



## 2003 UILI General Assembly

The Vereniging van Raadgevend Scheikundige Laboratoria hosted the 2003 General Assembly of UILI in grand style, at the elegant Steigenberger Kurhaus Hotel overlooking the beach in den Haag, on 12 September 2003.

The meeting was the setting for the transition of the leadership of UILI from Ron Harris of the U.S. to G.G. McIntee of Canada. Other officers elected for two-year terms were: Dr. Manuel Dorado Gonzalez— Vice President, Spain  
Dr. Manahan Fernandez Alonso—Vice President, Spain,  
Dr. Hideo Tabata —Treasurer, Japan,  
Drs Luc Scholtis—Secretary General, The Netherlands

It was reported that the dues for 2004 will remain the same as for the years 2002 and 2003, with the national associations on a sliding scale based on number of members and the affiliate members on a flat rate of 150 euros per company. The Board of Governors was charged with determining the 2005 dues structure and reporting its actions at the next General Assembly in the fall of 2005.

Mr. McIntee reported that UILI has assets of over 158,000 euros, with the year expected to close as budgeted.

David Stanger presented his report on UILI's external relations, which is summarized elsewhere in this newsletter.

It was reported to the General Assembly that the Board of Governors had renewed its management agreement with the American Council of Independent Laboratories. It is a four-year agreement.

The next two Board of Governors' meetings were announced: March 5, 2004, at a location to be determined, possibly Germany; and October 7-8, 2004, in conjunction with the ACIL Annual Meeting at the Disney Boardwalk Inn, Orlando, Florida. The ACIL Board of Directors has invited the UILI Board of Governors to a joint dinner for the occasion.

The Board of Governors is focusing a great deal of attention on the UILI Web site, which has greatly improved since its inception under Drs Scholtis' direction. It is hoped that this will be a substantial member benefit that will improve communications for laboratories around the world.

The national association representatives presented country reports, as is the norm at these meetings.

Ken-ichi Asari was succeeded by Norimi Takata as the Alternate Representative of the Japan Environmental Measurement & Chemical Analysis Association. Mr. Asari was thanked most sincerely by Mr. Harris for his years of service to UILI.

Mr. Harris closed the meeting by thanking Drs Scholtis and Fenelab for hosting the Board of Governors and General Assembly meetings and the ancillary functions (see separate report in this newsletter).

Joan Walsh Cassedy, CAE  
Secretariat

## 19<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Broadens View In More Than One Way—Attendees Had Unique Opportunity To Visit Large Dutch Laboratories

Attendees to the 19<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of UILI, held in The Hague on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of September, were offered a unique look at four large Dutch laboratories.

The lab tour started with a visit to Handelslaboratorium v/h Dr. A.J. Verwey, in Rotterdam, where Jhr. Rob Boddaert personally gave participants a tour through his family-owned lab. Afterwards, Analytico B.V., a part of Eurofins Scientific and an internationally operating organisation specialised in providing bio-analytical services, showed the attendees how they conduct laboratory tests concerning the environment, pharmaceutical products, health care and food products. After a typical Dutch lunch, where the attendees were served courses with

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exotic names like 'paling in het groen', 'boterham met pindakaas' en 'Noordzee garnaltjes', the attendees headed for the Rotterdam area.

Near Rotterdam, two other major players in the laboratory field opened their doors to the attendees. Alcontrol, Europe's no.1 laboratory in services to food and environmental (water, soil and air) markets, provided both a presentation and an extensive guided tour. Later in the afternoon, the attendees visited Saybolt, the laboratory offering inspection and testing services for a wide variety of products with emphasis on the Petroleum and Petrochemical sectors.

### Getting acquainted with Holland

Where the participants of the lab tour only got a glimpse of Holland, the participants of the City Tour on Thursday did some serious sight-seeing! The citywalk through the historic heart of The Hague lead to Binnenhof/Ridderzaal, the house of Representatives of the States General in the Netherlands.

Then, in the Mauritshuis, the participants visited a unique exhibition of portraits of Hans Holbein the Younger (1498-1543), the world-famous German portraitist. In order to have a global view on Holland as a whole, the city tour ended in Madurodam, Holland's smallest city, situated within The Hague. In Madurodam, the participants saw typical Dutch buildings and places like the canal houses of Amsterdam, the Alkmaar cheese market and parts of the Delta Works, replicated in minute detail on a 1:25 scale.

### UILI Symposium catches the attention

On Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> of September, the last day of the 19<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, attendees took part in a symposium on "Views on the economic future for independent private laboratories".

Drs. Gerard Baalhuis, group managing director of Alcontrol Laboratories, caught the public's attention with his ideas as to "The European Perspective on Market Developments for Independent Private Testing". Another keynote speaker, Stuart P. Cram, Ph.D., Worldwide Business Development Manager at Agilent Technologies in Palo Alto, California USA drew

attention to "Emerging Technologies in the Analytical Testing Industry". Each presentation was followed by a vivid and interesting discussion—which, of course, was exactly what the organizing association had intended. ■

### Affiliate Representative

It is a pleasure, privilege and a challenge to be elected at the September 2003 General Assembly as the Affiliate Representative for the third year term. Our Affiliate Members are scattered around the world; from Brazil to Belgium, India to Ireland, Saudi Arabia to Singapore and in the Argentine, Chile, France, Greece, Malaysia, Turkey and United Kingdom.

Effective communication is my top priority to link Affiliates with our Governing Board and the services they expect from UILI. Over recent months the UILI Web site has made significant advances and is commended to the Affiliate Members. [www.uili.org](http://www.uili.org) I urge all Affiliates to complete their entry so that potential Clients and UILI Members alike can make immediate contact. It is becoming the platform to deliver information and services Affiliates have requested. My e-mail message this month could not be sent to 20 percent of Affiliates who are without this facility and this percentage increased to 35 percent due to insufficient capacity to receive a 3 page message! Postal services have been used to fill this communication gap.

In recent UILI Bulletins we have included profiles of Affiliate Members. As a New Year's Resolution I invite Affiliates to present their message for future editions during 2004.

The new UILI Business Plan has a mission to deliver the services Affiliate Members have requested. 'Connect' and 'Communicate' in both directions are key words that would result in a greater return on your membership of UILI.

*David Stanger – UILI Affiliate Representative.* ■

## ILAC News

### ILAC DEVELOPMENTS

Following the incorporation last January of ILAC in The Netherlands and the adoption of Articles and ILAC Rules, the proceedings of ILAC 2003 in Bratislava, Slovakia last September were held in a business-like atmosphere. Throughout the year UILI has been represented by David Stanger who attended the 2-day General Assembly and Laboratory Committee (LC) meetings. The identical positions of UILI and the ILAC/LC on the proposed alignment of ISO/IEC 17025:1999 with ISO 9001:2000 were endorsed by the ILAC General Assembly. The ILAC 2003 proceedings can be reviewed on [www.ilac.org](http://www.ilac.org), which includes the UILI report and recommendations to ILAC on page 23.

The ILAC international Mutual Recognition Arrangement now has 44 signatories from 35 economies around the world. All UILI National Member Associations have national accreditation bodies as signatories to the Arrangement. This is also true for most Affiliate member countries with the exception of Argentina, Chile, Greece, Saudi Arabia and Turkey. The ILAC Arrangement is managed by a Council and Arrangement Management Committee (AMC), the later including a member of the ILAC Laboratory Committee.

Your two UILI representatives to ILAC are Dr. Ken Albutt and David Stanger. During 2004 the first LC meeting will be convened in March 2004 in Charleston, South Carolina, USA; ILAC Accreditation Policy Committee will be attended by David Stanger during June, 2004 in Berne, Switzerland and ILAC Plenary will be held in Cape Town, South Africa during 4/13 October.

Members unable to find relevant information on the ILAC website or wish to express an opinion, expectation or concern regarding ILAC developments are encouraged to contact David Stanger at [dhs@dhs.be](mailto:dhs@dhs.be)

*David Stanger – UILI representative to ILAC* ■

## Affiliate Profile



**OIKONOMIAHΣ**

XHMIKOTEXNIKEΣ MEΛETEΣ

The Analytical Laboratory of Rhodes "Dimitris I Oikonomidis" was established in 1987. Our main activities are to perform testing analyses, both chemical and microbiological, for water (potable, swimming, surface, effluents) and food products (ready to eat, raw). We have participated ever since our formation in "The Blue Flag Campaign" for clean, organized beaches. Rhodes facilities are now, within the Greek region, holders of the most "Blue Flags" awards.

Our main clients are big hotels here in Rhodes, Greece, since the tourist industry is very demanding for hygiene monitoring of waters as well as foodstuffs. The HACCP issues as well as legionella protection schemes are also part of our professional activities. Our Laboratory received accreditation certificate No 57/2001 awarded by the Greek Accreditation Body, ESYD, for chemical & microbiological tests in water (potable & swimming) and food (milk).

We strongly believe that private laboratories have a great work to perform and supply high standard testing services, but are unable to compete with public sector or subsidized laboratories. Their scope should be completely differentiated and as public laboratories should maintain specific services to the regulator and so avoid encroaching into the private sector. Otherwise, this would consist of unfair competition. We trust that the proposed new international standard ISO 17011 will effectively address this issue and we look to UILI to represent our concerns.

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## ACIL News

### OSHA and ACIL Sign Alliance Agreement

Representatives from the U.S. Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) and ACIL signed an Alliance on July 29, 2003 at the Headquarters Building of the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, DC. Signing for OSHA was The Hon. John L. Henshaw, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health. Jerry R. Weathers, Chair of ACIL, signed for ACIL. Also present from ACIL were members Leonard Frier, Milton Bush, and ACIL Executive Director Joan Walsh Cassedy, CAE.

After the signing, Jerry Weathers said, "The OSHA Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL) program is an indispensable component in ensuring the health and safety of employees in the workplace. ACIL is pleased to work with OSHA to improve understanding of this program by all sectors and enhance its effectiveness."

The Alliance will promote a national dialogue on workplace safety and health by providing stakeholders with information and guidance on the purpose and requirements of the NRTL program and by raising awareness and understanding of the value of the NRTL's marks on safety products and equipment.

An implementation team of representatives of both organizations will develop a plan of action, determine working procedures, and identify the roles and responsibilities of the participants.

The Alliance agreement, initially for a term of two years, is posted on the ACIL and OSHA Web sites.



## CCIL News

### Ontario Safe Drinking Water Act

The implementation of Ontario's Safe Drinking Water Act has necessitated the Division Directors to request to formally meet with MOE's (Ministry of the Environment) to discuss among things:

- The difficulty in implementing the uploading requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Regulations
- Very stringent penalties
- Release of CAEAL (Canadian Association of Environmental/Analytical Laboratories) audit information by MOE.

In a pre-meeting teleconference call, the Ontario-based CCIL members will be asked to discuss the results of their first inspection. All labs will have been visited by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Labs have been noticing that the auditors are not being consistent in their inspections.

### British Columbia Ministry of Health

British Columbia (BC) continues to require that labs doing drinking water testing be accredited by the Ministry of Health. Thus most BC labs are carrying a double accreditation with that of Canadian Association of Environmental/Analytical Laboratories (CAEAL). A meeting in early September with the BC MOH (Ministry of Health), CAEAL and CCIL provided hope that there may be a pooling of the auditors to avoid this costly duplication to CCIL firms operating in B.C.

### Uncertainty Issue

The culmination of several teleconference calls has seen the chemistry and microbiology protocols being reviewed and found acceptable by CAEAL. They are now posted on CCIL's web site (<http://www.ccil.com/index2.html>).

### Polling our Members

A survey will be sent to CCIL members to see whether there is any interest in a Benchmark Survey, the last one having been done in

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July of 1997. If the project is endorsed, a survey would be prepared and sent to the membership, as well as to others in our industry, to give CCIL an idea of how efficient they are compared to their direct competitors and also to US labs. Two studies are contemplated, one for the Environmental Community and the other for the Geotechnical Community.

### **Errors and Omissions Insurance**

CCIL member companies who have experienced difficulties or are still experiencing difficulty in securing Errors and Omission Insurance are urged to communicate with the CCIL headquarters as part of the process to secure better accessibility and reduced rates for their members. CCIL will compare the rates by province and attempt to negotiate an improved rate for CCIL labs.

### **CCIL/MTO (Ministry of Transportation of Ontario)**

An endeavour undertaken by Gib McIntee to have a single ASTM volume encompassing all the current standards used by the CCIL certified labs as they pertain to both the Asphalt and Aggregates Certification Programs, although initially not embraced by the CPACs (Certification Program Administration Committees), will again be brought before them. This endeavour would save our certified laboratories time and money involved in keeping their standards current, as is required by the LC (Laboratory Certification) documents in order to maintain their CCIL certification(s).

### **Annual General Meeting**

The September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Annual General Meeting held in Toronto was well-attended. The guest speaker was Peter Clark of the Standards Council of Canada who provided CCIL with a clear picture of what the SCC is doing.

## **ISO/CASCO UPDATES**

UILI was represented during November 2003 at the next CASCO Chairman's Advisory Committee (CAG) meeting followed by the annual two day CASCO plenary meeting to be held in Geneva, Switzerland.

Since 2000, we have attended the meetings of CASCO WG 18 mandated to publish a new international standard ISO 17011 for the 'General requirements for accreditation bodies'. We seek within the text of this new standard evidence of impartiality, removal of conflicts of interest and, of equal importance, representation within the infrastructure of accreditation bodies.

Our highest priority during the year has been given to the work of WG 25 to align ISO/IEC 17025:1999 with ISO 9001: 2000. Below is given an extract from UILI's annual report to CASCO:

"Over the past 2 years we have been a participant in the work of CASCO WG 25 and that our National Member Associations have, with the support of our Affiliate Members, unanimously confirmed their agreement for the publication of ISO/IEC DAM 17025 (Draft 1) dated 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2003 – 'General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories' as agreed at the WG 25 meeting held in Geneva on the 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2003."

A report on the outcome of ISO/CASCO meeting will be provided in the next issue and other material will be posted on the UILI website [www.uili.org](http://www.uili.org)

*David Stanger – UILI rapporteur to ISO/CASCO*

### **UILI Supports No Change to 17025**

In ISO/CASCO meetings held in Geneva on 21 July 2003, UILI supported the position that the standard 17025:1999 is not yet due for official revision and that Working Group 25 at this stage should not make any major changes in ISO/IEC 17025. The position was that major changes should be discussed at the next stage, when the standard is officially due for a revision.

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David Stanger, UILI Representative to ISO/CASCO, urged all national member associations and individual laboratory representatives to support the publication of ISO/IEC DAM 17025 (Draft 1) dated 22 July 2003 - General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories.

UILI represents the independent testing industry before international organizations, such as the United Nations, the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation and ISO/CASCO.

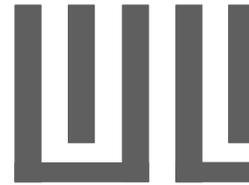


The UILI Board of Governors and members of VRS visit the royal palace.



Dr. Stuart Cram, Ron Harris, Dr. Robert Boddaert, and Stephen Vincent enjoy the closing reception and activities.

Note: additional photographs are on the Web site [www.uili.org](http://www.uili.org).



**Union Internationale des Laboratoires Indépendants  
International Union of Independent Laboratories  
Internationale Vereinigung Unabhängiger  
Laboratorien**

## OBJECTIVES

To represent the professional and commercial interests of private sector laboratories and scientific consultants on an international basis.

To provide a forum for the international exchange of views on matters of common interest including, for example, laboratory quality assurance, laboratory accreditation, product certification, national and international standards, and international barriers to trade.

To promote the international status of laboratories and scientific consultants and emphasize their important role in international trade.

To establish an international network of scientific contacts to act in the professional and commercial interests of its members.

To strengthen the bond of friendship between members.

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