



“Accreditation News” issue 50

Fourth Quarter 2009

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ENAC from the inside

2009: A WELL-ACCREDITED YEAR

It has been ENAC's will and desire to work with a clear and set focus on customer service, and part of that means spreading and promoting the value of accreditation. In 2009, we at ENAC worked with this in mind, and new goals were reached and challenges identified.

In this regard, the sectors in which we have seen a significant increase in the evaluation of accredited compliance have gone further to include other activities, fields and sectors; in 2009, increased activity in each allowed us to reach 1,000 accredited organisations.

From an internal perspective, 2009 has led us to reinforce the structure of ENAC to further streamline our organisation, and to more confidently take on the increased activity in both the number of applications and of schemes and sectors to which we provide our services.

In line with our goal of providing the best customer service with top professionals, we at ENAC increasingly collaborate with institutions, professional schools, research centres, universities, companies and public entities in order to have a broad range of technical experts available who can assess and reinforce our evaluation processes.

This year we have also intensified our collaboration with international organisations through active participation in world forums in our field.

Furthermore, so that no one of these actions goes unnoticed, we have boosted our internal and external dissemination and communications activities by distributing new brochures, the Business Activity Report, actions with the media and the incorporation and adaptation of new tools for facilitating communication and contact with our accreditation clients on our website (www.enac.es) with the new specific area for “accredited organisations” in which said organisations can find services adapted to their needs, and the new “document management: sEgNAC” application made available to accredited organisations and developed to simplify and debureaucratise processing and increase efficiency.

In this new year we hope to continue along the same path with a clear focus on service.

Best wishes for 2010!

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NEW ACCREDITATIONS

TESTING LABORATORIES

ANALYTICAL CENTRE FOR INSPECTION AND QUALITY CONTROL OF FOREIGN TRADE.

Industrial goods: toys 605/LE1610

RAYNER INGENIEROS, S.L.

Acoustics 682/LE1676

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER – VIRGIN OLIVE OIL TASTING PANEL OF THE REGION OF MURCIA

Agrifood products 740/LE1504

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY OF TENERIFE

Agrifood products 741/LE1551

ARAGON HEALTH SERVICE - Hospital Clínico Universitario Lozano Blesa.

Clinical biochemistry, Pharmacology, Immunology and Toxicology 742/LE1590

ARAGON HEALTH SERVICE - Hospital de Alcañiz.

Biochemistry, Microbiology and Pathological Anatomy 742/LE1587

ARAGON HEALTH SERVICE- Hospital Nuestra Señora de Gracia. Clinical laboratories

Pathological Anatomy 742/LE1583

ARAGON HEALTH SERVICE - Hospital Universitario Miguel Servet. Clinical laboratories

Biochemistry, Hematology and Microbiology 742/LE1584

LABORATORIO DE ANALISIS Y CONTROL, S.A.

Environmental test 743/LE1329

ARENISCAS DE LOS PINARES BURGOS-SORIA, S.L.

Natural stone 744/LE1600

AGRIFOOD AND ANIMAL HEALTH LABORATORY, MURCIA

Agrifood products 745/LE1502

CENTRE FOR POULTRY HEALTH OF CATALONIA (CESAC)

Agrifood products 746/LE1247

SISMO CONTROL, S.L.

Acoustics 747/LE1246

CONTADORES DE AGUA DE ZARAGOZA, S.A.

Cold water supply meters 748/LE1548





LABORATORIO J.A. TELLO, S.L.
Agrifood Products 749/LE1295
PANGAEA BIOTECH, S.A.
Molecular genetics 750/LE1556
GEOSYNTHETICS LABORATORY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CANTABRIA - LAGUC
Geosynthetic materials 751/LE1561
ANIMAL HEALTH RESEARCH CENTRE (CRESA)
Agrifood products 752/LE1557
LABORATORIOS JIMÉNEZ, S.L.
Environmental test 753/LE1573

CALIBRATION LABORATORIES

LABORATORIO DE METROLOGIA Y CALIBRACIÓN
INDUSTRIAL, S.A. (MCI)
Mechanical-torsion pair 45/LC515
LABORATORIOS BUTEC, S.L.
Mechanics 102/LC506
INFORMACION, TECNOLOGIA Y MERCADO, S.A.
(ITM)
Temperature and Humidity 111/LC408
LABORATORIO CALIBRACION INSITU BURGOS, S.L.
Optics 144/LC510
LABORATORIO CALIBRACION INSITU BURGOS, S.L.
Chemistry 144/LC509
MCV, S.A.
Chemistry 175/LC498
SYSTEMS AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING
DIVISION (DSIE) OF THE UNIVERSIDAD
POLITÉCNICA DE CARTAGENA ELECTRONIC
TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT
DC and Low-Frequency Electricity 189/LC511
CONTADORES DE AGUA DE ZARAGOZA, S.A.
Fluids 190/LC503
ALQUILER, VERIFICACIÓN Y SERVICIOS, S.L.
Mechanics-Mass 191/LC504

INSPECTION

TRAZABILIDAD Y CONTROL, S.L. (Sole Trader)
Agrifood Inspection 183/EI278
CIOPU, S.L.
Environmental Inspection 184/EI326
HNOS. ORTIZ JAREÑO, S.L.
Road Vehicle Inspection 46/EI/ITV039
INSPECCIÓN TÉCNICA DE VEHÍCULOS DE TOLEDO,
S.L.
Road Vehicle Inspection 47/EI/ITV057
ITV LA RODA, S.L.
Road Vehicle Inspection 48/EI/ITV054

PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

ECOAGROCONTROL, S.L.
Agrifood products 58/C-PR083
FUNDACIÓN ARETÉ-IDENATURE
Natural Parks of Andalusia 59/C-PR164

PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION

CONAIF-SEDIGAS CERTIFICACIÓN, S.L.
Personnel certification 9/C-PE014

MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CERTIFICATION

BUREAU VERITAS CERTIFICATION, S.A. (Sole trader)
Certification of R+D+i Management System 4/C-
SC034
EUROPEAN QUALITY ASSURANCE SPAIN, S.L.
Certification of R+D+i Management System 13/C-
SG038

CONTROL BODIES

RESEARCH ASSOCIATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION
INDUSTRIES (AIDICO) - TECHNOLOGICAL
INSTITUTE OF CONSTRUCTION
Pyrotechnic Devices OC-C/196
ENSATEC, S.L.
Legal metrology OC-I/164
REVISIONS DE VEHICLES, S.A.
Legal metrology OC-I/175
APPLUS ITEUVE TECHNOLOGY, S.L.
Legal metrology OC-I/180
SGS ESPAÑOLA DE CONTROL, S.A.
Legal metrology OC-I/181
SEM GRUPO ITEVELESA - ARAGÓN, S.A.
Legal metrology OC-I/127
ORGANISMO TÉCNICO DE CONTROL, S.A.
Industrial Safety Installation Regulations OC-I/177
ARABA INTEC, S.L. (Sole Trader)
Industrial Safety Installation Regulations OC-I/166
INZAMAC ASISTENCIAS TÉCNICAS, S.A.
Industrial Safety Installation Regulations OC-I/107

GOOD LABORATORY PRACTICE

SGS ESPAÑOLA DE CONTROL, S.A. (Agriculture
Division)
Field analysis of pesticides. Residue Testing 27/
BPL044
CAMBIUM, S.L.
Laboratory analysis of pesticides. Testing: physical/
chemical characterisation 28/BPL035





Laboratory analysis of chemicals: physical/chemical characterisation 28/BPL036
GMW BIOSCIENCE & AGRICULTURAL SERVICES, S.L.
Field analysis of pesticides. Testing of behaviour in soils and residues 29/BPL047

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Report

EMAS III. ENAC'S RESPONSE TO THE REVISION OF THE REGULATION

The new revision of the Regulation is designed to, among other objectives, increase the compliance of companies with the scheme and reduce administrative burdens and costs, especially for small and medium sized enterprises.

The European Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) is a management tool designed so that organisations can assess and achieve continued improvement in their environmental performance and inform the different stakeholders about it.

Spain continues to be the second EU country, behind Germany, with the most organisations under the EMAS system (1157 organisations) and in which ENAC acts as the Accrediting body, with 10 Verifiers accredited for practically all business sectors.

At first, it was only applicable to industrial organisations, but now it is open to all economic sectors, both public and private. The regulation that governed this scheme (Regulation (EC) No 761/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council), obliged the European Commission to review it as experience was gained in its operation.

Thus, in July 2008 the Commission, within the Action Plan on Sustainable Production and Consumption, created the proposals for review of the Regulation to increase compliance of organisations with the scheme and reduce administrative paperwork and costs, especially for small and medium sized enterprises.

The proposal has materialised with the approval of the new Regulation (EC) No 1221/ 2009.

Strengthen the requirements regarding legal compliance

This is embodied in a clear definition of this concept, as well as in the establishment of concrete obligations for Member States, which should provide information and assistance on the matter. Furthermore, the authorities with functions regarding legal compliance shall respond to the consults presented by the organisations in this regard.

In turn, the verifiers will validate the Environmental Declaration, or its updating, if "There is no evidence that the organisation does not meet the applicable

legal requirements regarding environmental matters." It is established in a novel manner, a model for the Declaration of compliance to be signed by the verifier.

Incorporate indicators and develop sector guidelines

The compulsory use of essential indicators of environmental performance has been proposed. Likewise, the new Regulations predict the development of the voluntary Sector Guidelines, in which the parameters, reference performance and specific environmental indicators are defined. These guidelines will be a great help to companies as they provide valuable information on the best practices for environmental management for every sector.

The development of sector Guidelines has been very useful to organisations, as they reflect the most important aspects and best practices in environmental management.

Boost the attractiveness and visibility of the scheme for companies and organisations of all kinds

Through a wide range of measures:

- Allow organisations located outside the European Union to register ("EMAS Global"); "corporate" registration of a group of companies under a common umbrella, in a single registration, or in the registration of organisations that have established the system as a group, sharing means, tools, stages, etc.
- Reduce the respective administrative burdens. Renewals will be carried out at most every 3 years and validation of the updates of the Environmental Declaration will be conducted annually. Small organisations that so request will be allowed periods of 4 and 2 years, respectively.
- Improve the promotion efforts for EMAS, by providing technical support to Member States to define promotion strategies, and even by directly supporting the implementation mechanisms step-by-step.
- Encourage registration in each Member State and at a European level, with rates that are proportional to each organisation, or even eliminate them. The use of the registration to lighten the burdens of inspection for the compliance with legal environmental obligations will continue to be analyzed, or their application even made exempt.
- Facilitate the use of the EMAS logo by registered organisations by simplifying the terms of use and eliminating some of the restrictions.

New EMAS III Regulation: ENAC's contribution

ENAC has contributed in the revision process for the Regulation as a national accreditation body of verifiers who voice their opinions on the functioning of the current Regulation and the recommended lines of modification and by actively participating in the expert groups that work on the creation of the future sector guidelines and on the design of the operation details for "EMAS Global."





Participation as a national expert at the conference on Corporate Registration and EMAS Global according to EMAS III, organised by the European Commission.

With the objective of developing alternatives that would allow a response to the issues for the body responsible for registration arising from the development of the new “Corporate Registration” and “EMAS Global” modalities contained in the future EMAS III Regulation, the European Commission has exchanged its opinions with experts from the Member States.

ENAC, on behalf of MARM, the Spanish Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Life, attended the first meeting of the working group, and the results should be ready at the beginning of 2010 to start the formal approval process.

ENAC participates as a national expert at the conference on the development of sector-based reference documents.

The European Commission has commissioned the IPTS, Institute of Technological Prospective, with the development of the method for preparing these documents. The IPTS is one of the seven research centres making up the **Joint Research Centre of the European Commission**, whose mission is to provide scientific and technical support for the formulation of EU policies involving both a social-economic and scientific-technological dimension.

ENAC participated in the work meetings, with extensive representation of the stakeholders: businesses in the sector, public institutions, competent bodies, environmental verifiers, accrediting bodies and the Commission itself, in which the methodology and initial results obtained by the IPTS in two “pilot” sectors were presented and discussed, in order to validate the methods employed and define the structure and content of the reference documents.

For the experiment, two sectors that are very different from an environmental perspective and as regards their participation in the EMAS scheme were selected.

Retail trade. Selected for its great potential and significance in the economies of EU countries, and in which small companies like the municipal market Mercado Municipal de Las m and construction.

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Sectors

ACCREDITATION FOR INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF NATURAL GAS EQUIPMENT

The technical Regulation for the distribution and use of gaseous fuels and their complementary technical instructions (approved by Spanish Royal Decree 919/2006 of 28 July 2006) includes the examinations traditionally performed by the Autonomous Communities to concede individual qualification certificates for gas installation in its different categories as an alternative, and the certificates issued by a personnel certification body that has been accredited by ENAC will be recognised. At present, some Autonomous Communities have incorporated this option into their legislation; this is yet another example of the recognition of an accreditation granted in voluntary setting, for an administrative authorisation regimen prior to operating, within the legislative sphere.

We at ENAC have granted accreditation to CONAIF-SEDIGAS Certificación, S.L. within this framework for the certification of persons in the categories of:

- Gas installer (Categories A, B and C)
- Commissioning specialist, and
- Commissioning and calibration specialist

The scheme of certification covered by this accreditation is designed to verify that the skills in which individuals are to be certified, as well as the design of the theory and practical tests for assessing knowledge and associated skills, are in line with that required by the technical regulations on authorisation of installers and specialist in gas equipment, contained in Annexes I and II of the ITC ICG 09.

CONAIF-SEDIGAS Certificación, S.L. is the result of the collaboration between CONAIF, the National Confederation of Associations of Installation Companies, and the Spanish Gas Association (SEDIGAS) that, in December 2007, founded a joint body for the certification of persons in order to **certify the knowledge needed by the installers to work in the aforementioned categories.**

The accredited scheme is designed to verify that the skills for which the individuals are going to be certified are in line with that required by the technical regulations on the authorisation of installers and specialists of gas equipment, contained in the ITC ICG 09.

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Sectors

ACCREDITATION IN PHARMACOGENOMICS AND CYTOGENETICS

ENAC had granted the first accreditation in the field of **Pharmacogenomics**. This type of analysis consists of the genetic study of an individual through the analysis of specific mutations or the expression of certain genes in order to ascertain the susceptibility of this individual to certain anti-tumour treatments. Thus, one can find out if a certain anti-tumour drug will be effective for a specific individual.

The Laboratorio de Oncología Pangea Biotech, S.A. has obtained accreditation for the study of mutations, in tissue obtained from biopsies, associated with a type of lung cancer, as well as the study of the expression of certain genes in soft tissue sarcomas and lung cancer.

Also, the Clinical Analysis Department of Hospital Universitario Príncipe de Asturias in Alcalá de Henares has been accredited to carry out tests in the field of **conventional cytogenetics**.

This accreditation includes the study of the karyotype in amniotic fluid and peripheral blood lymphocytes. Its purpose is to detect numerical and structural abnormalities in chromosomes.

Furthermore, Hospital Central de Asturias has been accredited for **Prenatal Biochemical Screening for Chromosomopathies**.

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Sectors

TECHNICAL COMPETENCE IN CLINICAL LABORATORIES, BEYOND QUALITY MANAGEMENT

ISO 15189 IAF-ILAC-ISO Joint Communiqué

In the health sector many accredited laboratories have trouble communicating to clients that the standard of reference for these laboratories is ISO 15189, not the ISO 9001. Apparently, the reason for this confusion is the erroneous belief that the accredited laboratories are not governed by a recognised quality management system.

Therefore, the International Organization for Standardization-ISO, together with the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation-ILAC and the International Accreditation Forum-IAF have published a joint communiqué on the system management requirement in ISO standard 15189:2007 as compared to ISO 9001:2008:

“A medical laboratory’s fulfilment of the requirements of ISO 15189: 2007 means the laboratory meets both the technical competence requirements and the management system requirements that are necessary for it to consistently deliver technically valid test results. The management system requirements in ISO 15189 (Section 4) are written in a language relevant to a medical laboratories operations and meet the principles of ISO 9001:2008 Quality management systems - Requirements and are aligned with it pertinent requirements.”

This international recognition ensures that the clinical laboratories accredited by ENAC do not need to also have ISO 9001 certification to show their clients - physicians, companies and, of course, patients- that they have a quality management system in place. The users of the services in these laboratories can rely on their ability to provide a technically competent and appropriate analytical service for their needs.

All information is available at our website:
www.enac.es

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NEW ACCREDITED TESTS FOR THE GRAPHIC ARTS INDUSTRY

ENAC had granted the first accreditation for optical properties of media and inks to the Colour and Ophthalmic Optics Laboratory of AIDO, the Industrial Association of Optics.

The new accredited tests include both the colorimetric characterisation and determination of the transparency of primary inks based on the CMYK colour model for offset printing and the colorimetric and densitometric characterisation of printed matter and tests.

These tests provide the printer information on basic aspects to control and maintain the productive process, and thus, the stability and repeatability of the products made.

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Highlights

NEW COLLABORATION AGREEMENTS TO EXTEND THE TECHNICAL EXPERT BANK

The correct operation of the accreditation system depends, largely, on the participation of reputable technical experts to evaluate technical competence. Therefore, and to ensure the participation of qualified experts for each case, ENAC collaborates with numerous institutions, professional schools, research centres, universities, companies and government bodies that are leaders in the field to be assessed and that can provide individuals with the required skills for each field.

In order to extend the pool of professionals for assessment, ENAC has recently formalised collaboration agreements with the COGITI, the General Board of Official Schools for Industrial Engineers, and with CIEMAT, the Centre for Energy, Environmental and Technological Research.

According to the agreement, the Board will provide ENAC with information on potential experts in the disciplines needed by ENAC; and ENAC will inform about the needs for experts at all times; COGITI will be responsible for distributing said information to schools and select the ideal candidates for the profile requested.

In the case of CIEMAT, a relationship with assessors integrated in the staff who have the ability and satisfy the technical requirements necessary to carry out ENAC's competence assessment activities is defined.

In both cases, an agreement is established by both parties to directly collaborate in activities for the dissemination of accreditation. Through these Agreements, ENAC seeks to facilitate the location of Experts in such a way that, when faced with a specific need, any company/cooperating institution could respond to this need in the short term.

FIRST ACCREDITATION FOR TESTING OF VIBRATIONS PRODUCED BY EXPLOSIONS

On 22 October 2009, Sismo Control, S.L. was granted accreditation for "in situ" determination of parameters characteristic of vibrations produced by explosions, according to standard UNE 22 381:1993, and has become the first Spanish laboratory accredited for this kind of testing.

The accreditation has been granted specifically for determining the peak levels of velocity and principal frequency of the vibrations produced by blasts with explosives and transmitted through the ground, parameters that serve as the basis for studies of the effects produced by the vibrations of land during controlled explosions of neighbouring structures, primarily buildings.

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ACCREDITED INTERCOMPARISON PROGRAMS IN COMMUNITY WATER PROTECTION LEGISLATION.

Directive 2009/ 90/EC on Water Status and IPPs

On 1 August 2009, Commission Directive 2009/90/EC of 31 July 2009 was published in the Official Journal of the European Union; it establishes the criteria for the functioning of the analytical methods applied in the analytical monitoring of water quality, sediments and living beings, as well as standards for guaranteeing the quality of analytical results.

As stated in the Directive itself in one of its clauses, it seeks to guarantee "the quality and comparability of analytical results generated by laboratories appointed by competent authorities of the Member States to perform water chemical monitoring pursuant to Article 8 of Directive 2000/60/EC." And it is understood that compliance with that established in the EN ISO/IEC 17025 standard is the appropriate tool for achieving this end when it declares in another clause that "Technical operations to ensure the quality and comparability of analytical results should follow quality management system practices accepted at an international level. For that purpose, the practices set out in EN ISO/IEC -17025 are appropriate."

Another important aspect of the Directive is the treatment of the intercomparison exercises of which it states "It is appropriate to ensure that laboratories performing chemical analysis demonstrate their competence through the participation in internationally or nationally recognised proficiency testing programmes and through the use of available reference materials. In view of harmonising practices at the Community level, the organisation of proficiency testing programmes should be based on relevant international standards. To that end, ISO/IEC guide 43-1 on proficiency testing by interlaboratory comparisons - Part I: Development and operation of proficiency testing schemes.



The regulatory implementation of this concept is found in Article 6, which establishes the need for laboratories to periodically participate in proficiency testing and requires them to be organised by accredited organisations or by nationally or internationally recognised organisations that meet the requirements of ISO/IEC 43-1.

In this regard, ENAC has been providing Intercomparison Program Providers accreditation in line with ISO/IEC 43 for some time; therefore, both the Providers accredited by ENAC and the laboratories that use them are in compliance with the requirements set out in the Directive.

For some time, ENAC has been offering accreditation of Intercomparison Program Providers in accordance with the ISO/IEC 43 standard referenced in this Directive.

Currently, ENAC has accredited an intercomparison program provider (Calitax - Labaqua) in this scheme to conduct certain intercomparisons of water, soil and sampling media (the specific scope of this accreditation can be found at www.enac.es).

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Highlights

MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF ILAC AND IAF

Under the slogan “Accreditation: Global Assurance Competence” the city of Vancouver was transformed into the headquarters of the General Assemblies of the ILAC and IAF from 10 to 20 October.

During the two weeks of meetings, the activities developed by these organisations to continue boosting harmonisation of accreditation systems in different countries was addressed, as well as the collaboration with all stakeholders and the trust in the evaluation of accredited compliance.

We have summarised some of the topics addressed:

New Members

The International Aerospace Quality Group (IAQG), GLOBALGAP and the European Organization for Quality (EOQ) were incorporated as members of IAF.

With these incorporations, made official with the signing of the corresponding Memorandum of

Understanding (MOU) with which these organisations agree to coordinate their work and share information, as well as guarantee their representation in relevant committees and working groups, the representation of the stakeholders in the international organisations of accrediting bodies was reinforced.

Cooperation with International Organisations

Also at these meetings, principal news was released regarding cooperation with different international organisations like the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM), the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO and ISO/CASCO), the International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Multilateral Agreements of Recognition: New signatories

New accreditation bodies have been incorporated in the Multilateral Agreements of Recognition:

- Egypt (EGAC): Testing, calibration and quality management systems certification.
- Pakistan (PNAC): Testing and calibration.
- Brazil (Cgcre/INMETRO): Product certification.
- Indonesia (KAN): Product certification.
- Malaysia (SM): Product certification.
- Romania (RENAR): Environmental management systems certification.

New activities in the MLA

The IAF General Assembly agreed to extend the Multilateral Agreement of Recognition to include Security and Information Management Systems Certification and the Food Safety Management Systems Certification.

ISO/IEC 17043

During the meeting, ILAC agreed to adopt the ISO/IEC 17043 standard, which will soon be approved, as Standard of reference for the accreditation of Intercomparison Program Providers.

Organisation

Elections were held during the IAF General Assembly for the renewal of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the organisation: Randy Dougherty (ANAB) and Xiao Jianhua (CNAS) were elected to the posts.

Also, different actions were approved during the ILAC-IAF joint Assembly, such as the joint initiative of the Executive Committees of both organisations to continue to foster coordination and cooperation.

With the new incorporations there is now a total of 56 MLA signatory countries



NATIONAL MEETINGS

COURSE ON UNCERTAINTY CALIBRATION AND CALCULATION IN LABORATORY EQUIPMENT

1 - 3 February 2010, Madrid

ENAC representative: E. Bobadilla

III CONGRESS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ACOUSTICS AND ACOUSTICALLY SUSTAINABLE BUILDING

24 March 2010, Gandía

ENAC representative: O. Recuero

COURSE ON ACCREDITATION VERSUS CERTIFICATION IN THE CLINICAL LABORATORY

16 April 2010, Barcelona

ENAC representative: I. De la Villa

INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

EA INSPECTION COMMITTEE

23 February 2010, Turkey

ENAC representative: F. Ordeig

EA CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

24 - 25 February 2010, Turkey

ENAC representative: I. Pina

EA LABORATORIES COMMITTEE

9 - 11 March 2010, Holland

ENAC representative: R. Porres

EA HORIZONTAL HARMONISATION COMMITTEE

22 - 23 March 2010, Sweden

ENAC representative: I. Pina

EA PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

21 - 22 April 2010, Bulgaria

ENAC representative: C. Tallés

ILAC AIC COUNCIL

21 - 22 April 2010, Denmark

ENAC representative: MJ. Cotarelo

COLLABORATION WITH THE ACCREDITATION AGENCY OF NICARAGUA

With the training course for inspection and testing assessors, and the performance of an assessment of the accreditation system implemented by the ONA, the technical support project with the Accreditation Agency of Nicaragua, ONA, has come to a close.

The goal of the project, developed out of the agreement

between the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Nicaragua and ENAC, has been to collaborate with ONA in the development of the accreditation of the different types of compliance assessors, fundamentally in the Agrifood sector, in light of its future incorporation into the International Agreements of Recognition.

The different stages have required an in situ diagnosis of accreditation in Nicaragua, training internships of ONA staff in ENAC facilities in Madrid, as well as a training course for assessors and assessment of the accreditation system implemented by ONA conducted by two ENAC technicians from 16 to 27 November 2009.

VISIT FROM THE DELEGATION OF ECUADOR

One of the statutory aims of ENAC is the promotion and dissemination of accreditation procedures and techniques in South American countries. This is reflected in a policy of providing active support in the development of the conformity assessment infrastructure in these countries through participation in a range of cooperation projects.

In this context, during the week of 23 to 27 November, we developed a course on accreditation aimed at the staff of the Accreditation Agency of Ecuador (OAE), during which they were able to learn about the activities ENAC develops and the accreditation procedures, as well as the quality system. The training was completed with participation as observers in both the conduct of assessments in laboratories and inspection and certification bodies, as well as in the decision-making process through attendance at a meeting of the Accreditation Commission.

We at ENAC wish to take the opportunity to thank all accredited organisations that gave their consent to have OAE personnel observe its assessments, making this activity extraordinarily productive.

