

EUROLAB Newsletter

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Newsbriefing No. 1/2019

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Dear EUROLAB members,



Please find below the second EUROLAB newsbriefing of 2019 with information regarding the actions carried out by EUROLAB and developments relevant to the Laboratory community.

Recent months have been of transition in many aspects related with the activity of laboratories, being mentioned three points. The first one is, naturally, the European elections and the change of the European Commission, European Central Bank and the Parliament. The change of the highest officials in Europe has implications for the governance model that will be adopted, and it is necessary to establish new contacts and links, introducing again EUROLAB and its mission and retake the intervening role that is part of the action of EUROLAB.

In this context of change, the second point is the transition resulting from the revision of ISO / IEC 17025, which is undergoing a change in the laboratories, and some of the challenges that have to be faced and overcome are already known. Once again, it will be necessary for EUROLAB to be the voice that promotes the harmonization and consistency of practices in the various countries, in the face of national accreditation models that, not always, can guarantee fair competition.

A third element to be pointed out is the formalization of a new organization, the TIC Council, to which we congratulate. This organization, which emerged from the merger of CEOC and IFIA, partner organizations of EUROLAB, creates an entity that intends to have a broad representation of the TIC Sector. EUROLAB integrates this new entity as an associated member, hoping to increase the relevance of its action in favor of the laboratories.

In this framework is expected that EUROLAB will continue to have a strong bond to laboratories and their Associations in Europe, consolidating its role in defending the interests of this community related to a fair competition field, creating conditions for capacity building and knowledge transfer, and promoting the network of cooperation with laboratories and other stakeholders, fulfilling its mission as representative of a relevant part of the TIC Sector (Testing, Inspection and Certification).

Looking forward to increase co-operation with you, aiming to achieve the highest purpose of promoting the Laboratories contribution to the improvement of Safety and Quality of Life.

Yours Sincerely,

EUROLAB President

Álvaro Silva Ribeiro

eurolab

National Members News

Alpi News



- The meeting “**RISK ANALYSIS AND INSURANCE SOLUTIONS – RISK MANAGEMENT IN THE TIC SECTOR**”, promoted by ALPI Association, under the patronage of Accredia (Italian Accreditation Body), Confindustria Emilia and Confindustria Servizi Innovativi e Tecnologici, took place in Bologna on May 21st, 2019. The meeting gathered Labs and Certification Bodies from all over Italy, to deepen, with the aid of lawyers, insurance experts and risk managers, the topic of the “business risk” and the possible protections in case of legal proceedings, that a TIC company might face. The daily work of ALPI Association goes in this direction: to promote a professional dialogue between the TIC sector and Institutional Bodies, Ministries and Insurance Companies about the correct contents to include in the policies. For further information about the meeting, please contact the EUROLAB Secretariat for the full meeting report.



ASCOLAB News

- ASCOLAB Training on ISO IEC 17043 for its ASCOLAB Mineral Schemes 33):** The seminar targeted participants from the mineral testing laboratories, environmental analysis laboratory and water testing laboratories and took place at Gecamines Messe Panda, Likasi, Haut Katanga Province, DRC from 27th May 2019 to 31st May 2019. This course strongly emphasises the practical application of theoretical concepts and general standardized requirements. To this end, each lecture is accompanied by exercises during which the concepts are put into practice. Participants learned to compare the laboratory's own results with those obtained by other laboratories; to confirm the correct initial validation of a method; to use the data obtained from participating PT schemes for validation of measurement methods; to determine systematic errors; to improve the test method used; to learn from the methods used by other laboratories; to monitor the accuracy and precision of a method; to encourage collaboration between laboratories; and to demonstrate technical competence against third parties.



EUROLAB CZ News



- Determination of the gross heat of combustion:** Technical and Test Institute for Construction Prague, SOE, member of EUROLAB-CZ is now improving reaction-to-fire laboratories. The new Parr 6100 Compensated Jacket Calorimeter is compatible with EN ISO 1716 Reaction to fire tests for products - Determination of the gross heat of combustion (calorific value). The application of the real-time jacket temperature to the heat leak correction avoids the long pre- and post- periods normally associated with static jacket calorimetry. In addition to achieving a rapid analysis, this technology allows the user to realize the precision required by the most frequently used standard test methods.



TURKLAB News

- Labs in the Near Future and the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Seminar:** Opening speeches for the “Labs in the Near Future and the ISO/IEC 17025:2017” seminar held at Grand Cevahir Hotel Convention Center on April 25, 2019 by TURKLAB were delivered by TÜKRAK General Secretary Orbay EVRENSEVDİ and TURKLAB President Halit KARABOĞA.



- The Consumer Product Laboratories Committee was founded in February 2019 under TURKLAB and commenced its activities on March 7, 2019.** The objectives of our Consumer Product Laboratories Committee are: Managing TURKLAB's relations with the related ministries, particularly the Ministry of Trade, taking action to resolve the technical or administrative problems faced by the laboratories that are members of the Committee, increasing cooperation between independent laboratories for consumer products and manufacturers' laboratories for process control to add value to the sector, raising awareness about the positive impact of “Conformity Assessment on the Economy and Social Welfare” in cooperation with Manufacturers' Associations and relevant NGOs in line with TURKLAB's objectives, to prepare Training Documents that will help provide better service to related sectors thanks to the working groups it houses and solve any problems with the joint contribution of all the Committee's laboratories.



- **2019 World Accreditation Day 12 June 2019:** On 12 June 2019, the Turkish Accreditation Agency (TÜRKAK) organized an event with around 250 participants to celebrate World Accreditation Day with all its stakeholders. Dr. Ömer Güzel and Neşe Güneş were present at the event on behalf of our association. Participation in the World Accreditation Day event took place at a ministerial level. Dr. Ömer Güzel's presentation on the importance of laboratories in the supply chain met with great interest. During the event, all aspects of the Supply Chain, examples of conformity assessment, and their convergence with accreditation were highlighted.



TEC EUROLAB News



- **BRAND NEW DIONDO D7 6 MEV LINAC Diondo:** Diondo 6 MEV Linear Accelerator. The evolution of industrial computed tomography. The new Diondo 6 MEV Linear Accelerator, an absolute technological evolution in the field of industrial tomography applications, has arrived and it's working at the TEC Eurolab tomographic center. TEC Eurolab tomographic center, European reference for technological equipment and professional competencies, integrated with the multidisciplinary structure of our test laboratories, really offers a unique range of applications in Europe. From micrometric resolutions to extreme thickness analysis thanks to the new linear accelerator, 10 times more powerful than any other CT System in Italy.



- **TEC EUROLAB COMPLETES THE TRANSITION TO THE UNI CEI EN ISO / IEC 17025: 2018 STANDARD** . TEC Eurolab is officially ISO / IEC 17025: 2017 (UNI CEI EN ISO / IEC 17025: 2018), thus completing the transition to the new standard 6 months after the entry into force of the revision of the RT-08 regulation. The transition to the new edition of the UNI CEI EN ISO / IEC 17025: 2018 standard is confirmed, and TEC Eurolab is among one of the first Italian laboratories to have completed this important transition, with the aim of maintaining and constantly improving the quality standards in internal processes and in the service to its customers. The inspectors/examiners expressed their satisfaction with the high level of competence and quality of the Laboratory and the improvement observed in comparison with previous years.
- **TEC EUROLAB OBTAINS GE AVIATION CERTIFICATION:** TEC Eurolab obtains GE Aviation certification in accordance with the GE S400 specification. It demonstrates conformity and

accreditation recognition as a certified laboratory for performing chemical, physical and mechanical analyses on metallic materials. The approval requires participation each year in the circuits organized by the GE laboratory (Dirats). Paola Marconi, Quality Manager, talks about GE Aviation Accreditation: "Our success in satisfying stricts GE's S-400 and S-1000 requirements represents a further achievement for our test laboratory and the company's quality system, which is extremely important to further increase the level of technical support and satisfy at best the expectations and needs of today's aerospace market."



RELACRE News

- **FLOMEKO 2019 was held in Lisbon from 26 to 28 June 2019, organized by LNEC, RELACRE, IPQ (The Portuguese NMI) and SPMet (Portuguese Society for Metrology).** It has an attendance of 206 persons, from 45 Countries, 128 papers presented in 26 Sessions. FLOMEKO is a Conference organized every three years since 1978 (in the Netherlands), and deals with topics such as: liquid, gas and multiphase flow; air speed; volume; hydrocarbon flows; primary standards; critical flow venturi nozzles; Legal Metrology; uncertainties; flow measurement technology; micro-flow; healthcare applications; and computational modelling. This event is the Technical Committee of IMEKO TC9, for flow, and was sponsored by EUROLAB aisbl, under the cooperation established between IMEKO and EUROLAB, bringing together both communities and promoting the networking and the capacity building.



CROLAB News



- 15th international conference "LABORATORY COMPETENCE 2019" will take place in Cavtat from 06 – 09 November 2019. Participants will have the opportunity to attend lectures and round tables on calibration laboratories, testing laboratories as well as testing and Inspection Bodies. The event includes the CROLAB General Assembly. Participants will acquire sound knowledge on the role of laboratories in Croatia and the EU.



TIC Market Trends

Business Developments

- **Applus+ opens its first office in Algeria.** This new creation will allow Applus+ access to new sectors of activity, such as Oil and Gas, Telecommunications or port operations. Consequently, Applus+ could win new contracts in the domestic market. Read [more](#)
- **Bureau Veritas CPS US' Technology brands (7layers US, Curtis-Straus and SIEMIC US) are formally adopting the Bureau Veritas brand name and logo.** This development reflects the integration into the Bureau Veritas Group and will apply across all activities supporting Technology brands and retailers within the Electrical/Electronics, Automotive and Wireless segments. Read [more](#)
- **Control Union Certifications (CUC) has withdrawn the status of Control Union Turkey as a critical office for international Organic certification programs.** This voluntary suspension, effective since 17 April 2019 is part of the rigorous measures CUC has taken in response to concerns raised by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the European Commission (EC) about the quality of certification in the Organic sector. Read [more](#)
- **Control Union Certifications and Green Key have formalised a cooperation** with the aim of having CUC conducting Green Key on-site audits. Read [more](#)
- **Control Union: Organic certifier OF&G (Organic Farmers and Growers) has joined forces with global accreditor Control Union UK to open and expand markets for UK organic food production by offering certification on a global scale.** With anticipated changes as a consequence of Brexit, the collaboration provides an opportunity to deliver organic certification and food safety assurance as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible for UK and EU businesses, in particular those seeking export markets. Read [more](#)
- **Cotecna has announced that Cotecna Turkey's Agri-Food laboratory, established in Istanbul in 2018, has recently been certified by both FOSFA & GAFTA as an Analyst for oils, seeds and fats** which means that Cotecna is only the second laboratory to provide FOSFA accredited services in Turkey for oils and fats. Read [more](#)
- **DEKRA has presented its Road Safety Report 2019 in its English version at the International Transport Forum's (ITF) Summit in Leipzig.** This year's report focuses on children under 15, and includes a special supplement especially for children. Read [more](#)
- **Eurofins E&E has opened their new electrical and electronics (E&E) product testing laboratory in Shenzhen, China.** The opening of Eurofins E&E Shenzhen facility marks an important step in the expansion of Eurofins E&E's global testing, inspection and certification offering for consumer and industrial clients. It is also related to Eurofins' 2018 acquisition of MET laboratories, the first NRTL, with Eurofins MET Labs China now forming part of E&E Shenzhen. Read [more](#)
- **Intertek has developed a virtual audit program to support organizations with established management systems certification and other assurance programs in conducting more efficient audits.** A Virtual Audit is conducted remotely by a qualified auditor using a video and audio source located in the sleek and light-weight harness provided by Intertek. Read [more](#)
- **Intertek joins the Mekong Club Partnership to use Social Compliance Audit Data in assessing the risk of forced labour within the global supply chain.** The anti-slavery NGO Mekong Club and Intertek, a leading Total Quality Assurance provider to industries worldwide, have developed the "Risk Assessment Matrix (RAM)." Read [more](#)
- **Kiwa Sweden has hosted EU-funded nuclear power plant research project meeting.** The meeting took place within the framework of the EU-funded research project ATLAS+, which will improve the controls that are carried out by nuclear power reactors. Read [more](#)
- **SGS has officially opened a new laboratory for the testing of electrical and electronics products at Oignies, near Lille, France.** The new facility enables safety and performance tests to be undertaken on product categories ranging from household appliances and power tools to office equipment, lighting products and laboratory equipment. Read [more](#)
- **SGS has officially opened the Biologics, Viral Vaccine, Gene and Cell Therapy Testing facility expansion in Glasgow, UK in early May.** The newly extended facility now doubles the total floor space from 1,200 m2 to 2,400 m2. Read [more](#)
- **TÜV SÜD and Siemens have come together to address the growing risk of cyberattacks on critical infrastructure by collaborating to provide digital safety and security assessments,** as well as industrial vulnerability assessments to help global energy customers identify asset risk and cybersecurity solutions. Read [more](#)
- **TÜV SÜD has enlarged its range of services for chemical management and sustainability** within the fashion sector by being accepted by the ZDHC Foundation (Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals) as MRSL (Manufacturing Restricted Substances List) Level 1 certifier. Read [more](#)
- **TÜV Süd: German companies still have a lot to do to fully meet the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) even one year after the end of the transitional period.** According to a recent survey by TÜV SÜD, around one third of those surveyed said that their company had implemented the necessary measures only partially (29%) or not at all (6%). Read [more](#)
- **TÜV SÜD: Japanese experts from TÜV SÜD Japan have completed their first project under INMETRO Ordinance No. 54/2016 governing medical devices.** The organization issued an INMETRO certificate for active medical devices based on this INMETRO Ordinance on January 21, 2019. In the future, TÜV SÜD Japan will continue to support medical device manufacturers who need to transition to INMETRO Ordinance No. 54/2016 and medical device manufacturers who intend to sell medical devices in Brazil. Read [more](#)
- **UL has announced that it has consolidated its capabilities in Basingstoke to address the growing demand for testing and regulatory certification services.** This significant investment makes it UL's largest commercial test facility in the United Kingdom. It adds an additional 37,000 square feet to the current facility, tripling its size. Read [more](#)
- **UL has opened New Customer Service Center and Lab in Houston.** The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) forecasts that U.S. crude oil production will average 12.4 million B/D in 2019 and 13.1 million B/D in 2020, with most of the growth coming from the Permian Basin region of Texas and New Mexico. In order to support this growth UL is opening a facility in Houston in July 2019. Read [more](#)
- **Underwriters Laboratories (UL) has joined as a member in the Partnership on AI (PAI),** a multi-stakeholder organization that brings together academics, researchers, tech companies, civil rights organizations and others from across the world to better

understand the societal impacts of artificial intelligence (AI). Read [more](#)

- **The study “Global Automotive TIC Market Growth (Status and Outlook) 2019-2024” from Fior Markets supplies a steady routine of this market for the current forecast period of 2019 to 2024.** The report was created to provide a large-scale guideline about contemporary market trends, driving factors, market size, industry-leading competitors of Automotive TIC market, and progressive growth elements in the market. Read [more](#)
- **The Food Safety Testing market accounted to 12.8 billion in 2017 growing at a CAGR of 7.8%.** The Food Safety Testing Market report contains data for historic years 2016, the base year of calculation is 2017 and the forecast period is 2018 to 2025. Food Safety Testing Market Insights, Opportunities Analysis With Bureau Veritas, Bio-Rad Laboratories, Eurofins, TÜV SÜD, ALS, Intertek, LabCorp, Mérieux NutriSciences, AsureQuality, TÜV NORD GROUP, Accugen Laboratories, Inc , Microbac Laboratories, Inc. And More. Read [more](#)

• **The Heavy Metals Residue Testing Market 2019 Report represents a comprehensive the market.** It consists of growth rate for the forecast period. The global report sums up by providing the estimated development of Heavy Metals Residue Testing market in near future. It also involves driving factors that boosts the market. Besides, it includes competitive players in the market along with their market share. Read [more](#)

Mergers and Acquisitions

- **Bureau Veritas has announced that it has completed the acquisition of Shenzhen Total-Test Technology Co., Ltd. (Shenzhen Total-Test), a food testing leader in China.** Founded in 2008 and headquartered in Shenzhen in Southern China, Shenzhen Total-Test holds an extensive accreditation scope for food testing with both on-site and off-site capabilities. Read [more](#)
- **Bureau Veritas has announced the acquisition of Owen Group Inc. (Owen), a US regional leader in buildings and infrastructure compliance services.** Owen provides buildings and infrastructure asset management and project compliance services including ADA accessibility compliance, deferred maintenance compliance, commissioning, and code compliance. Read [more](#)
- **Cotecna has announced it has completed the acquisition of Neutron, a global provider of testing services for food products, supplements, cosmetics and pharmaceutical products, based in Italy.** Neutron is one of the largest analytical safety laboratories in Europe with over 550 employees, performing 2,000 accredited tests and processing close to 300,000 samples per year. The company provides chemical, biochemical, microbiological, physical and sensory analysis. Read [more](#)
- **Intertek has announced the expansion of its pharmaceutical services laboratory in Melbourn, near Cambridge,** through the acquisition of a new 20,000 sq. ft facility, which will double the footprint of the existing laboratory. Read [more](#)
- **Kiwa Inspecta has acquired the Swedish part of FORCE Technology.** FORCE Technology will be integrated into Kiwa Inspecta's organization. Kiwa will thus increase the level of service to e.g. process and manufacturing industry, paper and pulp, mining, power generation and owners of installations in buildings. Read [more](#)
- **SGS has announced the acquisition of Chemical Solutions Ltd. (CSL), based in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA.** CSL is a nationally recognized testing laboratory, specializing in elemental and heavy metal testing for food, nutraceuticals, pharma and cosmetic products. Read [more](#)
- **Shield Group International continues without the Kiwa Group.** Shield Group International (SGI) has found a partner in LDC (Lloyds Banking Group) who fully supports the management team's global growth strategy. Shield Group International (currently known as Kiwa Compliance International) thus continuous without the Kiwa Group. Read [more](#)

Personnel Trends

- **The Director of the Department of Environment of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Stephan Sicars, and Marketing Director of Government and Institutions at SGS, Linda Tang, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding** to jointly develop national electronic waste management capacities. They recognized that the management of e-waste streams is of increasing importance for environmental sustainability, public health, inclusive economic growth, and the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. Read [more](#)

Business Results

- **Bureau Veritas published its results of the first quarter 2019.** Read [more](#)
 - Revenue of EUR 1.175 billion in Q1 2019
 - Revenue growth at constant currency +5.8%
 - Organic growth of +4.0%
 - External growth of +1.8%
- **Eurofins has published its results for the first quarter for 2019.** Read [more](#)
 - Revenues increased 27.2% year-on-year to EUR 1,067m
 - Organic growth: 4.9%
 - Excluding Boston Heart Diagnostics (US), which continues to face significant reimbursement and regulations changes, organic growth was 5.7%
 - Revenues: EUR 4.5bn EUR
 - Free Cash Flow: EUR 350m
- **Intertek has published its results for the first quarter 2019** Read [more](#)
 - Group revenue of EUR 1046,7m up 5.3% at constant rates: Products +5.5%, Trade +6.5%, Resources +2.9%
 - Broad-based organic revenue growth of EUR 1026.45m 3.3% at constant rates: Products +2.6%, Trade +5.3%, Resources +2.9%
 - 2.0% revenue growth at constant rates from Acquisitions in attractive growth and margin sectors
 - 7.3% revenue growth at actual rates; 200bps foreign exchange translation benefit
- **RINA approved its consolidated financial statements of 2018** Read [more](#)
 - Revenues of EUR 440m
 - contribution margin of 19.3%
 - certification business increased by 9% in 2018
 - The first quarter 2019 saw a strong performance in the marine sector, with the fleet of RINA-classed ships in operation at 44 million GT and over 6,500 units, up 10% compared to 2017

Standardisation and Accreditation

Standardisation

- A Committee Internal Ballot (CIB) will be initiated from 2019-06-03 to 2019-07-02: The Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) Application for A-liaison status with ISO/CASCO.
- This CIB is a parallel ballot to the vote of the New Work Item Proposal (NWIP) organized in TC34 SC17. It is about a NWIP to develop ISO 22003-2 that would define a set of common elements for bodies providing auditing and certification of food safety systems supplemental to ISO/IEC 17065:2012 and that would include internationally accepted food safety principles and management system elements. Approval is needed in both committees for the project to start and will be developed by the JWG36
- **An open workshop will be held in Brussels on 5 June to present work under the second Phase of Mandate M/420.** There will be a focus on prEN 17210 'Accessibility and usability of the built environment - Functional requirements'. This standard will be the first European Standard on accessibility of the built environment. Read [more](#)
- **China - The SAC Department of Standards Innovation launched a standards information platform for One Belt One Road (OBOR) countries.** The platform provides a review of standards development in 108 countries along OBOR including China. It also intends to provide significant language support for standards collaboration and joint development of standards in OBOR markets. Read [more](#)
- **A new ASTM International standard will help manufacturers in the aerospace, power generation, and automotive industries test parts for defects.** The organization's nondestructive testing committee (E07) developed the standard (soon to be published as E3213). Read [more](#)
- **A new ASTM International standard could help both with contingency planning for oil spills as well as management of oil spills.** The new guide standardizes the way laboratories both prepare and measure "weathered oil," which is naturally different from the "source oil" at a facility. Read [more](#)
- **SCC joins global campaign for women's involvement in standards.** Chantal Guay, CEO of the Standards Council of Canada, has joined standards leaders from around the world in signing the Declaration on Gender Responsive Standards and Standards Development. Read [more](#)
- **The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development released its global standards.** The standards aim to ensure AI is designed to be robust, safe, fair and trustworthy. The organization's 36 member countries including America have initially signed on along with Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Peru and Romania. Read [more](#)

Accreditation

ILAC:

- **Recently Published –**
 - ILAC R6:05/2019 Structure of the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement and Procedure for Expansion of the Scope of the ILAC Arrangement
 - ILAC P4:05/2019 ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Policy and Management
 - ILAC P5:05/2019 ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Scope and Obligations
- Implementation date is from the date of publication. Copies can be found [here](#) and [here](#)

- **At the ILAC Executive meeting held last month it was agreed to appoint Ms Martha Mejia Luna from ema, Mexico, as the ILAC Co-convenor of the JWG A-series effective immediately.**
- **IAF proposed to extend the implementation date for AF MD 11:2019 IAF Mandatory Document for the Application of ISO/IEC 17021-1 for Audits of Integrated Management Systems** by one additional year, from 17 January 2020 to 17 January 2021.

IAF :

- **IAF MD 11:2019 IAF Mandatory Document for the Application of ISO/IEC 17021-1 for Audits of Integrated Management Systems provides requirements for the application of ISO/IEC 17021-1** for the planning and delivery of audits of IMS and, if appropriate, the certification of an organization's management system(s) against two or more sets of audit criteria/standards.
- There is a ballot out proposing that the Brazilian Association of Conformity Assessment (ABRAC) be admitted to Association membership in IAF.
- **Recently Published/Updated –**
 - IAF MD 5 “Determination of audit time of quality, environmental, and occupational health & safety management systems” available in “Application documents - Documents to ISO/IEC 17021 - Certification Bodies - Management systems certification”.
 - IAF MD 17 “Witnessing Activities for the Accreditation of Management Systems Certification Bodies” available in “Members' Procedural documents”.
 - IAF MD 22 “Application of ISO/IEC 17021-1 for the Certification of Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (OH&SMS)” available in “Members' Procedural documents”.
 - Available online on the public website [here](#)

EA :

- **Recently Published –**
 - A-INF/03 “EA Multilateral and Bilateral Agreements, and Signatory Lists” (17th May 2019)
 - EA-INF/03 “EA Multilateral and Bilateral Agreements, and Signatory Lists”
- **The EA Resolutions adopted at the 43rd EA General Assembly meeting in Rome** can be found on the relevant EA intranet page at: Resolutions, draft minutes and arising
 - Available online on the public website [here](#)
 - EA-INF/01 “List of EA Publications And International Documents” available in “Information and promotional documents”.
 - EA-INF/02 “Contact Persons of EA Full and Associate Members, Recognized Stakeholders and Observers” available in “Information and promotional documents”.
 - EA-4/21 “Guidelines for the assessment of the appropriateness of small interlaboratory comparisons within the process of laboratory accreditation” available in “Application documents – Documents to ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189 – Laboratories”.
- **Recently Withdrawn –**
 - No Transition Period - “EA-4/15 Accreditation for Non-Destructive Testing”
 - Transition Period Until November 2020 - Level 4 standard CEN TS 15675 “Air quality. Measurement of stationary source emissions. Application of EN ISO/IEC 17025:2005 to periodic measurements”

Laboratory News

- **Merck and Rigaku Corp. have signed a joint development agreement to develop lab consumables** based on highly innovative crystalline sponge technology which determines the absolute chemical structure of organic molecules and enables X-ray crystallography without crystallization of the analyte. Read [more](#)
- **Postnova Analytics reports on growing use of its pioneering EAF2000 system to separate and characterize complex proteins, antibodies and viruses as well as charged nanoparticles, colloids and polymers.** Launched in 2018, the EAF2000 is the only field-proven system that combines the principle of Electrical and Asymmetrical Field Flow Fractionation in a single platform. Read [more](#)
- **Analytik reports on how the School of Biological & Chemical Sciences at Queen Mary University, London (QMUL) has been using a LM20 Microfluidizer** for cell disruption of a broad range of cell types including E. coli, Yeasts and Diatom. Read [more](#)
- **South Africa Invests in Flow Chemistry.** Uniqsis reports on two major orders for its FlowSyn™ flow chemistry systems from organisations involved with the South African Pharmaceutical Industry. Read [more](#)
- **Particle Testing Authority (PTA), a division of Micromeritics Instrument Corporation, has announced the opening of its European laboratory in Munich, Germany.** The laboratory focuses on material
- **Uniqsis reports on how its Flow-UV™ inline UV-Visible spectrometer sets a new benchmark for real-time dispersion and nanoparticle distribution and agglomeration experiments.** Designed for use with almost any commercially available flow chemistry system, Flow-UV™ allows dispersion experiments to be monitored in real time so that product collection can be controlled according to the onset and decline of steady-state conditions. Read [more](#)
- **NanoFCM Opens European Office and Centre of Excellence for Scientific Application Support in Nottingham, UK.** The Centre of Excellence consists of a fully functioning laboratory, equipped with two NanoAnalyzer N30 instruments, allowing the measurement of biological and synthetic substrates, such as extracellular vesicles, nanoparticle carriers, virus, mitochondria and gold nanoparticles. Read [more](#)

- **The new MIDAS (Matrix Instrument Data Acquisition System) module for the Matrix Gemini LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System) from Autoscribe Informatics improves on the existing methods of interfacing of a wide variety of analytical instruments and equipment to Matrix Gemini.** Direct entry of results data into Matrix Gemini provides higher levels of automation, eliminates transcription errors and improves laboratory efficiency. Read [more](#)
- **Fully automated water conductivity testing safeguards compliance with USP<645>.** USP<645> describes conductivity as key parameter for measuring the purity of ultrapure water and water for injection. Compliance with USP<645> is key for manufacturers from the pharmaceutical industry. Read [more](#)

Research and Innovation

- **Micromeritics Releases New Whitepaper Showcasing an Optimal Analytical Toolkit for Powders.** Micromeritics Instrument Corporation has announced the release of 'The Definitive Guide to Powder Characterization' a new whitepaper that showcases the analytical techniques available to optimally support the development and manufacture of commercially successful powder products. Read [more](#)
- **Detecting Counterfeit Coconut Water Using Renishaw's inVia™ Raman Microscope.** With only five countries in the world supplying the majority of coconut water to the West, this surge in popularity, and resulting imbalance between supply and demand, has led to criminal activity in the supply chain. Read [more](#)
- **Cal or automatic calibration is a feature that's found in advanced OHAUS balances such as the Explorer and the Adventurer series.** AutoCal is an automatic calibration mechanism which utilizes the internal calibration feature, but provides an additional level of intelligence and automation. The balance will monitor itself and automatically trigger an internal calibration and adjustment when a change of temperature is detected or after a given period of time. Read [more](#)
- **Artificial Intelligence Boosts Proteome Research.** Using artificial intelligence, researchers at the Technical University of Munich (TUM) have succeeded in making the mass analysis of proteins from any organism significantly faster than before and almost error-free. This new approach is set to provoke a considerable change in the field of proteomics, as it can be applied in both basic and clinical research. Read [more](#)
- **First Multi-Site Installation of HORIBA Medical's New HELO Modular Automated Haematology Platform.** HORIBA Medical announces the go live of the first multi-site installation of its new HELO high throughput fully automated haematology platform within the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board. The new system is already delivering laboratory efficiencies across Cardiff in line with NHS requirements. Read [more](#)
- **Agilent Survey of Pharma Lab Leaders Uncovers Challenges in Workflow and Laboratory Efficiencies.** Respondents included 650 laboratory managers, directors, and supervisors from China, Germany, India, South Korea, Switzerland, Austria, and the United States. Respondents highlighted their unique industry challenges, laboratory pain points, as well as goals for the future. Overall, the primary focus was on achieving quicker results (55%), superior quality (44%), and data integrity (43%). Over half of the respondents indicated that quality standards are getting more stringent in their laboratories, with over 80% finding that their current workflow requires further optimization. The top strategies being deployed by lab leaders to more efficiently move drugs through the pipeline are: Buying more sophisticated instruments that deliver a greater degree of specificity (85%), improving documentation of the sample chain of custody (70%) and employing better-qualified staff (56%). Read [more](#)
- **Testa Analytical Solutions e.K reports that its BI-XDC X-Ray Disc Centrifuge is enabling scientists to make accurate, high resolution particle size distribution measurements, from nanometres to tens of micrometres, without time consuming calibration or absorption correction.** Based on the principle of photosedimentation, the BI-XDC measures the size of particles according to the time the particle takes to sediment in the detector according to Stokes law. Read [more](#)
- **Deben, a provider of in-situ testing stages together with innovative accessories and components for microscopy, reports on how University of Ghent have used the Deben CT5000 to study the Uniaxial Compressive Strength of four different depositional limestones.** Sourced from the Paris Basin these limestones are often used as building material in France and Belgium. The University's work was performed using HECTOR µCT partnered with the Deben tensile, compression stage. Read [more](#)
- **Anton Paar Launches Synthesis Application Database with more than 1000 Chemical Reactions.** "The world of microwave synthesis" is a website addressed to experienced microwave chemists as well as chemists who are new to the field of microwave synthesis. Read [more](#)
- **Interactive Software is working with UKCRC Tissue Directory and Coordination Centre to connect UK Biobanks and help them achieve their aim of assisting researchers by simplifying the sourcing of biological samples.** The centralised tissue directory will also help raise the profile of Biobanks and ensure donated samples are visible and used for the purpose for which they were collected. Read [more](#)
- **ILAC MRA report published.** The ILAC MRA 2018 Annual Report has been published on the ILAC website. Read [more](#)

Laboratory Events and Conferences

- **Lab Connect online meeting planner enables growing exhibitor and visitor numbers to get the most from their visit to the NEC on 30 - 31 October 2019.** Lab Innovations, the UK's only trade show dedicated to the laboratory industry, announces the launch of a new free networking tool to help visitors and exhibitors set up meetings in advance, so that they can get the most from their visit. Read [more](#)

Policy News

Chemicals

- **The European Chemicals Agency's ECHA conference on 21 and 22 May 2019 offered insights into the current priorities for the regulation of chemicals in the EU after the final REACH registration deadline.** Find recordings and presentations [here](#)
- **Throughout spring 2019, two REACH topics have dominated the chemicals safety agenda – compliance of registration dossiers and issues related to the authorisation process.** Improving the compliance of registration dossiers and speeding up evaluation work are ECHA's priorities for 2019. Read [more](#)

- **ECHA's first Integrated Regulatory Strategy report was published in April 2019.** By 2027, ECHA aims to have full clarity on all registered substances to improve chemicals safety in Europe. ECHA's annual Integrated Regulatory Strategy report describes how authorities are prioritising substances of concern. Read [more](#)
- **Since January 2019, ECHA has been supporting the European Commission in establishing occupational exposure limits for selected chemicals to improve the protection of workers' health and safety.** The agency explains what occupational exposure limits are, how the EU implements them through legislation, and what role ECHA has in their preparation. Read [more](#)
- **The European Union Chemical Legislation Finder (EUCLEF) is an upcoming online service that will enable companies to find out how their substances are being regulated in the EU and what legal obligations they have.** Work is under way and ECHA is planning to launch the service, which will initially cover 40 pieces of EU legislation, in 2020. Read [more](#)
- **European brands 'breaking' chemical safety rules.** Tonnes of chemicals are being used by major European cosmetics, food, medicine and plastic producers without the completion of important safety checks and paperwork. This comes from a report by Germany's largest environmental charity BUND. Read [more](#)
- **Manufacturers are balancing the benefits of sharing chemical safety data with the EPA,** as it vets 40 chemicals, against the risk that it could cost them millions of dollars they have invested in testing, attorneys and industry consultants say. Deadline is June 19. Read [more](#)
- **The Commission would like to invite interested parties to submit scientific information relevant to safety assessment of the following substances:** Benzophenone-3, kojic acid, 4-methylbenzylidene camphor, propylparaben, triclosan, resorcinol, octocrylene, triclocarban, butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT), benzophenone, homosalate, benzyl salicylate, genistein and daidzein in the framework of Regulation (EC) 1223/2009. Read [more](#)
- **Switzerland is proposing to align its chemical restrictions under ORRChem with those of EU REACH.** If approved, the new restrictions will be implemented in phases starting December 1, 2019. Read [more](#)
- **Canada has opened the comment period for proposed changes to the Cosmetic Ingredient Hotlist, including several condition changes and new substances to be added.** The Cosmetic Ingredient Hotlist is an administrative tool that Health Canada uses to communicate to manufacturers and others that certain substances, when present in a cosmetic, may violate the Food and Drugs Act the Cosmetic Regulations. Deadline for comments is 1 July. Read [more](#)

Consumer and Industrial Products

- **China has recently issued "The Arrangement for the implementation of Conformity Assessment System on the Restriction of the Use of the Hazardous Substance in Electrical and Electronic products".** The document has been enacted by the departments of State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) and the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of the People's Republic of China (MIIT). They will take effect from November 1st, 2019. Read [more](#)
- **Washington passes the strongest legislation on chemicals in consumer products.** On 8th May 2019, Washington's governor signed into law SB5135 regulating toxic chemicals in consumer products. This law will become effective on 28th July 2019. Read [more](#)
- **Regulation on market surveillance and compliance of products.** The Council has published the following document: REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on market surveillance and compliance of products and amending Directive 2004/42/EC and Regulations (EC) No 765/2008 and (EU) No 305/2011. The text that was agreed with the European Parliament. Now the Regulation needs to be published in the Official Journal of the EU to enter into force. Read [more](#)
- **US Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) requests public comment about Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) that may need to be amended, revised, or eliminated to facilitate the safe introduction of automated driving systems (ADS) equipped commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) onto US roadways.** FMCSA hopes not to create separate regulations for ADS, rather, make use of regulations currently in place with revisions to make them inclusive of ADS. Read [more](#)
- **Myanmar's Department of Consumer Affairs has published labeling requirements for several consumer products.** Requirements have been set for priority products like food and beverages, household products, children's items, telecommunication equipment, drugs and supplements, chemicals cosmetics and toiletries. Read [more](#)
- **RAPEX (Rapid Alert System for dangerous non-food products) CPSC (Consumer Product Safety Commission) published new figures for products recalls in Q1 2019.** Recalls of cosmetics, personal care and household products increased by 47% in the USA in Q1 2019, in comparison with Q4 2018. In the EU, recalls of CPCH products increased by 40% compared with the previous quarter. Read [more](#) Electrical and electronic product recalls increased by 8% in the EU and by 29% in the USA, in comparison with Q4 2018. Read [more](#) Hardline product recalls increased by 18% in the EU, in comparison with Q4 2018. In the US, recalls of HL products decreased to 18 recalls. In the EU, there were 354 recalls of hardline products. Read [more](#) Compared to Q4 2018, both the EU and USA saw recalls of softlines decrease in the first quarter of 2019, to 43 and 1 recalls respectively. Read [more](#)
- **NIST to host a workshop on Automated Vehicle Safety.** The workshop will take place 25-26 June, 2019 at NIST headquarters in Gaithersburg, Maryland. Read [more](#)
- **The European Commission implements Regulation (EU) 2019/290 establishing a harmonized format for registration and reporting of producers of electrical and electronic equipment.** This regulation will apply from January 1, 2020. Read [more](#)
- **The State of Washington has signed into law comprehensive toxic substances and pollution control legislation (Substitute Senate Bill 5135) which, once enacted, will be one of the most restrictive in the United States (US).** The law amends the current pollution and safe children's product legislation and is an addition to the Public Health and Safety Revised Code of Washington (RCW Title 70). The law will identify and place limitations, restrictions or ban certain hazardous substances in consumer products and packaging sold for residential or commercial use. Read [more](#)

Digital Transformation

- **Based on the Ethics Guidelines published by the High-Level Working Group on Artificial Intelligence the European Commission now launches the Piloting Phase of the Assessment list.** Stakeholders are asked to circulate the list within their organizations and provide feedback. The evaluated assessment list will be published in the beginning of 2020. Stakeholders can also participate in an exchange of best [practices](#). Read [more](#)
- **The European Commission has just adopted an Implementing Decision to harmonise the radio spectrum in the 24.25-27.5 GHz (or 26 GHz) band,** which is a big leap towards the deployment of 5G across Europe. The deployment of 5G networks requires the timely availability of a sufficient amount of harmonised spectrum. Read [more](#)
- **CONCORDIA cybersecurity pilot: Boosting the future of cybersecurity in the EU.** CONCORDIA is one of four H2020 pilot projects that have been launched in order to support the aim of a secure digital economy, infrastructures, society and democracy in the European Union. More specifically, CONCORDIA is a four-year, multi-disciplinary research and innovation project, launched in January 2019. Read [more](#)
- **A call for tender to advance MeliCERTes, the facility used by the CSIRTs in the EU to cooperate and exchange information.** This EU public procurement with an indicative budget of €2.5 million is primarily open to Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs), national cybersecurity authorities as well as to consortia which also include IT service providers and management consultancies. Read [more](#)
- **The European Commission invests €16 million in DIH-HERO (Digital Innovation Hubs in Healthcare Robotics),** a European project which aims to boost innovation and implementation of robotics in healthcare. The project consortium, which is led by the University of Twente (as coordinator), consists of 17 partners spread across 10 European countries. Read [more](#)
- **The European Union invests through the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) programme €11.4 million (EU contribution) in projects which seek to strengthen the European Union's capacity and deal more efficiently with cyber-threats and incidents.** It is the first time that EU is providing financial support under the CEF programme to broader categories of stakeholders which nevertheless are crucial for enhanced cybersecurity at national level. Read [more](#)
- **The European Commission is launching a Call for Proposals for a Preparatory Action in the field of web accessibility requirements in web-authoring tools.** The Web Accessibility Directive establishes common accessibility requirements to make the websites and mobile applications of public sector bodies across the EU more accessible. Following the harmonised European Standard EN 301 549 v2.1.2 ('Harmonised European Standard') provides presumption of conformity with the accessibility requirements set forth in the Directive. Read [more](#)
- **Training in digital knowledge and skills should become a new core component of training for future and current doctors in all Member States:** this was agreed by representatives of students/junior doctors and deans, gathered at the initiative of the European Commission and Erasmus University Medical Center on 12 April in Rotterdam. Read [more](#)
- **DIGITALEUROPE welcomes the opportunity to respond to ARCEP's (Autorité de Régulation des Communications Électroniques et des Postes, France) draft decision on an API (Application programming interface) to be installed in operators' boxes to improve ARCEP's ability to measure fixed-internet quality of service (QoS).** The solution put forward by ARCEP, which mandates direct, physical access to consumer data, is in DIGITALEUROPE's view disproportionate to the objectives of the decision and could undermine the development of more harmonised solutions at EU level. Read [more](#)
- **The EU Agency for Cybersecurity ENISA has published a new paper on 'Challenges and Recommendations for Industry 4.0 Cybersecurity'.** This work is following up on the recently published seminal study on 'Good Practices for Security of IoT in the context of Smart Manufacturing. Read [more](#)
- **Magyar Nemzeti Bank, that is the central bank of Hungary, published its updated recommendation on the usage of community and public cloud computing services.** The objective of this recommendation is to provide practical guidance to entities in the financial intermediary system for managing the risks arising from the use of community and public cloud computing services and for the uniform interpretation of relevant national and European Union legislation. Read [more](#)
- **ENISA has published a study that intends to provide useful information to cybersecurity start-ups and small and medium enterprises (SMEs), in order to support their development.** Based on feedback from key experts, such as founders of start-ups, venture capitals, incubators, accelerators and public institutions, ENISA identifies a number of specific challenges and opportunities faced by NIS start-ups in their development within the EU. Read [more](#)
- **ENISA launches this Call for Participation** to invite experts to participate in its Informal Expert Group on EU Member States Incident Response Development. Read [more](#)
- **Surgical robots are waiting on FDA diplomas before entering the OR.** Over 70 companies are about to release surgical robots over next five years. The FDA is to consider AI-based device framework later this year. Read [more](#)
- **EU government envoys meeting in Brussels on Monday reached deal on a new regime for bloc-wide sanctions against companies, bodies or individuals involved in cyber-attacks** "threatening the Union or its Member States," a diplomat familiar with the behind closed doors meeting says. Read [more](#)
- **Medical Device Makers May Risk Liability Following FDA Effort.** A Food and Drug Administration push to bring more artificial intelligence-based medical devices to market could open the door for product liability lawsuits if the technology changes the device after initial approval, attorneys say. The proposed framework raises questions about preemption doctrine. Read [more](#)
- **Hackers linked to China repurposed NSA's cyberweapons, report says.** A hacker group linked to the Chinese government found and repurposed a set of the National Security Agency's (NSA) cyberweapons against targets in Europe and Asia beginning in 2016, according to cybersecurity firm Symantec. Symantec's findings, released Monday, said the cyberweapons were used at least a year before a massive leak by a group calling itself the Shadow Brokers made public some of the NSA's most powerful cyber tools – suggesting the China-linked hackers gained access to them earlier and in a different way. The tools do not appear to have been used on targets within the U.S., Symantec said. Read [more](#)

- **The next big topics in encryption and cybersecurity.** Medical device cyberattacks are the next big headline. MRIs, oncology machines, access control systems, etc. will prove vulnerable due to years of little adherence to security reviews. Wi-Fi-enabled internal medical devices—such as pacemakers and insulin pumps—leave patients open to cyber-ransom or worse. Healthcare IT must demand that manufacturers treat security as being as important as clinical efficacy. Read [more](#)
- **National Cyber Strategy Effort Underway Ahead of 2020 US Election.** The Cyberspace Solarium Commission, A public-private commission, is taking aim at the growing number of Russian and Chinese cyberattacks on the government and businesses by working to establish a national cyber-defense strategy. Read [more](#)
- **NIST Report: Testing and Certification Programs Needed for Smart Grid Standards.** The study found that only 21% of 169 interoperability standards have independent T&C programs and that there is no existing or planned path to device certification for most standards. Read [more](#)

Energy and Environment

- **On 22 May, the Council of ministers of the EU formally adopted four new pieces of EU legislation that redesign the EU electricity market to make it fit for the future.** This concludes the remaining elements of the Clean energy for all Europeans package and represents a major step towards completing the Energy Union, delivering on the priorities of the Juncker Commission. Read [more](#)
- **The European Commission, European Investment Bank and Breakthrough Energy Ventures establish a new €100 million fund to support clean energy investments.** The fund will help develop innovative European companies and bring radically new clean energy technologies to the market. Read [more](#)
- **Recommendations on how EU countries should implement the revised building renovation aspects of the Energy performance of buildings directive (EPBD)** have been published by the European Commission in response to requests for clarification from Member States as they seek to transpose the new and revised provisions into national law. Read [more](#)
- **The European Commission has adopted a draft mandate to engage on behalf of the European Union in the negotiations to modernise the Energy Charter Treaty (ECT),** a plurilateral trade and investment agreement applicable to the energy sector to which the EU is part. These negotiations aim to revise the provisions of the Treaty in a way to reflect the EU's reformed approach on investment protection. Read [more](#)
- **Vice-President in charge of the Energy Union Maroš Šefčovič is hosting the third meeting at Ministerial level under the European Battery Alliance.** The objective is to bring together the significant support of the Commission, the EIB and invited Member States to cross-border manufacturing projects along the battery value chain. Read [more](#)
- **EU citizens insist jet fuel, kerosene, must not be subject to tax exemption.** Aeroplane fuel's current tax-free status could soon be grounded after the European Commission agreed to register an official petition to call for an end to kerosene's exemption. International agreements currently grant airlines their derogation but a revision of the Energy Taxation Directive is seen by experts as a way of ending kerosene's free ride. Calls to impose some sort of taxation on aviation have gained momentum lately. Read [more](#)
- **A metropolitan Seattle clean air agency is moving forward to impose a low-carbon fuel standard on transportation fuels.** The program has drawn criticism from the petroleum industry, however, and the agency is bracing for a lawsuit. Read [more](#)
- **The NRC has received a petition for rulemaking to revise the measurement standards used at U.S. nuclear power plants.** The petitioner is concerned that U.S. nuclear power plants are not required to use or have internal metrology or calibration laboratories that are certified under accrediting organization standards, as a part of normal and required operations. Read [more](#)

Occupational Health and Safety

- **The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Consigli Construction are partnering to promote the 2019 National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction.** The Stand-Down encourages employers to pause work voluntarily for one hour to conduct safety training on common hazards. Read [more](#)
- **The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety (DOS), YouthBuild Boston, Madison Park Technical Vocational High School, and New England Carpenters Training Fund are partnering to promote the 2019 National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction.** The Stand-Down event was held at the site of an affordable housing construction project in Hyde Park, Massachusetts. Read [more](#)
- **The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is partnering with worker safety organizations on #MySafeSummerJob,** a social media campaign to educate young workers about safety rights in the workplace, how to speak up about dangerous work conditions, and how to protect themselves on the job. Read [more](#)
- **The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has announced the availability of \$10.5 million in Susan Harwood Training Grants for nonprofit organizations.** The Harwood Training Grant program supports in-person, hands-on training for workers and employers in small businesses; industries with high injury, illness and fatality rates. Read [more](#)
- **The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued a final rule that revises 14 provisions in the recordkeeping, general industry, maritime, and construction standards that may be confusing, outdated, or unnecessary.** The revisions are expected to increase understanding and compliance with the provisions, improve employee safety and health, and save employers an estimated \$6.1 million per year. Read [more](#)
- **The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is requesting information on a possible update to the Control of Hazardous Energy (Lockout/Tagout (LOTO)) standard.** The Agency is interested in comments on the use of control circuit-type devices to isolate energy, as well as the evolving technology for robotics. Read [more](#)

- **OSHA announces final rule to incorporate by reference standards from ATS, FHWA, ILO, ISO, and SAE.** These include ISO 3471:2008(E) Earth-moving machinery - Roll-over protective structures, ISO 5700:2013(E) Tractors for agriculture and forestry - Roll-over protective structures, SAE J167 Protective Frame with Overhead Protection-Test procedures and performance requirements among others. For a full list of incorporated standards see 84 FR 21416. Read [more](#)
- **The French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety ANSES has launched a public consultation, open until the 13th of July 2019, on draft recommendations for "dust without specific effects" (OELs).** The aim of this public consultation phase is to enable interested parties to share their comments regarding the scientific data collected for and used in the expertise work. Read [more](#)
- **Eurofound's new report Working conditions and workers' health examines the interplay between work demands – which carry an increased risk of exhaustion – and work resources – which support workers in greater engagement and well-being.** Read [more](#)
- **The International Labour Organisation (ILO) launched a global report highlighting the evolution of safety and health.** The report touches upon the changes in work arrangements, technology (digitalisation and ICT, platform work, automation and robotics), demographics, globalisation, climate change, and other drivers. Read [more](#)
- **An OSHwiki article provides additional information for the EU-OSHA technical report "Estimating the costs of work-related accidents and ill-health: An analysis of European data sources" and its summary.** It was produced in the context of a long-term research project which aims to develop an economic costing model to establish reliable estimates of the costs. Read [more](#)
- **At the 14th Congress of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) from 21 to 24 May in Vienna, over 600 national trade union delegates discussed fairer opportunities for workers.** On the ground of the achievements made within the European Pillar of Social Rights and the foreseen future changes in the world of work, the main discussion points relate to current issues of social justice for workers. Read [more](#)
- **The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) launches a survey on the use of ISO 45001 - the global standard for occupational health and safety management systems.** The aim of the survey is to collect users' experiences which will serve as a basis for further improvements of this OSH standard. Read [more](#)

Commodities

- **Russia overtook Brazil again to return as the top crude supplier to China's independent refineries in May,** shipping 1.76 million mt of crude during the month, S&P Global Platts monthly survey showed Tuesday. Read [more](#)
- **Tariffs and trade deals are sticking to the top of the commodities agenda, after the US reached an agreement to remove Section 232 tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada and Mexico.** The deal, announced on May 17, removes US import tariffs of 25% on steel and 10% on aluminum, without imposing quotas to cap imports. Read [more](#)
- **The EU's repeal of antidumping duties on imports of US ethanol in mid-May could pave the way for increased shipments to Europe of the biofuel.** European ethanol producers have raised concerns over the environmental impact of increased imports, but deeper questions over the sustainability of biofuels remain unanswered. Read [more](#)
- **A proposed ASTM International standard aims to offer a new way to determine biodiesel content in diesel fuel oil.** The standard (WK55232) is being developed by the organization's committee on petroleum products, liquid fuels, and lubricants (D02). It focuses on the use of portable, rapid, mid-infrared analyzers. Read [more](#)
- **The American Petroleum Institute issued a statement today applauding the Pipelines and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) on the release of their Pipeline Safety Legislative proposals.** Pipelines are the safest way to transport the energy Americans use every day, and in order to improve upon industry's strong safety record and reach its goal of zero pipeline incidents, it is imperative that the industry, regulatory environment and PHMSA be positioned to meet current and future safety challenges. Read [more](#)
- **API announced the publication of its Guide for Developing a UAS Program in the Oil and Natural Gas Industry,** which will help ensure worker and operational safety as the industry introduces drones in its operations. Read [more](#)
- **In May 2019, the Commission issued the report 'Recovery of critical and other raw materials from mining waste and landfills - state of play on existing practices'.** The report shows existing practices to recover critical and other raw materials from extractive waste and landfill. Read [more](#)

Trade

- **EU, US and Japan talks:** EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström met with US Trade Representative Ambassador Robert E. Lighthizer, and Mr Hiroshige Seko, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan. The three met as part of the trilateral talks launched in 2017 to address trade distorting practices and how to strengthen the existing international trade rules. According to
- the joint statement, the ministers discussed concerns about non-market orientated policies and practices, industrial subsidies and forced technological transfers. Read [more](#)
- **EU-US Trade relations:** The Council has approved the mandates for the European Commission to open the formal negotiations with the US for two agreements - conformity assessment and eliminating tariffs on industrial products. In its press release, the Council noted that the negotiations won't cover agriculture and public procurement and the negotiating directives for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) are no longer relevant. In the [negotiating directive on conformity assessment](#), it states that the agreement should mainly cover sectors for which the importing Party requires third party conformity assessment, and it would be conditional upon the Parties agreeing to exercise effective public authority supervision of the conformity assessment bodies located in their territory. Also, it suggests that the parties should develop requirements that would allow an importing Party to accept conformity assessment results confirming compliance

with its technical regulations, issued by the conformity assessment bodies located in the territory of the other Party. According to the directive, the agreement will also include some provisions to ensure improved and effective procedures and approaches in sectors where obstacles are currently found, notably in the machinery, electrical and electronic sectors. Read [more](#)

- **European Commission's Communication on cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean:** The European Commission sent a communication to the Council and Parliament expressing its priorities for the cooperation with Latin American and Caribbean countries. The communication refers to improved market access, but not specifically to conformity assessment. Read [more](#)
- **EU-Australia negotiations:** according to a report published by the European Commission, the last round of negotiations between EU and Australia addressed issues relevant to technical barriers to trade. Both sides agreed in principle on several provisions in the articles on technical regulations, standards, conformity assessment and transparency. However, certain conformity assessment issues remain challenging. Read [more](#)
- **EU-Chile negotiations:** according to a report published by the European Commission, the last round of negotiations between EU and Chile addressed issues relevant to conformity assessment. However, discussions will continue on provisions related to the use of suppliers' declaration of conformity and on marking and labelling. Read [more](#)
- **President Trump eyes August for a U.S.-Japan Deal on Trade.** Trump has threatened tariffs on Japan's lucrative auto exports. Japan denies leaders reached any agreement on August deal. U.S. President Donald Trump said he may announce something on a U.S.-Japan trade agreement in August, hinting he will push for results well in advance of the six-month deadline he laid out earlier this month. Read [more](#)
- **Minister Carr welcomes royal assent of the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement.** Once in force, the modernized Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement (CIFTA) will reduce tariffs, ease border restrictions on goods, increase transparency around regulations, reduce red tape, and help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) generate more business in both countries. Read [more](#)
- **At the UN more than 180 governments agreed May 10 to strengthen global regulations on the trade of plastic waste.** From the beginning of 2020, exporters must get consent to ship contaminated plastic waste abroad. The U.S. opposed the decision, which will increase pressure on America's waste industry. Read [more](#)

Upcoming Events

- 2 July: [Workshop on Artificial Intelligence for Manufacturing](#) – Brussels
- 7-8 August: [NIST Second annual Disaster Resilience Symposium](#) — Geithersburg
- 23-27 August: [11th World Congress on Alternatives and animal use in life sciences](#), Maastricht
- 3-4 September: TC10 IMEKO — EUROLAB Conference — Berlin
- 10 September: [Vienna & Frankfurt Agreements - Day-to-day management Webinar](#) — CEN-CENELEC — webinar
- 23-26 September: [10th International Conference on the Prevention of Accidents at Work - the Future of Safety in a Digitalized World](#), Vienna
- 26 September: [ENISA's workshop in Warsaw to discuss innovation in the context of National Cyber Security Strategies](#) - Warsaw
- On 3-4 October 2019: [9th European Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion \(EU-Safety 2019\)](#), Luxembourg
- 3-5 October: [Quality & Competence](#) — MAKLAB - Ohrid
- 08 October: [WTO Public Forum](#) — call for proposals open until 3 June
- 16 October: EUROLAB Conference "Global Market: Accreditation, Cooperation and TIC Industry as value drivers in the supply chain" — Toledo
- 17 October: EUROLAB TCQA Meeting — Toledo
- 18 October: EUROLAB Board Meeting — Toledo
- 18 October: EUROLAB National Member's Meeting — Toledo
- 22-24 October: [User Conference on Advanced Automated Testing \(UCAAT\) 2019](#) — ETSI - Bordeaux
- 13 November: [Digitising European Industry Stakeholder Forum 2019](#) — Madrid
- 6-8 May 2020: EUROLAB General Assembly and Anniversary event 2020 — Madeira
- Date tbc: EUROLAB National Member's Meeting 2020 — Vienna

EUROLAB General Assembly

EUROLAB General Assembly 2019 & TCQA meeting 9-10 May 2019, Prague



The EUROLAB General Assembly and Annual Meetings 2019 took place in Prague, on 9 and 10 May 2019 and were kindly hosted by EUROLAB-CZ. The EUROLAB events started on Thursday morning with the TCQA meeting, which was opened by the newly re-elected Chair, Irache Visiers.

The following topics were discussed during the meeting:

- TCQA Strategy, including TCQA new documents & projects: *Survey on new ISO/IEC 17025 conflict points*, *Position Paper on Risk Approach which has been published*, *GDPR Cook Book (soon to be published)*, *Decision rules applied to calibration and measurement capabilities (CMCs) & Method validation in calibration (to be drafted)*;
- The EUROLAB Cookbooks & the communication strategy to promote the added value and use of the documents as well as the translations in different languages;
- TCQA actions in relation to accreditation and standardisation issues - ILAC-LC Case Studies.

The TCQA meeting was followed in the evening by the EUROLAB Gala Dinner where all the guests and participants were kindly invited by EUROLAB-CZ, which gave also the opportunity to present and network with some of the EUROLAB-CZ members.

The EUROLAB Board meeting took place on Friday, 10 May and was followed by the EUROLAB General Assembly. During the successful meeting, the EUROLAB Members raised and discussed several important topics:

- The EUROLAB objectives, strategy and actions for 2019-2020;
- EUROLAB membership enlargement
- EUROLAB welcomes ASCOLAB as an International Affiliate member and looks forward to exploring future collaboration opportunities on joint issues of interest.
- Cooperation with other stakeholders, amongst others:
- Collaboration and EUROLAB membership within the newly created organisation 'The TIC Council' (formerly known as CEOC and IFIA);
- IMEKO Conference Testing, Diagnostics & Inspection as a comprehensive value chain for Quality & Safety, which will be jointly organised with EUROLAB;
- Future collaboration and participation at the events of NLA-SA, EURAMET & EURACHEM.
- Future projects on NDT in cooperation with EFNDT and possible closer collaboration through an MoU.
- Policy updates on various on-going legislative developments, including: Medical Devices, Environment, Cybersecurity, Food, Anti-Counterfeiting and Trade – as priority focus areas which EUROLAB is following.
- EUROLAB communications strategy, including a new and more interactive approach of EUROLAB to its communications materials: new website, newsletter, presentations and the EUROLAB video presentation;
- NLA South Africa project MetCert - Metrology Certification

EUROLAB upcoming events:

- EUROLAB National Members' Meeting 2019, 16-18 October, Toledo
- EUROLAB General Assembly & Anniversary events 2020, 6-8 May, Madeira

The EUROLAB Members:

re-elected the following Board Members:

- Ewa Bulska, POLLAB
- José-Luis Sanchez, EUROLAB-Spain
- Alexander Šafařík-Pštrosz, EUROLAB-CZ
- Kurt Ziegler, EUROLAB-Germany
- Paolo Moscatti, ALPI

re-elected the Vice-President

Paolo Moscatti, ALPI

re-elected the Representative of Associated Members

Ömer Güzel, TURKLAB

elected a new Board Member:

Tony Smith, BMTA

The EUROLAB General Assembly 2019 concluded with thank you remarks addressed by the President, Álvaro Silva Ribeiro, to all participants and to EUROLAB-CZ and its team for the great organisation of the successful EUROLAB events in Prague.



*Victor Kanama Viki Mbuya, ASCOLAB
President & Álvaro S. Ribeiro, EUROLAB
President*



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