

STACK TESTING ACCREDITATION COUNCIL (STAC)
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
Minutes of February 10, 2011

A special Board of Directors of the Stack Testing Accreditation Council (STAC) conference call was held Thursday, February 10, 2011. The primary goal for the call was to continue discussion on FSMO Vol. 2.

Present: Angela Hansen, Scott Swiggard, Steve Szambaris, Scott Evans, Jim Locke, Jim Serne, Rob Patterson, and Maggie Cangro. We were joined on the call by Marlene Moore of TNI.

Scott Swiggard called the meeting to order at 2pm.

Scott S.: Continuing our early discussion – we can use ISO 17011 as a guidance document and 7036 instead of going to TNI. Scott Evans' point is we need TNI recognition to be taken seriously by other organizations.

Scott E: The recent separation of lab and field groups by TNI allows us to participate. There is now more flexibility.

Marlene: TNI has had a lot of reorganization, and lots of confusion resulted. Now, we have oversight and open processes demonstrating conformance to procedures and practices. I have developed a stack testing sub-committee – Field Activities Committee – which created Vol. 1 and 2. We want to make sure that the committee has a representative from the stack testing community. Maggie was recently nominated to replace Augie de la Vega, and is under vote at this time.

Jim S: I do not want to have multiple certification requirements. Part 75 says ASTM D-7036, why would I be interested in TNI accreditation?

Marlene: ASTM is not a recognition process.

Jim S: doesn't STAC do that recognition?

Marlene: You may have multiple organizations that want to accredit you under 7036. TNI has standards for accrediting bodies.

Jim: STAC needs to be accredited by TNI?

Marlene: No, not required. But, we want to limit accreditation bodies. Building a recognition process will help.

Scott E: We already have 2 states with their own programs. STAC is powerless to prevent that from continuing. TNI accreditation puts us on the same level as State accreditors.

Scott S: We recognize the value of TNI. But what/how do we proceed? Must we comply/adopt Vol. 1 and Vol. 2 in addition to 7036 to be recognized by TNI?

Marlene: Cannot use just ISO 17011 – that is the Dept. of Commerce. We have no input into 17011

Scott E: We can go to TNI and have input into Vol 1 and Vol 2. The effect on AETBs of the TNI is minimal – mostly the same as 7036.

Marlene: The test methods and 7036 cover the “how to”. Those are your industry-specific standards.

Scott S: Sounds good. Any questions?

Marlene: We are trying to build a broad-based input system. We want a high standard to allow Feds and States to feel comfortable with our accreditation. TNI is focused on the environmental community.

Jim: Time to make a motion to incorporate Vol. 2?

Scott S: Don’t “have” to. You can, or we can discuss further.

Maggie: States may not want eliminate their programs – may not want to give up the revenue.

Scott E: Texas may be difficult, but LA says they will.

Scott S: TNI recognition may not eliminate other STAC competitors.

Scott E: But it makes it less likely, especially additional State programs.

Scott S: If we had our own documentation that was in compliance with Vol. 2, would TNI recognize us?

Marlene: Yes.

Marlene: There is a \$3500 application fee that STAC would pay (sent in with documents for review). After review, STAC would get “provisional recognition” by TNI. Finally, an onsite audit of STAC (expenses paid by STAC for auditor). Audits are required every 4 years.

We have already incorporated FSMO Vol. 1, and voted to seek TNI recognition last year.

Jim S: I move that STAC apply for accreditation by TNI as a FSMO Accrediting Body and that the STAC documents be amended so that conformance to TNI FSMO Volume 2 can be demonstrated.

Angie: Second.

Motion carried.

We do not have to state in our Quality Manual that we incorporate FSMO Vol. 2. Need to redo the Manual with no hard links to Vol. 1 & 2. Scott will have Manual finished by the SES meeting next month.

Jim S: We need an Application Processing Committee.

The existing Policy & Procedures Committee and Rules & Constitution Committee will serve for standards interpretation.

Meeting was adjourned.