



April 2004

## CCIL News

### Strategic Planning Session

As a follow-up to the survey sent to our members on the direction CCIL should be taking and what we can do to better help our members, the National Board of Directors met on February 15, 2004 proceeding the scheduled National Board meeting to discuss the results of the responses.

The number of responses received was slightly below expectations but what was received led to a productive afternoon session.

A synopsis of the survey is included in the next section.

Action items already undertaken as a direct result of the survey are:

- Contact with an insurance provider who is willing to review our Association's needs and see if there is a potential for a group insurance rate. Survey to be furnished by this provider. We are hoping for a good response from our members.
- Membership drive undertaken by the Environmental Division.

### Synopsis of "Polling our Members"

1. What is biggest challenge facing testing industry in next five years?
  - Price wars
  - Duplication of services
  - Increasing membership across Canada
  - Inability to obtain and/or pay ever increasing liability insurance costs
  - Increased competition from non-independent labs
  - Cost and liability of implementing SDWA (Safe Drinking Water Act)
2. Most Important advocacy Issues.
  - Government control over lab activities
  - Promotion of independent testing
  - Accreditation/certification issues related to SDWA
  - Regulatory requirements
  - Promote quality service over price

- Increased membership across Canada
  - Cost effective accreditation
3. How can CCIL improve promotion of our members' services?
    - Promote benefits of CCIL
    - Include CCIL logo in test reports
    - More interaction between geo-technical and environmental firms
    - Promote good ethics within our industry
    - Investigate uncertified labs who compete with CCIL certified labs
    - Advise members of changes to web site
    - More visible in key trade publications
    - More visible in all levels of government
  4. How can we assist improving operations efficiency, quality and service.
    - Promote CCIL member Labs
    - Lobby various end-user groups
    - Use bargaining power due to size of market we represent
    - Provide a program for insurance
    - Sponsor training sessions
    - Promote higher image of CCIL
    - Expand certification programs (economies of scale)
  5. How can your Division Chairman or National Office help you?
    - Regular communications
    - More communication between Board and members
    - More technical sessions vs. formal business sessions
  6. What are CCIL's strengths and weaknesses

### Strengths:

- Certification programs
- Quality of member labs
- Pro-active on members affecting the membership
- Well connected with industry
- Good Focus
- Ability to initiate conversation with government levels
- Good communication and administration.

*(Continued on page 2)*



(Continued from page 1)

**Weaknesses:**

- Do not represent all services (i.e. food testing , etc.)
- Not enough representation across the country
- Too few members - limited membership
- No uniformity in price structure among fellow members
- Change of representation on key committees
- Lack of new blood in leadership

**The Netherlands News**

Mr. Gerard Baalhuis, Group Chief Executive at ALcontrol Laboratories, is now president of FeNeLab, The Dutch Federation of Laboratories and Inspection Bodies. The VRS (Vereniging van Raadgevend Scheikundige Laboratoria) and its member laboratories are all members of FeNeLab. Mr. Baalhuis was a speaker at the 2003 UILL General Assembly.

The Dutch Government has prepared a policy on the use of accreditation and the role the Dutch accreditation body (RVA); it is foreseen that if test results are to be used for legal purposes, the testing laboratory should meet ISO 17025 (RVA) standards.

**ACIL News**

There is a new agreement between the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and ACIL, which is a major advancement for both the industry and sound science in government.

Currently in the United States, the governmental emphasis is on Homeland Security and Bioterrorism Defense, which present challenges and opportunities to various sectors of the testing industry.

ACIL is developing a proficiency-testing program in the electromagnetic compatibility sector that has received preliminary support from the accrediting bodies in the US. ACIL is also working with an independent engineering technician organization to improve their technician training to be compliant with new ISO/CASCO requirement.

The Environmental Laboratory Data Integrity Initiative is achieving some recognition within the USEPA and should be a major step forward for the industry. The Independent Laboratories Institute or ILI, ACIL's affiliated education foundation, has received a second grant from USEPA, this time for assessor training, primarily for the state regulators.

ACIL's food and pharmaceutical sector is working toward exempting food testing laboratories from onerous registration, pre-notification and record-keeping requirements resulting from recently enacted Bioterrorism Defense legislation.

**Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS) Personnel Changes**

Mr. Terence S.S. Chan has been named the new Executive Administrator (Acting) of HKAS. Chan has been involved in accreditation since 1989 and is an active member of APLAC and ILAC. He is also responsible for the administration of the Product Standards Information Bureau (PSIB). Both HKAS and PSIB are part of the Innovation and Technology Commission of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China. Mr. Chan can be reached at sschan@itc.gov.hk, Ph: (852) 2829 4838 or Fax: (852) 2824 1302.

**AMTAC Laboratories in UK Sold**

AMTAC Laboratories Ltd was sold to Bureau Veritas on 18 December 2003. As of that time, the AMTAC Group ceased to exist.

Dr. Kenneth J. Albutt, a longtime employee of AMTAC Group and Affiliate Representative to UILL, can be reached at the following address:

**Kenneth J. Albutt**  
ATR Group Ltd  
Davenport Lane  
Broadheath  
Altrincham  
Cheshire WA 14 4EP  
England  
Tel: +44 (0) 161 928 5811  
Fax: +44 (0) 161 927 7023  
Email: kja@atrgroup.co.uk

(Continued on page 3)



*(Continued from page 2)*

## Updated Contact Information

**David H. Stanger**  
Avenue Louis Lepoutre 116  
B-1050 Brussels  
Belgium  
Tel/Fax/Voice Mail: +32 2 345 1242  
Email: dhs@dhs.be

**Derwyn Reuber**  
Email: Derwyn.Reuber@intertek.com

**Dr Manuel Dorado González**  
Email: mdorado@appluscorp.com



**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.

**UIIL • 1629 K Street, NW, Suite 400**  
**Washington, DC 20006-1633• USA**  
**Phone: Int +1 202 887 5504**  
**Fax: Int +1 202 887 0021**  
**www.uili.org • info@uili.org**