

Accreditation Insider

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

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2018 Annual Assessor Training

The 2018 PJLA Annual Assessor Conclave was another huge success! Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation, Inc. recently welcomed PJLA Assessors to the Troy Community Center for their annual December Training. PJLA Program Managers, Douglas Berg (Testing, RMP), Michael Kramer (Calibration, Inspection), and Halima Ali (Medical), educated our core group of assessors on common findings and any updates to the relevant standards or program changes. Assessors were provided with training including discussions on the 17025:2017 transition, RMP ISO

17034 training, an overview of DOE/DoD ELAP, ILAC/17011 changes, and far more.



During the training, some of our top performers were awarded for their hard work throughout the 2018 calendar year. Congratulations to: Manny Cabanas, Albert Ellis, Maurice Downer, Nick Pannagio, Felipe Narcio, and Doug Berg.

PJLA compiled a group of the greatest minds for our 2018 training, promoting collaboration and new knowledge for the coming year. PJLA would like to thank all PJLA staff for all of their efforts coordinating another successful annual assessor forum. ♦

IAF – ILAC Singapore 2018 – PJLA Signs Official MRA With ILAC For Inspection

The 2018 IAF-ILAC Joint Annual Meetings were held October 22nd to 31st at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in the beautiful location of Singapore.

A number of key international standards have been revised lately and are now being executed in many of the areas that are cornerstones of the work of IAF and ILAC. Along with Committee, Task Force and Working Group meetings this year, the Joint Annual Meetings included IAF and ILAC General Assemblies, a Joint General Assembly and a signing ceremony. PJLA's President and Operations Manager, Tracy Szerszen, joined many additional accreditation bodies from all regions of the world during this signing ceremony to official sign PJLA's MRA with ILAC for inspection. ♦



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PJLA Welcomes New Members To The Team!



Ben Watt
Project Manager

PJLA would like to welcome Ben Watt to the team. Ben is an experienced business manager with a strong record of improving sales performance and sourcing new business.



Stephen Whatford
Project Manager

PJLA would like to welcome Stephen Whatford to the team. Stephen graduated from the University of Brighton and has over ten years of prior experience in retail management with major brands, including New & Lingwood.

ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Transition Training Courses

On Tuesday, February 19th, 2019, Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation welcomed ambitious laboratory professionals from near and far to the first of our **FREE** ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Transition Training Courses. This was conducted by one of PJLA's experienced program managers and assessor, Mr. Douglas Berg. While attending this course, attendees learned about the key differences between ISO/IEC 17025:2005 & ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and implementation tactics and tools to successfully transition their laboratory management system. Several case studies and interactive group activities were provided to all attendees allowing for ideas and experiences to be shared among the group. PJLA looks forward to our additional courses scheduled in 2019.



Dates & Locations to Choose From:

April 23, 2019	Houston, TX
May 2, 2019	Philadelphia, PA
May 17, 2019	Orlando, FL
May 21, 2019	Chicago, IL

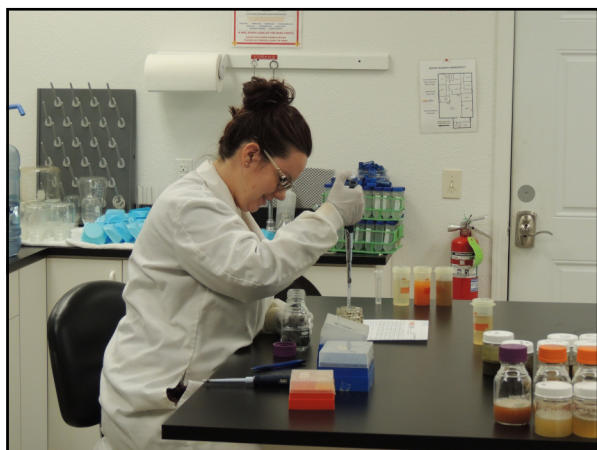
Limited Seating!

Any Questions about the training courses? Contact Tracy Szerszen: [1-877-369-5227](tel:1-877-369-5227) or visit our website to register at www.pjlabs.com. ♦

Client Spotlight: Mission Mountain Laboratories



Mission Mountain Laboratories (MML) is proud to be a female owned business with two generations of family overseeing operations. In the beginning, MML started out testing Public Water Systems in Montana. Since then, they have expanded testing services to include: Heavy Metals by ICP/MS, Pesticides by GCMS and LCMSMS, Microbiological (AOAC, FSIS, USDA, FDA/BAM), Residual Solvents and Terpenes by GC, Vitamin and Minerals (HPLC and ICP-OES), Nutritional Label Claims (Fats, Sugars, etc.), Botanical Active Ingredients by HPLC, and FTIR Identities. Their most recent expansion was compliance testing for Medical Marijuana and other Cannabis related products.



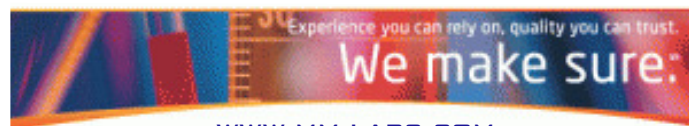
With plans on expanding to Florida by 2020, Mission Mountain Laboratories aims to provide testing for the increased and urgent demand for quality Cannabis Compliance nation wide. Attaining accreditation has opened more opportunities for business growth by attracting larger companies that seek reassurance that laboratories are following the highest testing standards. With help from Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation, MML has become the first Medical Marijuana lab to achieve ISO accreditation in the state of Montana.



With Mission Mountain Laboratories, you are met with a lab that provides a well-trained team, state-of-the-art facilities and instrumentation, and a commitment to data integrity and the industry's highest ethical standards. They recognize that clients have many choices when it comes to selecting a laboratory, however, their team strives to stand out by utilizing their superior industry knowledge and a "can-do" attitude. You can trust their family to treat you like family because they care!

"It is not only our technical knowledge that makes us stand out from other testing laboratories - it's our team!"

Kimberly Nuccio, President



PJLA Visits The Following...

PJLA attended and presented at the ASTM D37-Workshop on Advancing the Field of Cannabis/Hemp through Standardization - Rome, Italy:

Alessandro Annino represented PJLA at the ASTM D 37 Workshop in Rome, Italy on February 18-19, 2019. This included an overview of cannabis testing laboratory accreditation challenges in the United States including, Internal Method Validation. This presentation discussed the appropriate criteria for validating internal methods based on well-known industry practices and ISO 17025. This presentation allowed for members of the working group to intake information on how to develop criteria for this common issue to be utilized by cannabis testing laboratories globally.

PJLA at the Food Safety Consortium 2018:

PJLA visited the 6th Annual Food Safety Consortium Conference and Expo from November 14-16 in Schaumburg, Illinois. The conference focused on

**FoodSafety
Consortium**
Conference & Expo

food safety education and networking, providing attendees' information on best practices and new technology solutions to today's food safety challenges. Representatives from the world's leading accreditation bodies met for a panel at the consortium, where they discussed the new ISO standard, the future of the cannabis lab industry and certifications for food safety and quality.

The Cannabis Quality series featured presentations by subject matter experts, including PJLA's President and Operations manager, Tracy Szerszen, in the areas of regulations, edibles manufacturing, cannabis safety & quality as well as laboratory testing.



https://cannabisindustryjournal.com/feature_article/discussing-lab-accreditation-the-new-iso-170252017-standard/ ◆

PJLA Evaluated By APAC For Our ISO 15189 Accreditation Program

PJLA accredited our first clinical laboratory, Personal Genome Diagnostics, to ISO 15189:2012 in 2017. When their reassessment came up due in January, 2019, we selected them as the candidate for our APAC ISO 15189 scope extension evaluation. They graciously welcomed the representative from APAC to join us for their reassessment during the week of January 21st. APAC spent 2.5 days onsite observing our assessment process and conducted an office evaluation here at our headquarters in Troy, Michigan. The overall evaluation was very successful and it's expected that PJLA will receive our approval for signatory status to APAC MRA by the 2nd quarter 2019.

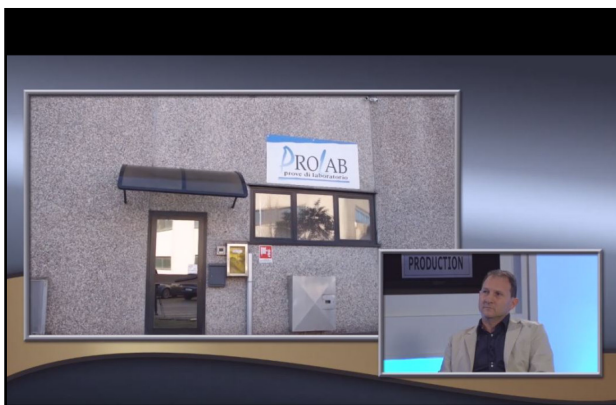
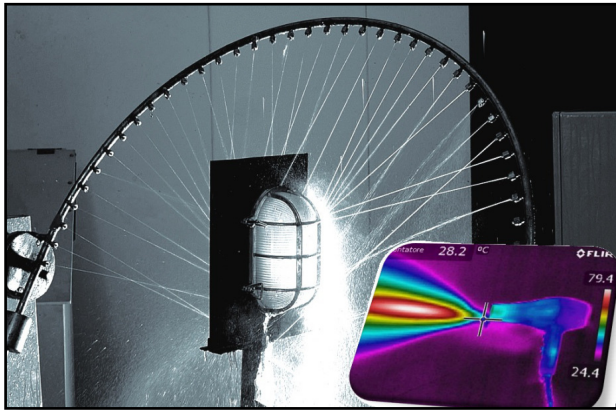


According to Halima Alli, Technical Program Manager, Personal Genome Diagnostics (PGDx) represents one area for the growth of our ISO 15189 Medical Program. Having achieved accreditation to ISO 15189 for their laboratory operation in Germany, PGDx sought accreditation for the laboratory in Baltimore as well. International clinical trials require standardization across all laboratories performing testing to qualify patients, and assess the effects of treatments. Such testing needs to be performed to the same standards of quality and reliability expected for the diagnosis of disease. ISO 15189 is the ideal solution as an internationally recognized, and applied standard. Accreditation to ISO 15189 is an indication of the rigor and quality of a lab's testing and informs decisions for grants and inclusion in development projects. ◆

Client Spotlight: ProLab



WWW.PRO-LAB.IT



Founded in 1996, ProLab is a laboratory based in Lesmo, Italy, focused on product certification in the following fields: domestic appliances, medical devices, electronic devices, and more. They also support manufacturers, from product design to certification. In addition, they offer consulting, supporting both importers and exporters by providing any required information.

With 23 years of experience, ProLab has focused on understanding the needs of both small and large customers, adapting its services and internal procedures to meet many different needs.

ProLab believes that receiving accreditation through Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation, Inc. has allowed them to work with companies that export their products all over the world. With the support of PJLA, they are now able to issue accredited reports to their clients. ProLab realizes how beneficial it is for laboratories to become accredited and believes accreditation is crucial for labs that want to stand out for their quality and reliability. Through accreditation with PJLA, they have gained notable value and the ability to acquire new customers who require accredited laboratories. ProLab has future plans to increase the number of its accredited tests, thus expanding the fields in which the organization can operate. First and foremost, however, they wish to provide support to other organizations and final consumers of electrical products.

"Our cornerstone has always been complying with deadlines and the quality and reliability of our tests. Our goal is our customers' satisfaction and building long-lasting relationships."

ProLab

First Ever Hemp & CBD Expo In The U.K.

With nearly five and a half thousand visitors in attendance, Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation, Inc. traveled to Birmingham, UK to join other leading cannabis companies at the first ever Hemp & CBD Expo. This landmark UK event was filled with fantastic Hemp and CBD products, as well as various other advancements for the cannabis community.

Tracy Szerszen, President/Operations Manager also had the opportunity to speak to attendees about ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation of cannabis testing laboratories including the importance of accreditation, the accreditation process and how government entities rely on accreditation in the marketplace.

Thank you to everyone who stopped by to say hello and learn more about the expanding opportunities in this exciting new market! ♦



PJLA'S STEPHEN WHATFORD AND BEN WATT

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.

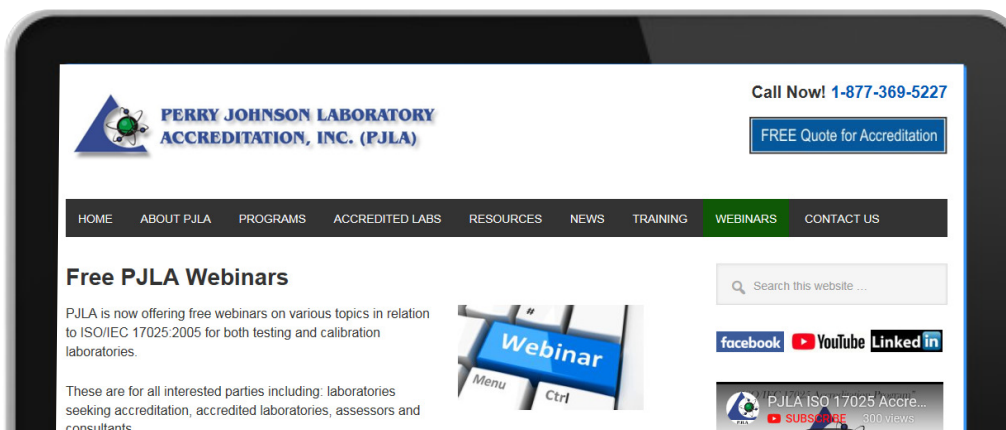
Thursday, March 28, 2019:

Metrological Traceability to include the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2017 along with those specified in PJLA Policy PL-2 "PJLA Measurement Traceability Policy"

Thursday, April 25, 2019:

ISO/IEC 17025:2017 "Personnel"

To see our full schedule and register for upcoming webinars visit our website at www.pjlabr.com/training/pjla-webinars. Want to catch up on all of our previous webinars? Watch recordings of PJLA's past webinars by visiting the following link: www.pjlabr.com/training/pjla-webinars/past-webinars. ♦



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