



EURAMET TC-Q

The Chair's Report 2012 - 2013



Pavel Klenovsky, TC-Q Chair
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Interest in EURAMET TC-Q from other regions

Recently, the following representatives has shown interest to attend EURAMET TC-Q meeting:

- **Mrs. Sally S.Bruce** – NIST Quality Manager
- **Mrs. B.Goldstein** – a SIM QSTF Secretary
- 2 representatives of GULFMET: **Miss Majeda Zaidan** and **Miss Eng Masouma Akbar**
- NIS Egypt would like to stick to EURAMET as long as possible, obviously AFRIMETS TC-Q is not operational
- → **enhancing confidence in EURAMET activities**

Greyed-out CMCs - EURAMET

Situation in 2012:

- **Bulgaria:** 1 CMC in length
- **France:** 3 CMCs in pressure + flow
- **Greece:** all the accoustical CMCs
- **France LNE-ENSAM:** all the CMCs greyed out, status of their QMS: not approved by TC-Q

Greyed-out CMCs - EURAMET

Situation in 2013:

- **Bulgaria:** 1 CMC in length
- **France LNE:** 3 CMCs in pressure + flow
- **Greece EIM:** all the accoustical CMCs deleted
- **Belgium:** all the electricity + T/F CMCs (64 in total)
- **Finland:** 6 CMCs in force/torque
- **Italy INRIM:** 1 CMC in EM
- **France LNE-ENSAM:** all the CMCs greyed out

TC-Q documentation

- at the beginning of my term, a complete revision of TC-Q documents was launched
- 2012: QMS review procedure, Guideline for QMS annual report + template - revised, discussed and approved
- 2013: Guidelines pro initial and re-evaluation presentations; TC-Q ToR
- at this moment, the entire TC-Q documentation is completely overhauled

TC-Q documentation

- more concentration on technical activities associated with technical competence (accreditation): **the participation in ILCs/PTs, disclosure of assessors in accredited institutes and peer-reviewers in self-declared institutes**
- some institutes have reported zero participation in ILCs/PTs in 2012 (?)

TC-Q documentation

The following institutes have reported a **zero participation** in ILCs/PTs in 2012:

- HMI-FSB-LIMS, Croatia – CMCs No
- HMI – Mass and Density, Croatia – CMCs No
- IRSN, France – CMCs Yes/ IR
- VMT/VMC Lithuania – CMCs Yes/ L, M
- SIQ, Slovenia – CMCs Yes/EM
- NMO, UK – CMCs Yes/F

???

External auditing – survey 2012/13

EURAMET maintains its quite flexible approach to on-site external auditing in the EURAMET institutes - the existing options are:

- **accreditation** (by an ILAC MRA signatory)
- **on-site visit by peers** (inclusive an internal audit with external auditors)
- **an audit made by the corresponding NMI** (applicable only to A-DIs)

External auditing – conclusion: NMIs + DIs

The conclusion:

All the EURAMET NMIs are covered (or are being covered) by either accreditation by an ILAC MRA signatory or by on-site visits by peers !

All the A-DIs with CMCs are either accredited, peer reviewed or audited by their respective NMI inclusive the international organization IAEA Vienna !

Curent TC-Q peer review projects

- **Germany, Switzerland, Austria:** project no. 1083
- **Italy, Spain, Portugal:** project no. 1123
- **Finland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland:** project no. 1109
- **Serbia, Bulgaria:** project no. 1208
- **BoM Macedonia with UME Turkey:** project no. 1119
- **IAEA with BEV + experts:** project no. 1219
- **Ireland with Czech Republic:** project no. 1199
- **EIM + UME:** project no. 1231
- **LNE-CNAM (various experts):** project no. 1227

Current TC-Q peer review projects

- **LNE-SYRTE France + INRIM Italy: project no. 1248**
- **LCOE Spain + SMU SR, National Univ. of Tucuman, Argentina: project no. 1256**
- **MBM Monte Negro + UME Turkey: project no. 1265**
- **IMBiH Bosnia and Herzegovina + BEV Austria, CMI Czech Rep. (mass, pressure): project no. 1266**
- **the conclusion: 2009: 1 such project**
2013: 13 projects of this type !

Video-conferencing

- EURAMET TC-Q has to serve over 100 institutes, presentations should be made in person which is expensive and difficult to achieve
- an idea to employ video-conferencing for presentations of DIs
- CMI has purchased a tailor-made equipment and SW requiring a connectivity of only 256 kB/s being reasonably available in normal hotels
- a test has been made at the SC meeting

QMS oriented database

- **TC-Q database** accessible on the EURAMET website is under preparation by the EURAMET Secretary and TC-Q Secretary
- **Current status:**
- 2nd round of the application testing, some comments and changes have been sent to IT company
- IT company is currently working to eliminate bugs in the database and implement the proposed changes
- **the expected deadline of the completion is the end of 2013**

Cooperation with „technical“ TCs

- technical TC Chairs have been explicitly asked to make available to TC-Q **any information about underperformance of any institute in intercomparisons** or about any info raising concern relevant to their QS life
- this will subsequently be used by TC-Q to make decisions about possible (enforced) on-site visit by peers
- **technical TC chairs should cooperate here**

Cooperation with „technical“ TCs

- complaints by NMIs about too low CMCs of some accredited labs: 2 in temperature
- one accredited lab has better CMCs in temperature than the NMI providing its traceability
- BoD decided to collect such info from all the technical TCs by the end of April
- **TC-Q Chair authorized to take it up with the Chair of EA Laboratory Committee in the first stage**

Task force for discussions with EA LC

- **EA Laboratory Committee, September 2011:**
E. Oehlenschlager of DANAK proposed a **joint task force** to discuss common problems or exchange views
- 3 representatives from both sides
- 1 meeting annually – now planned for September 2013 (between 17th and 19th)
- EURAMET representation - proposal: **the Chair + 1 of accredited NMIs (EU JRC IRMM or VSL) + 1 of self-declared NMIs (PTB – Andreas Odin)**

New TC-Q Management

- the tenure of the current TC-Q Chair expires in 2014
- **2014: elections of new TC-Q Chair**
- the contact persons invited to stand as candidates – **the deadline for proposals: the end of September 2013**
- EURAMET Secretary and TC-Q Chair has proposed a new position of a **permanent TC-Q Secretary** in the person of **Mrs. Silvie Hoffmanova** (since 7/2013) – BoD accepted

Challenges

- **internal** - 3 sub-groups within TC-Q with vastly different views on some matters: accredited NMIs, self-declared NMIs, A-Dis
- **external** - recently EURAMET has been under attack from other RMOs (SIM, APMP) that it is not doing enough in external auditing of the institutes under its administration

Challenges

- **4 EURAMET institutes** (MSA-NMS Malta, HMI and HMI /FSB-LIMS Croatia, TAEK Turkey) **have no CMCs 5 years after the approval of their QMS** (which is against EURAMET rules) !
- **in total 23 EURAMET institutes (ca ¼ of the total !)** with some CMCs **did not issue in 2012 a single calibration certificate with the CIPM MRA logo** !

Thank you for your attention!

