

"Accreditation News" issue 55

First Quarter 2011

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NEW ACCREDITED BODIES

TESTING LABORATORIES

Acoustics

SOCOTEC IBERIA, S.A. - 400/LE1691
EUROCONTROL, S.A. - 845/LE1683
SILENS SERVICIOS Y TECNOLOGÍA ACÚSTICA, S.L. - 852/LE1591
SONORA TELECOMUNICACIONES, S.L. - 853/LE1615
MARSAN INGENIEROS, S.L. - 865/LE1809

Environmental Tests

AIGÜES DE MATARÓ, S.A. - 846/LE1671
FUNDACIÓN CENTRO DE LAS NUEVAS
TECNOLOGÍAS DEL AGUA - 847/LE1682
AIGÜES I SANEJAMENT D'ELX, S.A. - 862/LE1673

Agrifood products

LABORATORIO DE SALUD PUBLICA DE GRANADA
- 840/LE1660
LABORATORIO DE SALUD PÚBLICA DE SALAMANCA
- 841/LE1702
EUROPASTRY, S.A. - 842/LE1751
LABORATORIO DE PRODUCCIÓN Y SANIDAD ANIMAL
DE ARACENA (HUELVA). JUNTA DE ANDALUCÍA
- 848/LE1714
CECAV (CENTRO DE CALIDAD AVÍCOLA Y
ALIMENTACIÓN ANIMAL DE LA COMUNIDAD
VALENCIANA) - 849/LE1808
LABORATORIO DE PRODUCCIÓN Y SANIDAD ANIMAL
DE JAÉN. JUNTA DE ANDALUCÍA - 854/LE1717
LABORATORIO PROVINCIAL DE SANIDAD ANIMAL DE
SEGOVIA - 855/LE1724
LABORATORIO PROVINCIAL DE SANIDAD ANIMAL DE
ÁVILA - 856/LE1739
LABORATORI DE SANITAT RAMADERA DE LA POBLA
DE SEGUR. DEPARTAMENT D' AGRICULTURA,
RAMADERIA, PESCA, ALIMENTACIÓ I MEDI NATURAL
DE LA GENERALITAT DE CATALUNYA - 857/LE1734
ITAGRA, CENTRO TECNOLÓGICO AGRARIO Y
AGROALIMENTARIO Itagra.ct. LABORATORIO
- 858/LE1651
APLICACIONES BIOTECNOLÓGICAS ALIMENTARIAS,
S.L. - 859/LE1772
LABORATORIO DE PRODUCCIÓN Y SANIDAD ANIMAL
DE JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA (CÁDIZ). JUNTA DE
ANDALUCÍA - 860/LE1719
LABORATORIO DE PRODUCCIÓN Y SANIDAD ANIMAL
DE MÁLAGA. JUNTA DE ANDALUCÍA - 861/LE1715
LABORATORI DE SANITAT RAMADERA DE REUS.
DEPARTAMENT D' AGRICULTURA, RAMADERIA,
PESCA, ALIMENTACIÓ I MEDI NATURAL DE LA
GENERALITAT DE CATALUNYA - 863/LE1735
LABORATORI DE SANITAT RAMADERA DE LLEIDA.

DEPARTAMENT D' AGRICULTURA, RAMADERIA,
PESCA, ALIMENTACIÓ I MEDI NATURAL DE LA
GENERALITAT DE CATALUNYA - 864/LE1732
LABORATORIOS ORDESA, S.L. - 866/LE1784
LABORATORIO DE PRODUCCIÓN Y SANIDAD
ANIMAL DE ALMERIA. JUNTA DE ANDALUCÍA
- 867/LE1716
LABORATORIO DE PRODUCCIÓN DE SANIDAD
ANIMAL DE GRANADA. JUNTA DE ANDALUCÍA
- 868/LE1720
LABORATORIO PROVINCIAL DE SANIDAD ANIMAL
DE BURGOS - 869/LE1744
LABORATORI DE SANITAT RAMADERA DE
BARCELONA. DEPARTAMENT D' AGRICULTURA,
RAMADERIA, PESCA, ALIMENTACIÓ I MEDI NATURAL
DE LA GENERALITAT DE CATALUNYA - 870/LE1738

Toxicological Testing

CENTRO MILITAR DE FARMACIA DE LA DEFENSA.
SERVICIO DE TOXICOLOGÍA - 610/LE1703

Toxicological and Forensic Testing

NAVARRA DE SERVICIOS, S.A. - 641/LE1769

Infectious Serology

CENTRO DE HEMOTERAPIA Y HEMODONACIÓN DE
CASTILLA Y LEÓN - 680/LE1728

Clinical Biochemistry

SERVICIO ARAGONÉS DE SALUD - Hospital Ernest
Lluch Martín - 742/LE1588

Antiseptics and Disinfectants

BIOLAB ESPAÑOLA DE ANÁLISIS E INVESTIGACIÓN,
S.L. (Unipersonal) - 839/LE1792

Photovoltaic Energy

BARLOVENTO RECURSOS NATURALES, S.L.
- 437/LE1602
INGENIA SOLAR ENERGY, S.L. (Unipersonal)
- 851/LE1535

Construction Products

LGA TECHNOLOGICAL CENTER, S.A. - 9/LE1667,
9/LE1332
ASOCIACIÓN DE INVESTIGACIÓN DE LAS
INDUSTRIAS DE LA CONSTRUCCIÓN (AIDICO) -
INSTITUTO TECNOLÓGICO DE LA CONSTRUCCIÓN
- 133/LE1730
FEMPA - FEDERACIÓN DE EMPRESARIOS DEL
METAL DE LA PROVINCIA DE ALICANTE - 843/LE1778

Antenna Electrical Parameter Measuring Testing

LABORATORIO DE ENSAYOS Y HOMOLOGACIÓN DE
ANTENAS DE LA ETSI DE TELECOMUNICACIÓN DE
LA UPM - 844/LE1576

Steel Cable Testing

GABINETE DE SERVICIOS TÉCNICOS DE
INSPECCIÓN DE CABLES, S.L. - 850/LE1698

CALIBRATION LABORATORIES

Fluids

LABORATORIO DE METROLOGIA Y CALIBRACIÓN INDUSTRIAL, S.A. (MCI) - 45/LC526

Temperature and Humidity

LABORATORIO DE METROLOGIA Y CALIBRACIÓN INDUSTRIAL, S.A. (MCI) - 45/LC525

Dimensional

NARVAEZ TOPOGRAFÍA, S.L. - 200/LC505

INSPECTION BODIES

Environmental Inspection

EKONOR, S.A. - 229/EI410

INGENIERÍA Y TRATAMIENTOS DE VALORIZACIÓN, S.L. - 231/EI413

ARGONGRA, S.L. (sole proprietorship) - 232/EI356

SERGEYCO ANDALUCÍA, S.L. - 234/EI297

DENGA, S.A. - 235/EI423

Agrifood Sector

SAICA, Entidad de Control, S.L. - 233/EI328

Sports Parks and Facilities

UNE play, Inspección and Certificación, S.L. - 230/EI339

PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

Agrifood sector

OCA & CALITAX, S.L. (sole proprietorship) - 11/C-PR228

REGULATORY COUNCIL OF THE CAMPO DE BORJA DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN - 69/C-PR181

R&D Project certification

CERTIMAR, S.L. (sole proprietorship) - 30/C-PR227

MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CERTIFICATION

Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series
AUDELCO AUDITORÍA DE RIESGOS LABORALES, S.A.
- 36/C-SG046

Certification of Environmental Management Systems

OCA & CALITAX, S.L. (sole proprietorship)
- 15/C-MA036

QSCB España Evaluadores de Conformidad, S.L.
(sole proprietorship) - 24/C-MA032

Quality Systems Certification

OCA & CALITAX, S.L. (sole proprietorship)
- 8/C-SC055

CONTROL BODIES

State Metrological Control

HEAT TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY OF THE UNIVERSIDAD POLITÉCNICA DE MADRID SCHOOL OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING - OC-I/201, OC-I/170

TACSA VERIFICACIONES, S.L. - OC-I/178

ASEGURAMIENTO TÉCNICO DE CALIDAD, S.L. - OC-I/211

TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF ENERGY (ITE) - OC-P/214

Industrial Safety Facility Regulations

ASESORÍA DE SERVICIOS DE INGENIERÍA Y GESTIÓN MEDIOAMBIENTAL S.A. - OC-I/084

Building Product Directive

REGIONAL QUALITY CONTROL CENTRE, AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY OF CASTILLA Y LEÓN - OC-C/106

INSTITUTO DE CERTIFICACIÓN CDQ, S.L. - OC-C/232

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ENAC from the inside

TIMOTEO DE LA FUENTE, NEW PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ACCREDITATION ENTITY (ENAC)

Recently appointed Subdirector General for Quality and Industrial Safety of the Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Commerce.

Graduated in Industrial Engineer from the Madrid School of Industrial Engineering, de la Fuente has carried on his professional activity in the field of conformity assessment right from the outset and has worked in this area both at the actual Subdirector General for Quality and Industrial Safety and at the European Commission, as a member of the Spain's Permanent Representation before the European Union.

Until his recent appointment as Subdirector General for Quality and Industrial Safety, Timoteo de la Fuente was responsible for the Subdirector General for Sectoral Industrial Policies.

Welcome to ENAC!

THANK YOU ANTONIO

Antonio Muñoz is leaving office after 20 years as President of the National Accreditation Entity (ENAC), but he hands down a significant legacy, that of having made a permanent and active contribution to the construction and maintenance of a sound accreditation system.

It is hard to sum up the experience of these years of joint effort, cooperation and work in just a few lines. They have been years of commitment to accreditation, which we have lived and shared from the inside, years of involvement in the different schedules that have been worked out, in the internal activities carried on within our house and in those conducted outside, with his conviction of the role of such importance that had to be played by accreditation on an international level and that ENAC had to be immersed in all the forums and be a participant in all the decisions made.

In these years significant goals have been achieved and accreditation has become consolidated in Spain as a strong system, present in practically all sectors, extending the range of services accreditable, cooperating closely with government, involving business organizations, scientific societies and universities by means of concluding agreements.

We saw the **approval** of Regulation (EC) N°765/2008, which clarified the role of the National Accreditation Bodies and harmonized their operation throughout the whole Union. The approval of the Regulation represented a backing for the work done by ENAC right from its first beginnings and was later endorsed by Royal Decree 1715/2010, which designated us as the Accreditation Body in Spain.

Good news, great moments and, especially, a great deal of hard work, carried out with hopeful enthusiasm and rewarded with great satisfaction by the results. Above all, Antonio, for all of us making up the ENAC family, it has been a real pleasure to work at your side.

(PAGES 6/7) **ENAC from the inside**

INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION PROCESS: FUNDAMENTALS OF MUTUAL RECOGNITION

The Multilateral Recognition Arrangements, MLA, represent a fundamental element for the achievement of one of the basic aims of Accreditation, reduction or elimination of the technical barriers.

Through their signature, the Accreditors assure the equivalence of their accreditation systems and, therefore, that of the organizations accredited, promoting cross-border trust and acceptance of the information provided by accredited conformity assessment bodies irrespective of the country in which they are established.

In order to be eligible for the signing of the MLA, the accreditation bodies have to go successfully through a stringent assessment process, referred to as “peer evaluation”, the means by which this equivalence is verified.

The EA peer evaluation process

The peer evaluation system established in Europe, one of the main operational pillars of the European accreditation infrastructure, contained in Regulation (EC) no. 765/2008, successfully generates trust in the MLAs, thereby ensuring that accreditation operates on a consistent harmonized basis throughout Europe.

For this appraisal an **evaluation team** is selected, made up of qualified and registered EA assessors belonging to the different MLA signatory accreditation bodies, with proven experience in the management of accreditation bodies and in the development of accreditation schedules.

Their training and specific qualification process, along with the activities for improving the assessment tools for harmonisation of the criteria used by the different teams for assessment and supervision by the international accreditation organizations assure the proper performance of the work of the assessors. Prior to “on-the-spot” evaluation, the evaluation team has the benefit of comprehensive information supplied by the Accreditation Body in order to facilitate understanding of the accreditation system that is going to be appraised.

During the “on-the-spot” evaluation, lasting from 3 to 6 days, besides examining the documentation and

records and holding interviews with the staff of the Accreditation Body, in order to assess compliance with the requirements, the assessors participate as observers in appraisals of the different kinds of conformity assessment bodies, determining whether the requirements laid down in the rules applicable to each type of conformity assessment body are evaluated properly.

The final report, prepared by the lead assessor, which includes the corrective measures submitted by the Accreditation Bodies, is examined by the MLA Council, the EA body responsible for **decision-making**, on which all the Accreditation Bodies that are signatories of the agreements are represented.

Once the agreement is signed, the Accreditation Bodies are **re-evaluated every 4 years, by means of a process identical to the initial one**. In the event of not meeting the requirements, an Accreditation Body may have its status as an MLA signatory temporarily suspended and, in the last resort, finally excluded from the agreement.

In Europe the process of management of the EA MLA is supervised by the European Commission, by the EA Advisory Board and by the national authorities.

Further information: www.european-accreditation.org/
Section “The EA MLA”

ENAC OBTAINS AN EXCELLENT RESULT IN THE EA EVALUATION

The evaluation, carried out from 31 January to 4 February, comprised the making of 14 accompanying visits, with evaluation of over 30 accreditation procedures and interviewing of 32 ENAC staff members.

Last February, ENAC received the visit of the EA evaluation team designated to carry out the re-evaluation in order to determine the continuation of ENAC as a signatory of the recognition EA agreements concluded to date: testing, calibration, system, product and personnel certification, and inspection.

The EA inspection was performed by an evaluation team made up of **seven assessors** headed by a Lead Assessor, from the Swedish accreditation body (SWEDAC) backed up by seven assessors from the accreditation bodies of France (COFRAC), Portugal (IPAC), Finland (FINAS), Germany (DAKKS), Holland (RvA) and Ireland (INAB).

During their stay the team carried out a detailed investigation of the whole accreditation system, assessing both the supporting documents and the records of activity, interviewing different members of the staff and making accompanying visits with ENAC evaluation teams in their inspections.

The outcome was highly satisfactory. No Non-Conformity was reported and 5 Concerns of a documentary nature were detected, reflecting aspects not described sufficiently in the documentation. Finally, the team made 3 comments regarding possible improvement measures.

We are deeply satisfied with this result, which ratifies “the excellent rating” we have obtained traditionally in the EA evaluations and which reconfirms our commitment to continuing to be a leading body both in Europe and in the rest of the world. Being aware of this, beyond the pride that this may represent for those of us working at ENAC, these results have a clear influence on the confidence in the work of the conformity assessment bodies accredited by ENAC.

ENAC INTERVIEW WITH JESÚS MORA DE LA CRUZ, DIRECTOR OF THE AGENCIA DE GESTIÓN DE LICENCIAS DE ACTIVIDADES DEL AYUNTAMIENTO DE MADRID (DIRECTOR OF THE ACTIVITY LOCAL PERMISSIONS MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL AGENCY, MADRID CITY COUNCIL)

ENAC ACCREDITATION IS A BASIC TOOL FOR VERIFYING THE TECHNICAL COMPETENCY OF THE PLANNING PERMIT PARTNER AGENCIES (ECLUS).

For Jesús Mora de la Cruz the implementation of the model, which includes, as a significant aspect, the participation of accredited partner agencies, responds effectively to the volume of management generated in the area of activity local permissions in the city of Madrid.

How do Activity Local Permissions Partner Agencies arise?

Since 2004 the City of Madrid has been making a sustained effort to improve the handling of activity local permissions permit procedures.

Although these measures improved the permit system, it was decided to undertake an even more ambitious task with a view to putting forward the regulatory changes needed to raise quality levels based on greater speed in the processing of permits, without impairing legal security in the legislative design, by way of new permit handling formulas having a direct impact on economic activity and by trying to foment a more favourable environment for the conduct of business activities in the city of Madrid.

The principles of administrative simplification provided in the Services Directive of 2006 inspired this line of work, which has been embodied in the approval of a new business permission system regulated in the Regulation of 29 June 2009 (OGLUA), laying down the activity local permissions Management and Control System, based on public/private partnership, without waiving the title of the public powers.

OGLUA is the result of a detailed analysis of the different alternatives available for permitting the cooperation of external agents in the processing of permits, endowing the procedure with the levels of speed and efficacy attained in other community service procedures and with the proper assurance of certainty, legality and efficiency.

The technical, organizational, economic and management reasons for this outsourcing are the specialisation of the activity local permissions partner agencies (ECLU), since this partnership enables an effective response to be offered to the volume of management generated in the planning permit area, and the upgrading and improvement of municipal performance both in inspection, control in the legal activity of permit award, by means of increased staffing in that strategic field.

The ECLUs are private agencies, duly accredited and authorized to perform as an impartial body the functions of verification and control specified in the OGLUA, taking such to be the functions of assessment and checking of

the compliance of the activities and their foreseen works with the planning rules contained in this Regulation.

Their partnership in the new system takes place in two areas: one referring to the handling of planning permits and of the prior communications, and the other referring to the periodic monitoring of activities.

Subjection to strict accreditation and authorisation criteria provides assurance that they will carry out their functions in accordance with the legality and performance accountability requirements. Furthermore, these functions are subject to permanent supervision by the Madrid City Council through the "Activity Local Permissions Management and Control Agency".

Why has the Agency been created and what are its areas of responsibility?

Compliance with the aims of the new system is assured better with the creation of the "Activity Local Permissions Management and Control Agency", an independent body specialized in the management of planning permits for business activities, endowing this service with the necessary functional independence and legal status for the handling of the three different areas of responsibility.

Thus, the Agency assumes the administrative management of the planning permits for business activities under the OGLUA, while the responsibilities relating to the inspection, sanctioning, and discipline of such activities are unified in this body.

What motivated the City Council to establish the compulsory nature of ENAC accreditation?

The OGLUA develops a management model that, as a significant aspect, includes the participation of partner agencies with a view to improving the efficacy and efficiency of the service, and envisages mechanisms for monitoring their capacity. To this end, the system of pre-authorisation accreditation has been established.

ENAC was designated by the Madrid City Council as the accreditation body for the business activity local permissions system through being a body of great technical soundness, both on a domestic and an international level, which will assure the proper working of the model and the certainty that the issue of its accreditations represents a fundamental tool for verifying the technical competency of the ECLUs.

What have the results of the process been so far?

The outcome has been more than satisfactory both in qualitative and quantitative terms.

The new system lays down a set of guarantees for the citizen. Thus, alongside the system of accreditation and authorization that assures the capacity of the ECLUs for the performance of their functions and the permanent monitoring of those functions by the City Council, we may make special mention of the regulation of a procedure for claims against their possible irregular actions; insurance cover for guaranteeing the indemnification of the damages that could be caused by their action, as well as a specific sanctioning regime for these.

It is enabling the prior communications and the permit procedure for the implementation or change of activities that came into force on 1 April 2010 to comply with the maximum time limit for the issue of the Certificate of Conformity established in the Regulation: 15 working days. In fact, the average is 12 working days from the time when the citizen furnishes

all the documentation - which is when the ECLU can commence its verification and monitoring function - until the Certificate of Conformity is obtained.

As regards the number of certificates of conformity and permissions, in the first 8 months from when the Agency came into operation, 1,274 were issued, with an exponential monthly increase.

Probably the best indicator of the success of the new model, however, is the gradual change in the impression that the citizen gets with regard to its efficacy and speed. The tertiary sector is beginning to be aware that something has changed and to have confidence in the new system. and this is the main aim of the regulatory and management changes introduced: promotion of the city's economic activity through simplification and streamlining of the administrative formalities that impair the investment efforts of entrepreneurs.

(The Director) **"...the first stage has taken place successfully thanks to appropriate planning and coordination between ENAC and the Agency, the effort made by the ECLUs to be accredited and authorized, as well as to the ability now to extend their accreditation and authorisation so as to be able to perform all the functions specified in the Regulation (OGLUA)".**

ONGOING COOPERATION

The process of initial accreditation of the ECLUs takes place in stages, in accordance with a timetable laid down by the City Council itself, reflecting the provisions of the Regulation.

During its initial stage, from 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011, the ECLUs only perform their verification tasks in the "prior communications" area and in the "procedure for implementation or amendment of activities".

For this purpose the process calls for the making of a preliminary visit and, once the training process laid down by the City Council has been successfully completed and after a provisional authorization, obtaining an initial accreditation for performing these functions.

To act as of 1 April 2011, in the second stage, after successfully completing a further training process, the ECLUs should obtain an extension of the accreditation, which, together with the municipal authorization, will allow them to perform their functions in the different procedures specified in the Regulation (OGLUA).

COOPERATION OF THE ECLUS IN THE HANDLING OF PLANNING PERMITS AND OF PRIOR COMMUNICATIONS.

The partner agencies take part in certain stages of the procedure for management of the activity local permissions and the prior activity communications, verifying that the business activity, as specifically planned, fully complies in legal terms, so that they may issue the respective certificate of conformity.

The Madrid City Council only processes those applications for permits that are accompanied by this certificate of conformity, so that the City Council therefore maintains the powers of decision over the award of rejection of the permit applied for.

In the procedure governing the *"prior communications"*, characterized by its simplicity and applicable to activities of little planning, environmental or safety impact, the certificate of conformity of the partner agency filed at

the municipal register is the document that permits the titleholder of the business activity to carry out the intended course of action.

For its part, the permission procedure for *"implementation or amendment of activities"*, applicable when planning works or actions specified in the ordinary procedure are not carried out, permits the commencement of the business activity on a provisional basis, except when environmental assessment is required or when it is the case of a recreational activity or of a public event.

Both have been in force since 1 April 2010.

In its two modes, *"common and abbreviated"*, the *"ordinary procedure"*, which will be implemented as of 1 April 2011, is specified for those permission applications requiring a technical project for defining, approving and executing the works required for the implementation, amendment or change of business activities.

The common ordinary procedure requires prior activity local permission in order to start the works. The abbreviated procedure may represent an automatic provisional authorization.

In both modes, moreover, the partner entity shall supervise the works on an ongoing basis, issuing when applicable the respective certificate of conformity.

As of 2013 the scope of action of the ECLUs will be extended to the *"periodic control"* to which, at the interested party's request, the performance of those activities are subject every seven years that may have an impact on the environment, the safety of people or the attendance of public, as well as those included in Law 17/1997, of 4 July 1997, on Public Events and Recreational Activities of the Autonomous Community of Madrid.

For further information: lmrodriguez@enac.es

(PAGE 11) Sectors

ACCREDITATION OF THE CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT OF PYROTECHNIC ARTICLES

ENAC has awarded to first accreditation for Directive 2007/23/EC on the marketing of these articles

The high risks of pyrotechnic products, both from the standpoint of their production process, handling and use, as well as from the fact that they are often used at events attended on a large scale by the general public (festivals, local festivities, sports meetings, concerts, etc.), attached special significance to the work of reducing the divergence existing between the legal, regulatory and administrative provisions on the marketing of articles of this kind in the European Union Member States in order to assure high safety levels.

Directive 2007/23/EC, on the marketing of pyrotechnic articles, lays down the rules for free movement on the domestic market, assuring at the same time a high level of personal protection and safety, while taking into account the relevant aspects of environmental protection. In addition, it stipulates that pyrotechnic articles should be classified by categories according to their level of risk as regards their use, their purposes or their noise level.

For this purpose the Directive defines the essential safety requirements that have to be met by pyrotechnic articles for their marketing, besides the conformity assessment procedures to be followed by the manufacturer, and the intervention according to the inherent risk of the products, of Notified Bodies that assess their conformity with regard to the essential safety requirements laid down in the Directive.

As in other areas in which the participation of Notified Bodies is mandatory, ENAC has proceeded to lay down an accreditation process within the scope of the Pyrotechnics Directive in order to provide services for those entities that may so request. This process culminated in October 2010 with the award of the first accreditation as a Control Body for Directive 2007/23/EC to Asociación de Investigación de las Industrias de la Construcción (AIDICO) – Instituto Tecnológico de la Construcción, contributing in this way to conveying to the market the necessary confidence in the activities performed by the Notified Bodies.

For further information: droman@enac.es

FIRST ACCREDITATION FOR THE VERIFICATION OF UREA AQUEOUS SOLUTION DISPENSERS

Approval by the European Union of regulatory measures laying down technical requirements for the approval of motor vehicles in order to reduce the pollutants they discharge (Euro 4 and 5 standards) has facilitated the development of technologies for the treatment of exhaust fumes, besides that of selective catalytic reduction, which uses as an additive a solution of urea in water that enables the catalytic converter of heavy Diesel vehicles to convert pollutant nitrogen oxides into a mixture of nitrogen and water vapour, with the resultant improvement in the quality of the air.

For this reason and taking into account, as the actual Order states in its whereas clauses, the important cost of this urea solution, the significant consumption in relation to that of fuel and the tradition of metrological control in the sector, the Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Commerce developed Order ITC/360/2010, which establishes metrological control by the State over the pumps or dispensers for the supply of these solutions.

LGAI Technological Center, S.A. is the first metrological verification body accredited by ENAC for the checking periodically or after repair or modification of pumps or dispensers of substances of this type under Order ITC/360/2010, of 12 February 2010.

For further information: rporres@enac.es

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Sectors

FIRST ACCREDITATION OF ALLERGEN TESTS

The correct management of food allergens makes it necessary to detect and assess their possible quantity present in a food product

Adverse reactions to foods, allergies and dietary intolerances represent an emerging health problem. The impact of these pathologies has undergone an

increase in the last few years: the prevalence of dietary allergies lies at around 1-3% of the adult and 4-6% of the child population.

The most effective way to prevent reactions due to food allergies and dietary intolerances is to eradicate the components that trigger the adverse effect from the diet of sensitive persons. In this context, the labelling of foods is a key item and becomes an essential aspect of food safety.

For this reason, Royal Decree 1245/2008 lays down a list of ingredients that must necessarily be specified on food labels. These ingredients give rise to the majority of the adverse reactions to foods in the European Union. Proper management of food allergens makes it necessary to detect and quantify their possible presence in a foodstuff.

As a consequence of this need, at its laboratory in Tortosa the Agència de Protecció de la Salut – Servicio Regional de las Tierras del Ebro has implemented a method for the detection and quantification of food allergens. Recently, ENAC has awarded this laboratory accreditation for the detection and quantification of peanut and casein in foods. The analytical procedure is an ELISA method, ratified at the laboratory in accordance with the recommendations of the AOAC (Association of Official Analytical Chemists), which consists of the extraction of the protein fraction from the sample so as to then proceed to the enzyme immunoassay, detection and quantification of the allergen protein.

The great advantage of this method is its ability to detect allergen protein directly in the product analyzed in just a few hours.

For further information: jagarcia@enac.es

ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION OF TRANSFUSION CENTRES AND SERVICES

Last November ENAC awarded accreditation to Fundación CAT for the certification of Transfusion Centres and Services. Fundación CAT, established by the Sociedad Española de Hematología y Hemoterapia y la Sociedad Española de Transfusión Sanguínea y Terapia Celular, commenced its activities in 1973 (with different changes of name in the course of these years) up to the present time, in which 70% of the blood units obtained in Spain stem from transfusion centres with CAT certification and 67% of the blood components transfused in Spain are performed at hospitals with CAT certification.

For further information: ivilla@enac.es

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Sectors

START OF THE REFERENCE MATERIAL PRODUCER ACCREDITATION PROCESSES

Reference materials are an essential tool for the laboratories that use them in calibration, validation and quality control activities.

At present there is a growing number of producers of reference materials and the demonstration of their technical competence is now a need if we want to assure the quality of the materials placed on the market.

Furthermore, there is a constant increase in the demand to have new reference materials available of higher quality due both to the ongoing increase in the precision of measuring instruments and to the urgent need of the different scientific and technical areas to receive increasingly more reliable data.

It is therefore now necessary for reference materials producers not only to supply information on their materials in the form of reports or certificates, but also to show that they have the necessary technical competence to produce them.

For this reason, for some time now, certain accreditation entities, both European and from other parts of the world, have been accrediting organizations of this kind using the ISO Guide 34 "General requirements regarding the technical competence of reference materials producers" as a reference. The producers of those countries have been taking advantage of this accreditation in order to secure a competitive edge in the market.

For that reason, the need has been conveyed to ENAC from various circles that the Spanish reference materials should have this service at their disposal.

Accordingly, in 2011 ENAC has decided to commence activities for accreditation of reference materials producers in accordance with the requirements laid down in ISO Guide 34. On account of its novelty, this accreditation schedule is going to be launched first of all in a pilot stage, which means that both the assessment process and the times may be modified in respect of a standard assessment process.

The accreditation application form is available at our website and the special terms and conditions are stated there which will govern the schedule while it remains at the pilot stage.

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NUCLEAR SAFETY COUNCIL CHARACTERIZATION OF TELECOMMUNICATION ANTENNAS

The Laboratorio de Ensayos y Homologación de Antenas de la Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (LEHA-UPM) has obtained accreditation for carrying out antenna characterization tests.

In these tests such different parameters are ascertained as the antenna radiation pattern or diagram, its directivity or concentration or focalisation capacity,... and in this way the information is obtained as required for integration into telecommunication subsystems, as is the case of on-board satellite or mobile telephony base station antennas, and for evaluating global quality parameters, such as signal levels, signal/noise ratios, or interference level.

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Highlights

ENAC DESIGNATED AS THE ACCREDITATION ENTITY FOR GAS EMISSION ALLOWANCES TRADING VERIFIERS IN THE AVIATION SECTOR

The Government approves the basic standards for airline operator greenhouse effect gas emission accreditation and verification systems

On 29 January last the Official State Gazette (BOE) published *Royal Decree 101/2011 laying down the basic standards that are to govern the systems for accreditation and verification of airline operator greenhouse gas emissions and ton/kilometre data and the applications for free temporary assignment of fixed facilities within the scope of application of Law 1/2005, of 9 March 2005, regulating the greenhouse gas emission trading scheme.*

The Royal Decree establishes that airline operator emissions and ton/kilometre data reports may only be validated by verifiers whose accreditation, with regard to aviation activities, has been awarded by ENAC. The accreditation schedule for verifiers in this sector is brought into line with the general accreditation framework laid down in Europe by Regulation nº765/2008 and in Spain by Royal Decree 1715/2010.

The Royal Decree also regulates the conditions in which those verifiers who were not accredited under the former regulatory framework have to be assessed by ENAC.

ENAC has recently awarded the first accreditations in this field to Lloyd's Register España SA and AENOR, Asociación Española de Normalización y Certificación.

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ACCREDITATION REACHES THE ELECTROMAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY LABORATORIES IN PRODUCTS FOR MILITARY USE

An item of equipment is electromagnetically compatible when it is not influenced by the electromagnetic radiation to which it is exposed and it does not produce interference or disturbances that may affect the normal operation of any other instrument or device nearby.

In Europe Directive 2004/108/EC lays down the essential requirements that have to be met by instruments and electronic systems in order to declare their electromagnetic compatibility and be able, therefore, to be marketed and put into service in the EU Member States.

If assurance of electromagnetic compatibility is basic in equipment for civil use, when it comes to military use this characteristic is critical.

The EMC Camera Laboratory, belonging to the Electromagnetic Compatibility Area of the National Institute for Aerospace Technology-INTA (Ministry of Defence), which has had ENAC accreditation

for testing the electromagnetic compatibility of equipment in residential and industrial environments since 1998, has broadened its scope of accreditation for the conduct of electromagnetic compatibility tests according to military standards.

The standard included is MIL STD 461, in its E and F versions, which lays down the requirements for the control of the electromagnetic interference characteristics of electrical, electronic and electromechanical equipment and subsystems designed for military use.

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National and International Meetings

NATIONAL MEETINGS

6th EUROPEAN SYMPOSIUM: THE CLINICAL LABORATORY AND THE IN VITRO DIAGNOSIS INDUSTRY

5 and 6 May 2011, Barcelona
ENAC representative: I. de la Villa

15th CONGRESS OF THE SPANISH SOCIETY FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY (SEIMC)

1 - 4 June 2011, Málaga
ENAC representative: I. De la Villa

22 CONGRESS OF THE SPANISH SOCIETY FOR BLOOD TRANSFUSION AND CELLULAR THERAPY

15 - 17 June 2011, Málaga
ENAC representative: I. De la Villa

3rd COURSE ON FOOD SAFETY AND NUTRITION

11 - 15 July 2011, Madrid
ENAC representative: E. Gredilla

INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

CONFERENCE WITH AGENTS INVOLVED IN MATTERS OF VERIFICATION OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION TRADING OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

5 May 2011, Brussels
ENAC representative: E. Gago

EA LC WORKING GROUP ON INTERLABORATORY COMPARISONS FOR CALIBRATION LABORATORIES

10 and 11 May 2011, Warsaw
ENAC representative: H. González

EA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

25 and 26 May 2011, Berlin
ENAC representative: B. Rivera and I. Pina

EA CLINICAL LABORATORIES WORKING GROUP

15 and 16 June, Dublin
ENAC representative: I. De la Villa

NEW sEgNAC FUNCTIONALITIES

Over the last few years sEgNAC has attained greater importance as a support for the plan for modernisation and adaptation of accreditation to the needs of the market. This tool, which provides the applicant for accreditation with simple but useful instruments that facilitate access to information and increase the efficiency of the process, has become consolidated as a key item in the relationship between ENAC, the assessors and the clients. The system provides both external (clients and assessors) and internal (process managers) electronic access for information consultation and processing purposes, conferring flexibility, security, transparency and efficiency on the process.

Recently, ENAC has activated a new functionality in the application, so that the entities may have direct access to the budget and to information on the team of assessors designated to conduct the assessments, thereby replacing the previous method of sending this by post and fax.

The mechanism for accessing the documents is by means of an e-mail notice system and it also includes an interactive system that enables the estimated budget for the assessments to be approved electronically. This information is recorded automatically in the ENAC computer system.

This is a further step towards the automation of the accreditation process, which is expected to be completed this year with the inclusion of application for accreditation via the web portal.

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