

Accreditation Insider

A Newsletter Published by Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation, Inc. (PJLA)

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Annual APLAC Meeting Update

PJLA recently attended the 2018 APLAC meeting in Kyoto, Japan. This meeting included the gathering of various committees including: the technical committee, training committee, proficiency testing committee, marketing committee, the MRA council, and general assembly. A vast range of discussions surrounded the new ISO/IEC 17025: 2017 standard as well as ISO/IEC 17011:2017. Member comments were collected on the new standards in order to plan for future training sessions and guidance documents on particular troublesome areas of the new standards. Another critical point of the meeting was the announcement of the end of the APLAC name. APLAC and PAC - the regional body for IAF activities - have now officially joined; the new name will be APAC, effective starting January 2019.



LEFT TO RIGHT: APLAC MRA COUNCIL CHAIR - LLEW RICHARDS, PJLA PRESIDENT - TRACY SZERSZEN, APLAC CHAIR - WW WONG



During the APLAC MRA Council meeting, PJLA officially signed the MRA to extend our recognition arrangement to include Inspection ISO 17020.

During this same trip, PJLA President Tracy Szerszen also had the opportunity to visit PJLA's Tokyo office. This was a great chance to meet and discuss accreditation resource needs and growth for the company in Japan. Ms. Szerszen also had the great pleasure to welcome back Kanako Kawabata, PJLA Japan's International Accreditation Assistant from her 12 month maternity leave. ♦

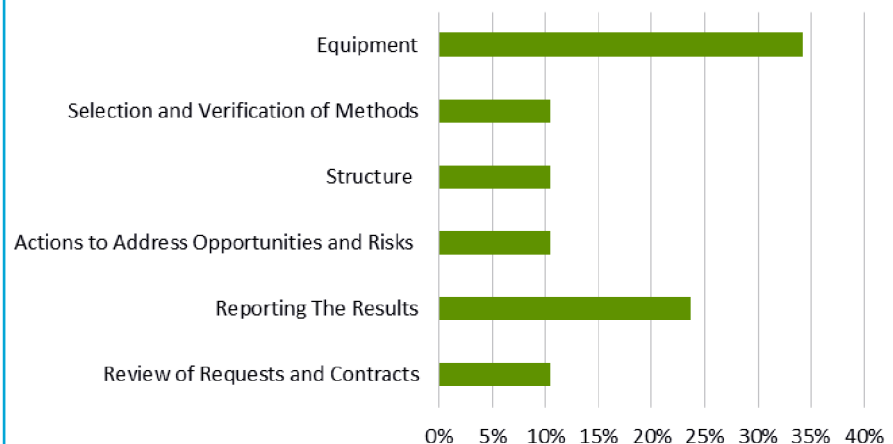
LEFT TO RIGHT: YOSHIO KUNITOMI, TRACY SZERSZEN, KANAKO KAWABATA

ISO 17025:2017 Update

Since February 2018, PJLA has begun assessing laboratories to the new ISO 17025 standard, including those looking to transition from the 2005 version. Some common findings in those assessments included the following listed in the chart to the right.

Laboratories have until November 29, 2020 to transition to the new standard. Please take the time to review our transition requirement resources, available on our website at www.pjllabs.com. ♦

ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Top Common Findings



IN THIS ISSUE:

Annual APLAC Meeting Update.....	1
ISO 17025:2017 Update.....	1
PJLA Welcomes A New Member To The Team!.....	2
World Accreditation Day!.....	2
PJLA Has Signed An Agreement With The Florida Department Of Health As An Assessment Firm!.....	2
PJLA Visits The Following.....	3
Reminder To Reference Material Producers - 17034 Transition.....	3
Client Spotlight: Roberto Benitez Chavez of Corporación BH, S.C.....	4
Look Out For PJLA's FREE Online Webinars!.....	4

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PJLA Welcomes A New Member To The Team!

PJLA would like to welcome Halima Alli to the team. Halima will be joining the technical program and quality management team. Halima will particularly assist in the accreditation of clinical testing laboratories and general testing program activities. A graduate of the Biology program at the University of Michigan and Wayne State University's Clinical Laboratory Science program, Halima is an ASCP Board of Registry-certified Medical Technologist, and has worked in clinical microbiology for 10 years. Her experience induces veterinary clinical microbiology, and work in the Washington State Public Health Laboratory Biosafety Level 3 Tuberculosis laboratory. She moved to Cleveland, OH and into the medical device industry in 2010 to do laboratory diagnostic system technical and application support for the U.S. customer base. With advances in automated diagnostic testing, Halima became interested in molecular diagnostics for infectious disease and detection of genetic markers. She took a position with Cepheid, the manufacturer of the GeneXpert System, as a Field Application Specialist serving customers in Ohio, Western Pennsylvania, and Western New York. Throughout her clinical and medical device career, quality assurance and regulatory compliance were instrumental in her success providing superior customer support. Joining PJLA will bring quality and compliance to center stage while providing a unique opportunity to apply her previous laboratory and medical device support experience. ♦



World Accreditation Day!

June 9th, 2018 marked World Accreditation Day as a global initiative, established by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), to raise awareness of the importance of accreditation! ♦



PJLA Has Signed An Agreement With The Florida Department Of Health As An Assessment Firm!

Effective July 1, 2018, PJLA has entered a 3 year agreement with the Florida Department of Health to assess to their environmental program, including NELAC. This is a great opportunity for many labs to take advantage of PJLA's services for multiple assessment programs such as DoD ELAP, DOCAP, and ISO 17025. Please contact PJLA to receive a quotation for services. ♦

PJLA Visits The Following...

CannaCon

In the beginning of June, PJLA had the opportunity to exhibit at CannaCon in our hometown of Detroit, Michigan. On the first night of the conference, PJLA hosted a hospitality suite and had the opportunity to meet a variety of important members in the cannabis industry.

CannaWest

PJLA recently exhibited at CannaWest in Redondo Beach, California, where PJLA's Testing Program Manager Doug Berg had the opportunity to speak on a panel about Assessing Risks & Opportunities for Meeting the Requirement ISO/IEC 17025:0217.

NEMC Meeting

PJLA's President Tracy Szerszen and National Project Manager Gary Steed attended and exhibited at the 2018 NEMC meeting this year. This included various discussions on the upcoming changes to the TNI standards now that the new ISO 17025 standard is in place. Both Tracy and Gary enjoyed this opportunity to visit with colleagues in the industry as well as our customers. Congratulations to our gift card giveaway winner Jared Ivey from Environmental Labs & Services, Inc.

AOAC International

PJLA's National Project Manager Bill Jaquays and Food Science Testing Program Manager Larry Lagman attended the 2018 annual AOAC meeting in Toronto. This was a great opportunity to visit and network with various industry experts and colleagues with the food and pharmaceutical industry. Congratulations to our gift card giveaway winner Carolyn Monte from Neogen!



Cannabis Science Conference

PJLA's President Tracy Szerszen and Sales Manager Brett McMillen attended the 2018 Cannabis Science Conference in Portland. This conference consisted of various meetings on cannabis topics from production to testing facilities. This was a great opportunity for us to learn about up and coming regulations for testing labs and networking with potential customers.



JASON STRULL - 374 LABS, TRACY SZERSZEN - PJLA PRESIDENT, MILAN PATEL - PATHOGENDX, BRETT McMILLEN - PJLA PROJECT MANAGER, ALEC GARCIA - 374 LABS

DOECAP Annual Workshop

PJLA's Testing Program Manager, Doug Berg and a few of our assessors attended the annual DOECAP workshop in Las Vegas. This meeting was a great opportunity to hear feedback from the DOE and the clients on how the new DOECAP-Accreditation Program is coming together. Doug Berg, PJLA Testing Program Manager also presented on our personal feedback and suggestions for improvements for the program in the future. ♦



Reminder To Reference Material Producers – 17034 Transition

The transition period for ISO Guide 34 is approaching. The requirement by APLAC is that all reference material producers become accredited to the new standard (ISO 17034) by November 2019. In order to meet this deadline, all RMPs must have their assessment to the new transition no later than August 2019. If you have not purchased the standard yet, it can be found at either ISO.org or ANSI.org. Please review PJLA's website to find additional information on the new standard under the resource document section. ♦



Client Spotlight: *Roberto Benitez Chavez of Corporación BH, S.C*

We had the opportunity to speak to one of our clients, Roberto Benitez Chavez, the General Director of Corporación BH, S.C in Mexico, about working with PJLA and the many benefits accreditation has brought their organization.

Corporación BH, S.C has been in the calibration business for more than 38 years, Chavez states that one of the main benefits of becoming a PJLA accredited laboratory is all the opportunities they have experienced - especially the opportunity to be a calibration service provider for worldwide companies. "The recognition from an internationally recognized accreditation body like PJLA has ensured clients with quality service."



One of the main challenges as a calibration provider is to constantly be aware of the changing industry, and stay on top with the new state of the art advancements in metrology. Chavez explains that since calibration services are Corporación BH, S.C's focal point, they are preparing to include the newest technologies in their services, which is why they have been looking into the Metrology 4.0 and the Internet of Things (IoT). They are training new hires in metrology through some technical schools and universities, where anything from metrology to basic terms and scientific calibration methods is taught. They are also participating in developing new techniques and calibration procedures, such as biomedical instruments, environmental measurement, and clean energy generation. ♦

Look Out For PJLA's FREE Online Webinars!

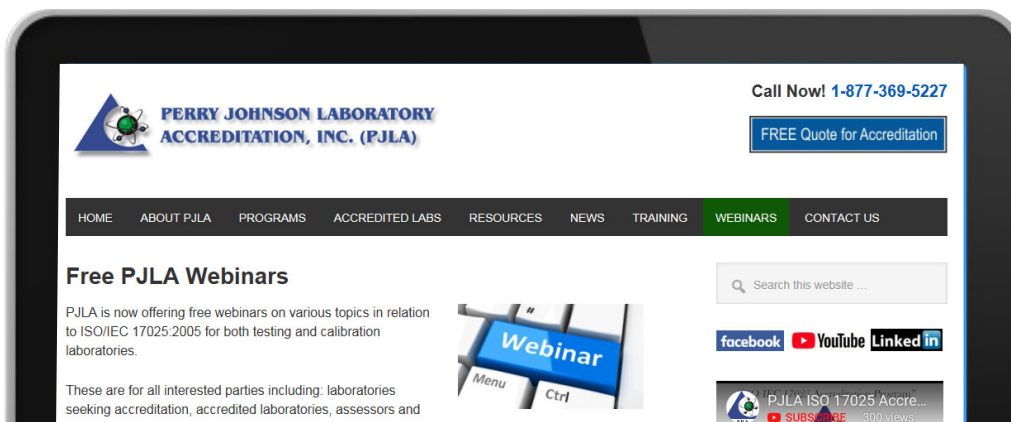
PJLA is now offering free webinars on various topics in relation to ISO/IEC 17025 for both testing and calibration laboratories. These are for all interested parties including: laboratories seeking accreditation, accredited laboratories, assessors, and consultants. To see our full schedule and register for upcoming webinars visit our website at www.pjlab.com/training/pjla-webinars. ♦

Thursday, October 25, 2018:

ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Section 8.9 Management Review Requirements and Utilization

Tuesday, November 20, 2018:

ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and Section 8.8 on Internal Audits



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