennett K. Osborne:

Although the TNI Standards are finalized and cannot be changed, there was still a lot of positive discussion regarding their implementation and potential problems with interpretation.

Monday – Leonard Schantz, Small Lab Advocate, gave a presentation and requests input from small labs regarding their needs. lgs@cityofrochester.gov
Three new states submitting applications OK, MN and VA. All 3 require all state labs to meet same requirements. New Survey presented to highlight advantage of NELAC Accreditation. ELAB talked about problems with new EPA methods; mainly 8260C & 8270D; can't be cert. for 2 different versions. Also discussed promulgated Methods Innovation Rule allowing flexibility w/DW. Comparison document created between EPA DW Manual 5th Ed. & 2009 - TNI Standards: jeff@flowerslabs.com

Tuesday– Assessment Forum Summary
–Micro: must use Non-selective growth media on all sterile water and filtration equip to prove sterility, even if purchased
–Answer is to use new version of SW-846 and get approved for new versions.
– Cannot report modified methods without flags; even if client doesn't care.

Wednesday – Proficiency Testing Reporting Limits can be set to Level of Quantitation for reporting. If PT's below LOQ, simply report as <LOQ and if they are below that level, you'll get marked as acceptable. PT committee is pushing for fixed limits for all PT's like +/- 20%.

**OELA Annual Spring Workshop
Friday, May 15, 2009
Black Bear Inn – Conf. Center
Salem, OR**

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

- 8:00 AM – 8:30 AM Registration
- 8:30 AM – 8:45 AM OELA Pres. Keith Chapman, Salem WWTP
- 8:45 AM – 9:30 AM ORELAP Future – Dr. Michael Skeels, DHS
- 9:30 AM – 10:15 AM ORELAP Update Dan Hickman, DEQ
- 10:15 AM – 10:30 AM Break
- Sponsored by ERA**
- 10:30 AM – 10:45 AM **TNI Update Bennett Osborne, Valley Labs**
- 10:45 AM – 11:15 AM **OTAC Present. Shane Sinclair**
- 11:15 AM – 12:00 PM Electronic Report Michelle VanKleeck, DHS**
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM **Lunch (on your own)**
- 1:00 PM – 2:20 PM **Quality Systems: Marlene Moore, Advanced Systems**
- 2:30 PM – 3:00 PM *Ethics for TNI* Dennis Wells
- 3:00 PM – 3:15 PM Break
- Sponsored by HACH**
- 3:15 PM – 4:30 PM Assessor Forum **ORELAP, Marlene Moore & 3rd Party**