

Highlights

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- Regulatory Update
- MWRA Update



ITLA

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2015 ITLA Officers

President

Dan Falcone
(781) 296-6155
dan.falcone@testamericainc.com

Vice President

Paul Hobart
(781) 466-6900
paul.hobart@testamericainc.com

Secretary

Eric Baanante
(401) 461-7181
ebaanante@thielsch.com

Treasurer

Laurel Stoddard
(401) 461-7181
Lstoddard@thielsch.com

Regulatory Affairs

Bob Bentley
bob@h2otest.net

Technical Affairs

Mike Delaney
mdelaney@mwra.state.ma.us

Senior Advisor

Kevin Braga
kbraga@thielsch.com

Ethics Committee

Mike Delaney
mdelaney@mwra.state.ma.us

Ex-President's Message

By Dan Falcone

In preparing for the upcoming ITLA Annual Meeting I started to think about all the good things the ITLA does.

1. We sponsor an award at the MA State Science and Engineering Fair.
2. We arrange for interesting speakers for our member meetings. We have Damon Guterman scheduled for this upcoming meeting.
3. We inform our membership of upcoming and important issues.
4. We attend MADEP meetings as representatives of the ITLA.
5. We persuade and consult to the local and state regulators on important regulatory issues & guidance.
6. These are just a few of the important actions and functions taken up by the ITLA for the membership.

And all this is done by volunteers who give their time to advance the mission and ideals of the ITLA. As we enter a new year, please consider being involved with the ITLA not only by attending the member meetings but as a member of the Executive Committee.

Please feel free to contact any of the executive committee members to find out about our next Executive Committee meeting. We would love to have you participate in one of our meetings. I know you will find it educational and fun.

MWRA Items

By Mike Delaney

(mike.delaney@mwra.state.ma.us)

Mike Delaney appointed to EPA's Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board (ELAB)

Last October, Dr. Michael F. Delaney was appointed to a two-year term on EPA's ELAB in a letter from EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. ELAB "provides advice and counsel on scientific issues associated with measurement, monitoring, and laboratory-science matters for the Forum on

Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday., March 18, 2015, DoubleTree in Milford, MA.

Feature Presentation: "MADEP Presentation" by the Damon Guterman, MADEP

Environmental Measurement.” Dr. Delaney indicated that he intends to help EPA make smart decisions on laboratory issues. He began this journey by giving a presentation to ELAB entitled, “Cyanide—A Modest Proposal”. Currently he is working on ELAB work groups on qualifying drinking water results and improved PCB laboratory methods.

MWRA’S Deer Island Treatment Plant and Outfall Continue to Benefit Water Quality and Ecosystems: 2013 Monitoring Data Released

MWRA is pleased to report that test results for 2013 show that the Deer Island Treatment Plant continues to operate as designed, and that discharges through the MWRA Outfall had no unexpected effects on the waters or ecosystems of Massachusetts and Cape Cod Bays. In addition, no impacts of the outfall on the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary were detected. Summaries of effluent results and ambient monitoring results are available at: <http://www.mwra.com/01news/2015/2013-outfallmonitoring.html>. Detailed results are available in our Annual Outfall Monitoring Report.

Visit our Web Page for More Information

Check us out at www.mwra.com. We have a wealth of information for both the public and for experts on our water and wastewater activities. This includes monthly updates on drinking water quality testing, information on lead, our most recent Consumer Confidence Report, and many technical reports associated with the Deer Island Treatment Plant and our extensive Harbor and Outfall Monitoring program.

Regulatory Update

By Bob Bentley, bob@h2otest.net

Laboratory Advisory Committee

eDEP

No change from where we were. The new IT czar derailed the plan to upgrade all of eDEP in one fell swoop and mandated that the proposal which had already gone out to bid be rescinded and made into

smaller “pieces.” This has further set back our requests for improvements - by how much one can only guess! Damon told us that there were about 20 labs participating in eDEP which accounts for nearly 50% of all drinking water data. The changes to the drinking water regulation (310 CMR 22) MAY mandate use of eDEP.

Manganese

At the SDWAAC meeting, it was noted that of all the Regions, southeastern MA seems to have the most PWS’ with elevated manganese (exceeding 0.30 mg/L). They are requiring public notification in the case of exceedance. Several schools in southeastern MA were required to send out letters notifying the parents of this exceedance. It should be noted that the only way to effectively treat Mn contamination is through green sand filtration. Sequestration will only hide the Mn, not eliminate it!

Other

We were told that a draft of the Lab Certification Regulations (310CMR42) had been sent for internal DEP review and comments were received. No change in status, although it was noted that the revisions were slightly ahead of the drinking water regulation changes.

There apparently has been an issue with some Regions regarding the receipt of data from PWS’ resulting in Notices of Noncompliance being issued. Damon indicated that he and others in DEP were trying to convince the Regions that a missed reporting date by one day is not a big deal.

There was some discussion on the responsibilities of laboratories and sample collectors. LCO members indicated that they had sometimes seen very incomplete chain-of-custodies, and there was some concern expressed over the “security” of samples. Nothing was decided but all ITLA members should be aware of these issues.

On these and other issues, stay tuned!!! We plan to update you at our upcoming meeting with news from the next Lab Advisory Committee meeting. If you know of other regulatory issues or have any other items we should be watching, please contact me or any member of the Executive Committee.

ITLA Annual Meeting

ITLA Meeting Agenda March 18, 2015

DoubleTreeHotelMilford
11 Beaver Street
Milford, MA 01757
(508) 478-7010

8:30 a.m. Breakfast Buffet and Networking

9:00 a.m. Committee Reports

- Finance • Regulatory • Ethics

9:30 a.m. Reproducible, Environmentally Friendly Solvent Concentrations

Advancements in Environmental Concentrators

By Jeff Reid, Buchi Corporation

As the US EPA “*Solvent Emission Reduction Program*” becomes more regulated on the amount of solvent that is emitted per year, it is very important to collect and recover solvent when concentrating environmental samples. This makes it more critical than ever to utilize a parallel evaporator that is capable of collecting up to 95% of the evaporated solvents. Traditional solvent concentration techniques such as N₂ blow-down and Kuderna-Danish (KD) lack the ability to recover the evaporated solvent, exposing users to hazardous emissions and high EPA fines. Join this presentation to discover why several state regulators recommend a solvent vapor recovery for the concentrations of environmental samples.

Jeffrey Reid specializes in several lab technologies & techniques which include pressurized solvent extraction (PSE), solid phase extraction (SPE), parallel concentration, & rotary evaporation.

Jeff has been with BUCHI Corporation for five years. During this time, his main focus has been in the environmental industry; providing application support and method development for many of the country’s largest environmental testing laboratories.

Previously, Jeff worked on the development of silica media for HPLC columns. He has worked in

the scientific industry for nine years on both the analytical and preparative side.

Jeff holds a BA in Chemistry from the University of Delaware and an MBA in marketing from Goldey-Beacom College. He is a member of the American Chemical Society (ACS) & member of NELAC. He can be reached via e-mail, reid.j@buchi.com.

10:15 am Break

10:30 am Routine Analysis of Env'l Samples Using Tandem Mass Spectrometry

Matthew Woodcock, PhD, Sciex

Billions of pounds of chemicals are released into the environment each year, including pesticides, pharmaceuticals, food additives, personal care products, and industrial chemicals. Testing for these chemicals is essential to understanding their fate and impact. LC/MS/MS is a highly-specific, sensitive, & accurate approach to analyze for persistent organic pollutants in a variety of env'l sample matrices. LC/MS/MS results in high selectivity for reliable contaminant identification and quantification, minimal sample preparation for fast analysis & turn-around of results, and high sensitivity for contaminant detection without the need for compound derivatization. The presentation will illustrate the benefits of LC-MS/MS over traditional techniques and provide examples of challenging analyses performed routinely using LC-MS/MS.

Matthew Woodcock holds a BS in Biochemistry from Worcester Polytechnic Inst. & PhD in Analytical & Environmental Chemistry from UMass Lowell. With over ten years of experience in mass spectrometry Matthew joined SCIEX in 2014. He is focused primarily on small molecule quantification for environmental, food, clinical & forensic customers. Much of his time is spent giving presentations to current & potential customers at events around New England.

11:15 am MADEP Presentation

By Damon Guterman

12:30 pm Meeting Adjourns