"Accreditation News" issue 48

Second Quarter 2009

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ENAC from the inside

OVER 1,000 ORGANIZATIONS ACCREDITED IN SPAIN

Every day more and more organizations and institutions place their trust in ENAC accreditation as an assurance of technical competence and for which its accredited conformity assessment services represent an added value for their business activity.

In response, there are also more and more assessment bodies operating in the field of accreditation. Thus, since last April, over one thousand organizations have been accredited. These organizations carry on their business activity in practically all economic sectors affecting public safety and welfare, environmental conservation and economic development.

The increase in our activity, year after year, the diversification of sectors requiring accreditation and the reiterated trust of the market in ENAC accreditation persuades us to uphold our commitment to continue delivering ideas and solutions that offer the market greater benefits and advantages.

ACCREDITATION SERVICE QUALITY

ENAC rolls out a new accreditation process appraisal tool

As part of the process of enhancing and improving the service being developed by ENAC, it is important to find out our clients' opinion on the service they receive.

To this end, a new service quality assessment tool has been rolled out in order to discover the satisfaction rate of accredited organizations and to help us build on this.

This new tool sets out to obtain a "service appraisal" covering all aspects of the accreditation process, right from the initial application and first contact up to the audit itself, concluding with the decision process and other service dimensions: availability of information, attention, communication, planning, invoicing, etc.

The surveys are systematically aimed at entities at the end of each accreditation process (initial, follow-up or reassessment).

We would like to thank all the organizations accredited for agreeing to try out this new tool so we can develop and improve the service.

For further information: ctalles@enac.es

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Virginia Bedón Ruano

A forest engineer, highly experienced in agrifood, joins the Agrifood and GLP Department's Certification and Inspection Entity Area.

Elena Martín Nieto

A law graduate with a master's degree in human resources management and highly experienced in training management joins the Assessor Department.

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NEW ACCREDITATIONS

TESTING LABORATORIES

HOSPITAL UNIVERSITARI MATERNO-INFANTIL SANT JOAN DE DÉU. CLINICAL ANALYSIS LABORATORY

Clinical Biochemistry 702/LE1539

MORA TRUYOLS, S.L.

Agrifood product 703/LE1472

SOIVRE INSPECTION SERVICE LABORATORY. MURCIA TERRITORIAL DIRECTORATE FOR TRADE. MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, TOURISM AND COMMERCE

Agrifood product 704/LE1500

IMBIOSIS, S.L.

Agrifood product 705/LE1314

CODE INGENIEROS, S.L.

Windows testing 706/LE1488

BIOLAB SIETE MARES, S.L.

Agrifood products 707/LE1278

AGRIFOOD QUALITY SECTION LABORATORY.
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL
DEVELOPMENT. GOVERNMENT OF NAVARRE

Agrifood products 708/LE1460

ESTUDIOS Y PROYECTOS OMARTEL, S.L.

Acoustics 709/LE1536

TUNNEL SAFETY TESTING, S.A.

High-temperature fan testing 710/LE1238

BUILDING QUALITY LABORATORY E.U. POLITÉCNICA

DE CUENCA U. CASTILLA LA MANCHA

Concrete testing 711/LE1312

LABORATORIO ALFREDO MONTORO SORIANO S.L. (Unipersonal)

Clinical Biochemistry 712/LE1169

CONTROL TECNICO Y PREVENCION DE RIESGOS, S.A. (CPV CONTROL PREVENCION VERIFICACION)

Acoustics 713/LE1489

ADIQUIMICA, S.A.

Environmental test 715/LE1387

OX-COMPAÑIA DE TRATAMIENTO DE AGUAS, S.L.

Environmental test 716/LE1464

INVESTIGACIÓN Y CONTROL DE CALIDAD, S.A.

Acoustics 717/LE1349

H. V. INGENIEROS, S.L.

Acoustics 718/LE1259

INSTITUTO DE LA GRASA. CSIC

Agrifood product 719/LE1198

BUSINESS STRENGTHS ENGINEERING, S.L.

Environmental test 720/LE1137

ENTECSA RIOJA, S.L.

Windows testing 721/LE1429

LABORATORY AND CONTROL SERVICE (SeLyC), DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, STOCKBREEDING. FISHERIES AND BIODIVERSITY, GOVERNMENT OF CANTABRIA

Agrifood product 722/LE1186

CONSELLO REGULADOR DA INDICACIÓN XEOGRÁFICA

PROTEXIDA PATACA DE GALICIA

Agrifood product 723/LE1552

LABORATORIO MONTORO BOTELLA, S.L.

Agrifood product 724/LE1493

RESEARCH SUPPORT SERVICES, CORUNNA UNIVERSITY

Food processing product 725/LE1402

REGIONAL LABORATORY, GOVERNMENT OF LA RIOJA

Environmental test 168/LE1480

CALIBRATION LABORATORIES

3 SERCAL, S.L.

Mechanical calibrations 187/LC507

INSPECTION

G & M SERVICIOS, S.A.

Industrial inspection 175/El309

LABORATORIOS ALFARO, S.L.

Environmental inspection 177/El321

LABORATORIO DE CERTIFICACIONES VEGA BAJA, S.L. (LABCER)

Recreational craft inspection 88/El305

I.T.A. CASTILLA, S.L.

Road vehicle inspection 45/EI/ITV055

PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

FUNDACIÓN AGENCIA DE CALIDAD SANITARIA DE ANDALUCÍA

Health services 54/C-PR127

ZIURTEK CERTIFICACIÓN, S.L.

R+D+i projects 55/C-PR100

CONTROL BODIES

CENTRO DE LABORATORIOS Y SERVICIOS INDUSTRIALES DE MADRID Legal metrology OC-I/090

INTECTRA, S.A.

Legal metrology OC-I/138

GENERAL DE SERVICIOS I.T.V., S.A.

Legal metrology OC-I/145

ASISTENCIA TÉCNICA INDUSTRIAL, S.A.E. (ATISAE)

Legal metrology OC-I/147

SOLUCIONES METROLOGICAS, S.L.

Legal metrology OC-I/151

Legal metrology OC-I/155

APPLUS ECA-ITV, S.A.

Legal metrology OC-I/154

LACECAL, LABORATORIO DE CALIBRACION ELECTRICA

DE CASTILLA Y LEON

Legal metrology OC-L/142

INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE TECNICA AEROESPACIAL

"ESTEBAN TERRADAS" (INTA)

Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive OC-L/132

LABORATORIO CENTRAL OFICIAL DE ELECTROTECNIA (LCOE)

Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive OC-L/157

IVAC-INSTITUTO DE CERTIFICACIÓN, S.L.

Building Product Directive OC-C/139

CENTRO DE ESTUDIOS DE MATERIALES Y CONTROL

DE OBRA S.A.

Building Product Directive OC-P/141

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Interview

"ACCREDITATION OFFERS ADDITIONAL GUARANTEES AND GREATER TRUST"

Interview with Francisco Mombiela Muruzabal, General Director for Industry and Food Markets Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs (MARM)

Considers that ENAC accreditation is a requisite for any procedures relating to control or public guarantee tasks.

Q.- What is the present situation of the agrifood industry?

A.- The food and beverage industry in Spain is the leading industrial branch in the whole sector. According to the latest annual industrial survey by the INE, Spain's national statistics institute, at 31-12-2007, represents 16% net product sales, 17.2% raw material consumption, 14.6% industrial employment, 12.5% personnel expenses, 12.9% tangible asset investments, and 13.1% total industrial value added.

That year net sales were €82.726 billion, 4.3% up on the 78.726 billion in 2006. Of total net sales 16.374 billion (20%) corresponded to the meat industry, taking first place, followed by the dairy industry (10.5%), animal feeds (9.5%), fats and oils (8.3%) and canned fruit and vegetables (7.8%). By autonomous community, Catalonia is ranked top with

22.1%, followed by Andalusia 14.7%, Castille-Leon 9.5% and Valencia province 8.2%.

Throughout 2009, the food industrial production index recorded a negative rate of variation, but with smaller variations than in the rest of the industry. If we look at the mean variation in the current year so far, we find values of -2.7% in the food industry and -10.4% in beverage manufacture, compared with a -22.8% variation in industry as a whole. The above notwithstanding, if we compare the steady growth of the production index since 2000, the food industry maintains values higher than that of the industrial sector as a whole.

As regards food industry foreign trade, in 2008 it underwent an improvement in relation to the previous year, reaching a positive balance in processed food of $\mathbb{P} \in \{401.7\}$ million versus the negative balance of $\in \{8\}$ million in 2007, for the same product items.

Food processing industry exports in 2008 had a value of \in 15.514 billion, the most representative products exported being wines (\in 1.985 billion); olive oil (\in 1.830 billion); pork (\in 1.633 billion) and canned pulses and vegetables (\in 701 million).

According to the INE's labour force survey, in the first quarter of 2009, 467,100 people were employed in the food, beverage and tobacco industry, which represents a fall, although rather lower than the unemployment rate for the economy as a whole.

Q.- To what extent do you consider that accreditation contributes to the work carried on by this Directorate General?

A.- We consider accreditation to be a necessary aspect in any procedures relating to conformity assessment carried out by independent bodies, even more so when directly related to control or public guarantee tasks.

In the purely private sphere, it is clear that when accreditation exists in the compliance with a standard for a testing body, additional guarantees are offered to beneficiaries of goods or services with regard to independence and solvency in the testing procedure.

Traditionally, Spain has been a country where public control has been quite a significant factor, even more so in the agrifood area. It may not be alien however, and indeed it is not, to the international trend of outsourcing warranty procedures.

With regard to the laboratories involved in the official control of agrifood products, we should remember that accreditation is a requirement laid down in European legislation through Regulation (EC) 882/2004. This tool enables the mutual recognition of analytical results and assures compliance with domestic and international trading standards.

Furthermore, accreditation also assures the validity of the analytical parameters obtained for

characterising agrifood products, guaranteeing the quality and transparency of the supply available on the market, which is one of the aims of this Directorate General.

We have to thank ENAC for facilitating compliance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) 882/2004 through the development of open accreditations based on NT-18 and NT-19. However, the burden represented by accreditation in all the parameters required for official control calls for greater coordination between government bodies and ENAC.

Q.- What advantages does working with accredited conformity assessment bodies have for agricultural and food industries?

A.- Conformity guarantee systems based on independent bodies form a regular part of the international scene in which a competitive exportoriented agrifood industry like the Spanish one moves.

Accreditation for the different scopes offers additional guarantees with regard to the capacity of the assessment body and confidence in respect of independence vis-à-vis customers.

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Highlights

ENAC ACCREDITS THE DESIGNATIONS OF ORIGIN FOR WINES AND SPIRITS

During an informative workshop, ENAC addressed the procedure for accreditation of P.D.O and P.G.I. and their requirements, as well as their legislative framework

Regulations (EC) no 479/2008 and (EC) no 110/2008 establish that as of 1 May 2010 control bodies that are going to certify wines and spirits with designation of origin or with protected geographical indication should be accredited as per European standard EN 45011 «General requirements applicable to product certification bodies».

For this reason, on 19 May last an informative workshop was held on accreditation organized by ENAC and geared to winegrowing protected designations of origin (P.D.O.) and protected geographical indications (P.G.I.). The workshop was held at the Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs and was opened by the General Director for Industry and Food Markets, Francisco Mombiela, and by the General Manager of ENAC, Beatriz Rivera, with the participation of representatives of practically all the regulatory councils and the bodies that handle certification of these products.

The main aim of the meeting was, firstly, to assist these organizations in the understanding of the requirements laid down by standard EN 45011 and of both the technical and organizational implications of its implementation in this type of activity and, secondly, to fully describe the process followed by ENAC in order to award accreditation.

The first accreditation in this field was awarded in 2007 to Fundación Kalitatea Fundacioa for the three Basque Country chacolí wine regulations.

The accreditation documents for product certification appear in the Documents section of www.enac.es

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Highlights

ENAC ACCREDITATION AT ANIMAL HEALTH LABORATORIES

Following approval of Regulation EC 882/2004, laboratories accredited in animal health have gradually increased in the last few years

The main aim of livestock health policy is to prevent the transmission of diseases to humans by way of animals (zoonosis) and their products, with a view to producing healthy, safe and quality foods. Amongst the functions we can single out: analysis and diagnosis of animal diseases, analysis and control of the substances and products used in animal feeding, as well as analysis and control of the waste from these substances and products or veterinary medicines, both in animals and in products of animal origin.

In this framework animal health laboratories are a basic pillar for assuring animal health and, therefore, for generating trust in the products obtained from them. Their role is also crucial in dealing with health crises and alarms (such as "mad cow disease" or, more recently, blue tongue virus) both in the control and management of the actual crisis and in the restoration of consumer trust, which rests on the diagnostic and detection capability provided by these laboratories.

ENAC activity in the accreditation of these laboratories started at the end of the 1990s when the first applications were received. From that time and especially with the entry into force of European Parliament and Council Regulation 882/2004 on the official checks carried out to assure compliance with the legislation in the field of feeds and foodstuffs and the standards governing animal health and welfare, more and more laboratories have started accreditation processes, which has meant that the number of laboratories accredited in this sphere have gradually increased up to this time.

Animal health laboratories are a basic pillar for assuring animal health and, therefore, for generating trust in the products obtained from them

For further information: igarcia@enac.es

ACCREDITED ANIMAL HEALTH LABORATORIES	ACCREDITATION DATE
TROUW NUTRITION ESPAÑA, S.A.	27/03/1996
REGIONAL LABORATORY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF LA RIOJA	28/05/1999
LABORATORIO DE DIAGNOSTICO GENERAL, S.L.	20/04/2001
ANIMAL HEALTH LABORATORY OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF ASTURIAS	12/11/2004
NEIKER - Basque Agricultural Research and Development Institute	8/11/2007
NAVARRA DE SERVICIOS, S.A. NASERSA	11/04/2008
REGIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH LABORATORY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CANARY ISLANDS	18/04/2008
CENTRAL VETERINARY SCIENCE LABORATORY. MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL AND MARINE AFFAIRS	23/01/2009
AGRIFOOD QUALITY SECTION. LIVESTOCK LABORATORY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF NAVARRE	13/03/2009

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Highlights

EA: OFFICIAL EUROPEAN ACCREDITATION INFRASTRUCTURE

The directives signed by the Commission, EA and EFTA show the political commitment to harmonizing, reinforcing and improving transparency in the exercise of accreditation throughout Europe

On 1 April 2009, in Brussels, EA (European Cooperation for Accreditation), together with the European Commission, EFTA (European Free Trade Association) and national authorities, signed a series of directives laying down the principles and aims for future cooperation. This signing is part of the formal recognition of the EA as the official accreditation infrastructure in Europe.

The directives were presented following approval of European Regulation 765/2008 on market accreditation and surveillance, which will set up the legal structure for providing accreditation services in Europe. This regulation, to come into force on 1 January 2010, lays down the standards governing the organization and operations for accreditation of conformity assessment bodies, in both the non-regulated and regulated sector.

These directives show the political commitment of the Commission, EFTA and EA to harmonizing, reinforcing and improving transparency in the exercise of accreditation throughout Europe. This will boost confidence in an open market by way of fair trading, which will at the same time assure better protection of the constitutional rights of European citizens.

EA chairman, Lorenzo Thione, says, "These directives represent a great step forward in the development of

European accreditation at the service of the economy and European society. The directives lay down the criteria for the timely and effective implementation of the strengthened role of the EA as an official guarantor of European accreditation; furthering at the same time the promotion of the European accreditation model at international level and creating a channel for the support of candidate countries and those that are included in European Neighbourhood Policy in its development processes".

Jacques McMillan, of the European Commission Directorate General for Industry, contends that, "These guidelines for cooperation connect the EA not only with the Commission and with AFTA, but also with all EA stakeholders, and even with national authorities. They lay down a clear channel for rolling out and shoring up inter-peer assessment processes, which represents the cornerstone of European accreditation infrastructure".

For further information on the EA and the role of accreditation, go to www.european-accreditation.org or email secretaria@european-accretitation.org

N.B.

The approved texts of the Regulation and the Decision are published in the Official Journal of the European Union, Ref L218 of 13 July 2008, Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 and Decision No 768/2008. Copies may be downloaded from the Official Journal website.

EA ELECTIONS

At the EA General Assembly, held on 27 and 28 May in Luxembourg, elections took place for renewing the offices of chairman and vice-chairman of the organization, as well as committee chairmen and members of the executive committee:

EA Chairman: Graham Talbot (UKAS)

EA Vice-Chairman: Daniel Pierre (COFRAC)

Executive Committee:

Thomas Fackland (TGA) - Multilateral Agreement Committee

Norbert Müller (BMWFJ) - Inspection Committee Leopoldo Cortez (IPAC) - Certification Committee Christina Waddington (FINAS) - Laboratory

Committee

Merih Malmqvist (SWEDAC) - Horizontal Harmonization Committee

Vagn Andersen (DANAK) - Publications and Communications Committee

Jan van der Poel (RVA)

Biserka Brezak (HAA)

Rozsa Ring (NAT)

Hans Peter Ichi (SAS)

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Sectors

TUNNEL SAFETY: NEW ENAC ACCREDITATION

The scope of accreditation comprises fire response testing of large-sized fume ventilation and extraction units used in tunnels

ENAC has recently accredited the high temperature fan testing laboratory TUNNEL SAFETY TESTING, S.A. for conducting fume and heat extractor and aeration fan performance tests.

The scope of the accreditation envisages the testing of large-sized fans (up to 2 m diameter and 3.45 m long) on both oven type and circuit type testing benches (3.5 m diameter and 3.9 m long), which match the types and sizes normally used in tunnels and other facilities.

Oven type test benches are used for testing fans such as the jet type, where the whole body of units, including the motor, is subjected to high temperatures, as would happen in a fire.

Test benches with recirculation are used for testing fans, in which in the event of fire the air passing through the blades is heated but not the air in the area where the fan is installed, as is the case of the fans that are used in transverse, semi-transverse or Saccardo type ventilation systems.

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TESTING ACCREDITATION FOR WIMAX WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY

Today wireless transmissions are an effective tool for transferring voice, data and video between devices without the need for wiring. Amongst its advantages this information transfer offers mobility and flexibility, which have favoured its development and implementation.

This development has been accompanied by a parallel increase in the services that the laboratories provide for the sector. Thus, ENAC has recently awarded the first accreditation for the conduct of radiofrequency conformity tests in compliance with protocols and interoperability of communications equipment with WiMAX interface to AT4 Wireless.

WiMAX is a wireless access technology which has covering the "last mile" or subscriber loop as its main function, providing the end user with broadband Internet connection service. The deployment of the network for the operator in this case significantly cuts system infrastructure costs compared with cable technologies (ADSL, optical fibre, etc.). Another possible application is to use the WiMAX network

as an element for connecting (backhaul) networks of another type (Wi-Fi, mobile cell networks, etc.).

AT4 Wireless was the first laboratory in the world designated by WiMAX Forum, a non-profit organization currently made up of over five hundred international companies, including manufacturers of electronic devices and telecommunications operators, to conduct tests on the conformity and interoperativity of this WiMAX technology.

This new accreditation is a further addition to those already existing for the different units, devices and communication technologies (Digital Terrestrial Television, wireless networks with WLAN interface, equipment with GSM/GPRS/EDGE/UMTS interface, etc.).

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Sectors

PRODUCT GROUP ACCREDITATION

Directive 89/106/EC on Construction Products was published in 1989. Since then more than two hundred harmonized standards have appeared specifying the essential requirements for products affected by the Directive that bear the EC marking

Taking this into account and the fact that by their very nature building products may be arranged in groups requiring similar technical competence for their assessment, in conjunction with the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism, ENAC prepared document NT-42 "Control Bodies in the Building Product Directive: Product group accreditation", where the rules were laid down for the definition of the control body accreditation scopes, which are accredited to act on assessment systems 1, 1+, 2 and 2+, in order to permit product group accreditation, thereby saving what would otherwise be a burdensome and, in some cases, an unviable process.

This document has recently been revised in order to clarify certain aspects that had not been properly specified in the previous review and to open up the possibility of product group accreditation to other Directives so permitting on account of their nature, like the Machine Directive which has been included in its field of application.

Product group accreditation establishes management of the concept of equivalent competence on the basis of a series of requirements that the control body (CB) should meet, in particular:

- Have identified the technically competent and responsible person (or persons) for each product group.
- Have a procedure established that will describe

the activities planned to ensure that, prior to carrying out the assessment of a product, the necessary means are available, e.g. accredited laboratories, qualified personnel, assessment procedures for the product in question, etc.

 Keep complete records showing that the planned activities have been carried out.

Product group accreditation on the basis of the concept of equivalent competence and the existence of an appropriate management system laid down by the CB for product assessment represents a significant step forward in the accreditation process, which is tailored to the situation of activities carried on by the CB and at the same time assuring the necessary trust in the technical stringency of its assessments.

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Sectors

PERSONAL CERTIFICATION: FIRST ACCREDITATION FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT

ENAC has awarded accreditation to the Spanish Association of Project Engineering "AEIPRO" for the certification of project management competences.

Personnel certification is an activity aimed at furnishing trust in people certified to perform certain activities, taking "competence" in this context to mean the set of know-how, experience and skills required for efficient performance of the tasks entrusted.

AEIPRO is a non-profit organization with the prime aim of professionalizing project engineering. It comprises a specific body in charge of managing the certification system, the Project Management Certifying Body (OCDP), which is responsible for its development, implementation and execution.

The criteria used by AEIPRO to award certification are based on those laid down by the IPMA (International Project Management Association) to which they belong and which have been applied since 1999.

The certification concept is basically geared to assessing the professional competence of individuals involved in managing various kinds of projects (civil engineering, R+D+i, software, etc.) with different degrees of management and administration responsibility, both independently and for the organizations to which they belong.

The certification programme developed assesses the qualifications and competences of the person relating to know-how, experience and personal conduct in the sphere of project management, through four levels of competence developed in the document "NCB Baselines for Competence in Project Management", where:

Level A.- Programme Director or Project Directors.

Level B.- Project Director

Level C.- Project Management Professional

Level D.- Project Management Officer

It is a gradual process in which advancement from one level to the next depends on the know-how and experience acquired in the course of the time given over to project management, so that anyone engaged in this professional area may obtain additional recognition in accordance with their competence and in line with their career.

For further information: rcanovas@enac.es

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Sectors

ENAC PARTICIPATION IN THE FOURTH METROLOGY CONFERENCE

The Fourth Spanish Metrology Conference was held on 1-3 June in Santander, with the wide-scale participation of companies and bodies involved in metrology.

ENAC took part in the conference as the sponsor company, with participation at two round tables: "Legal Metrology: control, inspection and follow-up", moderated by Guillermo Izuzguiza, Rosalina Porres delivered her paper entitled "Accreditation in the sphere of legal metrology. Requirements applicable"; a complete round table given over to accreditation was conducted. Moderated by Antonio Muñoz, it included the following papers: "Accreditation in the field of metrology: current situation and future outlook", presented by José Luis Borrego; "Participation in intercomparisons as a quality assurance tool", presented by María José Cotarelo. "Accreditation criteria, the work of technical calibration subcommittees", delivered by Eugeni Vilalta; and "Implementation of the ENAC Assessment System Modernisation Plan", presented by Héctor González.

At this particular time when many companies are watching every penny, we can underscore the high number of speakers and participants and the quality of their contributions.

ENAC AT THE 12th CONFERENCE OF THE SPANISH RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION SOCIETY

On 4 June last, ENAC took part in the 12th Conference of the Spanish Radiological Protection Society held in the city of Alicante, presenting the paper entitled "Quality and accreditation in personal dosimetry (internal and external). Recent standards and ENAC presentation", which was delivered by Óscar Recuero, head of the Environment Department.

A presentation of Entidad Nacional de Acreditación (ENAC) and quality accreditation was offered as was a presentation on the activities carried on by ENAC in the field of radioactivity, specifically in environmental radioactivity and in internal and external dosimetry.

The talk was attended by representatives of accredited laboratories and benchmark centres, such as the CIEMAT and CSN. The time allocation was shared with the head of the IAEO (International Atomic Energy Organization) dosimetry laboratory, who gave an account of his experience in the accreditation of the laboratory by Austrian Accreditation Body (BMWFJ).

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NATIONAL MEETINGS

WORKSHOP ON SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND USE OF INSECTICIDES: CONTROL AND RISKS

20-24 July 2009 Murcia

ENAC representative: M. García

22nd NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE SPANISH MICROBIOLOGY SOCIETY

21-24 September 2009 Almería ENAC representative: J. García

40th NATIONAL CONGRESS ON ACOUSTICS - ACOUSTICS TECHNOLOGY 2009

23-25 September 2009 Cádiz ENAC representative: O. Recuero

5th FOOD WASTE CONTROL WORKSHOP

30th September 2009 Lugo ENAC representative: J. García

10th SPANISH AND IBEROAMERICAN CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

28-30 October 2009 Corunna ENAC representative: I. Villa

INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

EA HORIZONTAL HARMONISATION COMMITTEE

2 and 3 September 2009 Brussels ENAC representative: I. Pina

EA INSPECTION COMMITTEE

7 September 2009 Sicily ENAC representative: P. Ordeig

EA CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

8 September 2009 Sicily ENAC representative: I. Pina

EA LABORATORY COMMITTEE

22 September 2009 Helsinki ENAC representative: R. Porres

ISO/CASCO WORKING GROUP

22-24 September 2009 Geneva ENAC representative: P. Ordeig

EA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

28 September 2009 Vienna ENAC representative: I. Pina

EA PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

30 September 2009 Slovenia ENAC representative: C. Tallés

PRÍNCIPE FELIPE AWARDS FOR BUSINESS EXCELLENCE 2009

The Príncipe Felipe Awards for Business Excellence, announced periodically by the Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Commerce, set out to recognize merit and endorse the prestige of companies that have made a significant effort to improve their competitiveness and to encourage other companies to continue to follow the path to business excellence.

Order ITC/1283/2009, which lays down the rules for the organization, management and awarding of these awards was published in the Official State Gazette (BOE) of 22 May and on 2 July last the Resolution of the Subsecretariat of the Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Commerce announcing its 13th edition.

On this occasion, Industrial Innovation has been introduced as a new item in the Quality category, with the "Príncipe Felipe Award for Quality and Industrial Innovation", which will be open to all those companies that have achieved a high level of quality and shown a significant effort in technological innovation, both in respect of processes and products and management, which have been reflected in the excellence of their activity and in competitive advantages in the markets.

The assessment process in this category consists of three sections:

- A) Compliance with UNE/EN/ISO standards
- B) Assessment of the European quality model
- C) Assessment of the innovation effort.

Other categories included in these awards are Internationalization, Tourism Excellence, Information Society, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies, as well as separate "extraordinary" awards for the Competitiveness of the Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise (SME) and the Large-Sized Company and, as a new item, the Extraordinary Business Career Achievement Award.

For further information: www.premioprincipefelipe.es

