



# UPDATE ON THE TNI STANDARDS





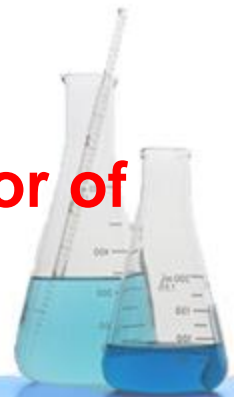
# The 2009 TNI Environmental Laboratory Sector Standard

**Volume 1: Management and Technical Requirements for Laboratories Performing Environmental Analysis**

**Volume 2: General Requirements for Accreditation Bodies Accrediting Environmental Laboratories**

**Volume 3: General Requirements for Environmental Proficiency Test Providers**

**Volume 4: General Requirements for an Accreditor of Environmental Proficiency Test Providers**





# The 2009 TNI Environmental Laboratory Sector Standard

## Volume 1: Management and Technical Requirements for Laboratories Performing Environmental Analysis

### Contains:

Module 1 - Proficiency Testing

Module 2 - Quality Systems: General Requirements  
(Contains ISO 17025 language)

Module 3 - Asbestos Testing

Module 4 - Chemical Testing

Module 5 - Microbiological Testing

Module 6 - Radiochemical Testing

Module 7 - Toxicity Testing





# The 2009 TNI Environmental Laboratory Sector Standard

## Volume 2: General Requirements for Accreditation Bodies Accrediting Environmental Laboratories

### Contains:

- Module 1 - General Requirements (Includes ISO 17011 language)
- Module 2 - Proficiency Testing
- Module 3 - On-site Assessment





# Responsibilities for Consensus Standards Development

The 2009 Standard was developed by the following 4 Expert Committees, each having 5-15 members:

**Accreditation Body; On-Site Assessment; Proficiency Testing; Quality Systems**

More recently, on-site assessment was merged into the Accreditation Body Expert Committee, and a new **Environmental Measurement Methods** Expert Committee was formed

(More changes in the Expert Committee structure will be discussed this week)





# The Consensus Standards Development Process

- Each Expert Committee develops a **Working Draft Standard (WDS)**, and presents it for discussion and input at the semi-annual meeting
- Taking this input into consideration, the Expert Committee develops a **Voting Draft Standard (VDS)**
- The TNI membership votes on the **VDS** (affirmative, affirmative with comment; negative with comment; abstain)
- The Expert Committee presents all comments for discussion at the next semi-annual meeting and must then resolve all persuasive comments (usually by modifying the standard)
- The **Final Standard** is published, together with a response-to-comments report





# Current Standards Development Activity

**This week, three Expert Committees will be presenting and discussing proposed modified standards in the Environmental Laboratory Sector:**

**Quality Systems**

**Proficiency Testing**

**Environmental Measurement Methods**





# Current Standards Development Activity

## Quality Systems

- The TNI membership recently voted on a **Voting Draft Standard** with amendments to the following quality systems modules in Volume 1 (Laboratory requirements):

**Module 2 (General Requirements); Module 3 (Asbestos); Module 4 (Chemistry); Module 5 (Microbiology); Module 6 (Radiochemistry); Module 7 (Toxicity)**

- The amendments are for clarification only and do not include substantive changes to the standard
- Comments received with the votes will be discussed and considered during the committee's working sessions on Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning







# Current Standards Development Activity

## Proficiency Testing

- The Proficiency Testing Expert Committee has published a **Working Draft Standard (WDS)** for the following:

**Volume 1 (Laboratory Requirements), Module 1 (Proficiency testing);  
Volume 2 (Accreditation Body Requirements), Module 2 (Proficiency Testing)**

- A major proposed change is reporting to a Proficiency Test Reporting Limit (PTRL) rather than LOQ
- This WDS was discussed and input was requested during the committee's working session on Tuesday afternoon
- The committee expects to have a Working Draft Standard ready soon for Volume 3 (Requirements for PT Providers)





# Current Standards Development Activity

## Environmental Measurement Methods

- The Environmental Measurement Methods Expert Committee (EMMEC) was established to develop an improved standard for **calibration, detection, and quantitation**
- On Tuesday, the committee presented a **Working Draft Standard on calibration** for discussion and input. This standard will be accompanied by a guidance document
- The new calibration standard will be incorporated into Volume 1 (laboratory requirements) Module 2 (chemistry). Under a revised committee structure, the EMMEC will assume full responsibility for that quality systems module
- The EMMEC has also started working on the **detection and quantitation** standard

