



August 2004

## JEMCA Celebrates Its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

On 28 May 2004, JEMCA (Japan Environmental Measurement & Chemical Analysis Association) held a ceremony at the Hotel New Otani in Tokyo to commemorate the 30th anniversary of its founding. Guests attended from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Environment, UIII, ACIL, and JEMCA member companies from all over the country. At the ceremony, Prof. Dr. Jiro Kondo, Former President of the Science Council of Japan, gave a keynote lecture entitled *The Role and Responsibility of the Scientist in the 21st Century*.



*Dr. Hideo Tabata, President of JEMCA., at the JEMCA 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.*

Following the Memorial Lecture, JEMCA members and international representatives met for toasts, speeches, and socializing with other members and guests. During this reception, the Master of Ceremonies read to the audience a congratulatory letter from **Gib McIntee**, President of UIII. In his letter, Mr. McIntee said, "...The importance of Japan in the international economic and cultural arenas cannot be overstated. The welcome addition of JEMCA to UIII membership has contributed tremendously to the value all members around the world receive... We congratulate JEMCA for leadership of the independent laboratory community in Japan and send our very best wishes that the next 30 years will be equally successful."

**Stephen Vincent**, UIII Board member from the U.S., presented a plaque on behalf of all ACIL members to JEMCA President **Dr. Hideo Tabata**. Also, JEMCA presented **Mr.**

**Ronald L. Harris** and **Mr. William J. Harper** with Certificates of Appreciation for their efforts towards JEMCA's internationalization. "I was honored to take part in JEMCA's 30th anniversary celebration, representing both UIII and ACIL. JEMCA has made an outstanding contribution to the testing industry and Japan environment in their 30 years of existence. JEMCA's membership and participation in both UIII and ACIL adds strength and value to these organizations and is appreciated very much," said Mr. Vincent. Founded in 1974, JEMCA was authorized as an incorporated association of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Environment. It started with the objectives of improving technologies on environmental analysis of air, water pollution, and noise, improving the quality and status of engineers, and promoting further efficiency in environmental analysis fields, which they believe would contribute to the conservation of the environment and contribute to their quality of life. Starting with 243 members, JEMCA has grown to be a 569-member association.



*Dr. Hideo Tabata, JEMCA President; Stephen Vincent, UIII Representative; and Dr. Jiro Kondo, Keynote Lecturer, at the JEMCA 30th Anniversary Celebration.*

JEMCA has found innovative change in the environmental fields in Japan. Demands from customers have changed from "price" to "accuracy, control, & qualifications of engineers." By working on developing new technologies, reliability of accuracy control, technical skills training, globalization, and CSR (corporate social responsibility), from the viewpoint as an expert in Environment Measurement & Analysis, JEMCA would like to continue its contribution to a sustainable society.



*Stephen Vincent, UIII and ACIL representative to the JEMCA 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.*



## UILI Supports Proposed Changes in ISO/IEC FDAM 17025

Proposed changes to the ISO/IEC FDAM 17025 document are supported by UILI. These changes are following the document's overall approval by WG26 on 20 June, 2004.

**David Stanger**, as UILI Representative to CASCO WG 25, communicated the changes to Graeme Drake, Head of Conformity Assessment of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). (See article following)

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## ISO/IEC 17025 – From a Guide to an International Standard for Laboratories

The unit of measurement for the development of our laboratory standard against which we can be judged by client or regulator alike could not be imperial against metric but may be the unit of years and decades. UILI's active participation at the national level goes back to the 1960's and our contributions in the international arena of the International Standards Organization (ISO) commenced in 1981. In the 1990's a regional dimension was added by Europe that implanted a political dimension to the already complex technical deliberations that were corrupted and confused by an explosion of acronyms.

The latest phase has been UILI's involvement in the alignment of ISO 17025:1999 with ISO 9001:2000 that was proposed as a work item during the CASCO Plenary in 1999. UILI's initial position and that also of the ILAC Laboratory Committee was to register its opposition to change of our standard that had only been published earlier in 1999; it was viewed as a perceived threat of becoming a sub standard of the ISO 9000 series that does not assess the competence of a laboratory and increased the market's confusion over the difference between "accreditation" and "certification." At the first meeting of WG 25, UILI tabled its position to

support an alignment between the two standards but limited change to the Introduction and Paragraph 4 of ISO/IEC 17025:1999. UILI did not support the publication of a new edition of 17025 at that time.

There have been, so far, five meetings of WG 25 with Mr. Stanger representing UILI at three meetings held in Geneva. These meetings frequently demonstrated the key role and influence of ISO TC 176 and the effect of recent amendments to the ISO Directives. These factors prohibited the UILI position from prevailing in its requirement that the amended 17025 would state that by compliance with 17025 a laboratory would meet the quality management system requirements as laid down in ISO 9001:2000. Paragraph 1.6 of ISO/IEC FDIS 17025:2004 states that *"If testing and calibration laboratories comply with the requirements of 17025 they will operate a management system for their testing and calibration activities that also meet the principles of ISO 9001."*

The WG 25 members met on 29th June this year to consider the 95 comments and noted that positive votes (over 90 percent) were received for the existing FDIS text. WG 25 agreed to a Final Draft Amendment text except for a linguistic issue of certification and registration included in the Introduction. UILI has supported the inclusion of both terms that reflects our global membership. We hope the 'final' FDIS will be released for a two-month ballot amongst ISO member bodies and, assuming a positive outcome of that ballot, the new version of ISO/IEC 17025 could be published in the second quarter of 2005.

Will this new standard help to enhance the reputation and reliability of laboratory services? Looking in the rear view mirror it can be seen that the original ISO Guide 25 had 11 pages and ahead of us the latest draft of 17025 being offered for adoption has 30 pages. How will our member laboratories and customers judge our work undertaken on your behalf against this unit of measurement?



## CCIL News

### Environmental Benchmark Survey

A consortia made up of ALS Environmental, Environ-Test Laboratories, Maxxam Analytics, Norwest Labs, PSC Analytical Services and SGS Lakefield privately funded an analysis of the key private sector statistics. The survey was conducted in May 2004 and the results have been provided to the participating labs.

It is estimated that these six companies currently represent 61% of the total Canadian commercial environmental laboratory capacity. Revenue from these six companies total \$141 million in 2003, which suggests that the overall size of the Canadian environmental market is about \$230 million. The last survey, done in 1997, reported revenues of \$66 million for the participants and estimated the size of the environmental testing industry at \$100 million. Fifty percent of the respondents to the 1997 survey were independently owned and operated companies. Five of the six participating in the current survey operate a network of lab facilities. The survey is being printed and is available for purchase at a price of \$2,500.00 for CCIL members and \$3,000.00 for non-members, by calling the CCIL National Office at (613) 746-3919.

The survey contains details on the following issues:

- General Market information
- Customer Trends and Issues
- Operations and Technical Analysis
- Human Resources Analysis
- Financial Resources Analysis
- Outlook for the Future

### Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)

Continuing concerns about the high increases in the rates being levied by CNSC for permits to use nuclear compaction gauges has prompted the CCIL National Board of Directors to take the decision to request a meeting with senior staff at CNSC to discuss mutual concerns. Furthermore, CCIL will be looking at alternatives to the nuclear technology.

CCIL initial findings indicate that Humboldt has a non-nuclear device called Geo-Gauge that can do compaction testing but on soil density only. Troxler now has a new device (non-nuclear) called Pave Tracker Plus that can do compaction testing, but on asphalt only. All of this is still in the early stages, but it appears that the technology is out there for non-nuclear gauge compaction testing. However, another device will still be needed to determine moisture content.

### Standards Manuals for CCIL Certification Programs

CCIL's initiative to provide the CCIL laboratories participating in the CCIL Certified programs with an up-dated version of the standards required for the programs is well under way. Binders to include the ASTM and AASHTO standards, as well as the CCIL LC procedures, are expected in the middle of July. Permission to copyright for a fee both the ASTM and AASHTO procedures has been obtained, so that by the end of July and throughout August, the National Office will be providing tailor-made binders to the certified laboratories. Updates will be provided free of charge as they become available. CCIL congratulates **Gib McIntee** for his leadership in this project. This major initiative will go a long way to saving both time and money to CCIL certified labs.

### Annual General Meeting

CCIL's Annual General Meeting is being held on Monday September 20<sup>th</sup>, at the Holiday Inn Select (Airport) in Toronto. This year there will be two guest speakers. Pat Paladino of the Standards Council of Canada will discuss measurement uncertainty issues as it relates to test results for the environmental and geotechnical divisions.

Allan W. Maynard, CCIL's new Executive Director as of 1 July 2004, will be attending the meeting. This will be an opportunity to meet Mr. Maynard and to discuss with him issues to pursue with various organizations. Maynard, formerly with ALS Environmental, is also a founding Board member of IAETL (International Association of Environmental Testing Laboratories) and was president of the organization when it became part of CCIL. He has previous experi-

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## ACIL News

### ACIL Position Paper on BSE

In April 2004, the ACIL Board of Directors approved a position paper on Unfair Government Competition in BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy) Testing (Mad Cow Disease.) The paper states a strong opposition to the USDA recruitment of state and university laboratories to be involved in this testing, to the exclusion of equally qualified private laboratories.

ACIL plans to meet with officials of the USDA to present the position and seek relief from this unacceptable situation.

The position paper was widely distributed to over 100 members of Congress, the press and various trade publications and is on the ACIL Web site at [www.acil.org](http://www.acil.org) under "Publications".

### ACIL Announces 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

The American Council of Independent Laboratories (ACIL) announces its 67<sup>th</sup> annual meeting will be October 9-12, 2004 at the Disney's BoardWalk Inn in Orlando, Florida, USA.

This year's event, titled "Leading and Succeeding in a Changing World," features Louie Gravance speaking on "Leading and Succeeding through Example and Inspiration," and Richard P. Finnegan of TalentKeepers talking about "Retaining and Engaging Four Generations."

The Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, Hon. Harold Stratton, and the Chairman of the American Society for Testing and Materials, Arthur Schwope, will headline the outstanding plenary speakers at the meeting. Chairman Stratton will address "The Role of the Consumer Product Safety Independent Testing Industry in Ensuring the Public Health and Safety for Consumer Products" and Chairman Schwope will present "Standards and Testing: The Bread and Butter of Science and Engineering". In addition, Robert B. Harris, Partner, R.B. Harris Company, will give the Third Annual Earl H. Hess Memorial Lecture on lessons from the life of his father, Lewis E. Harris, founder of Harris Laboratories.

Sessions of specific interest to those involved in civil engineering, environmental sciences, conformity assessment, and microbiol-

ogy and analytical chemistry will also be featured during the four-day event. These sessions are targeted to increasing awareness of current trends, issues, and procedures within the laboratory testing community.

More complete information, including registration, is available at the ACIL website, [www.acil.org](http://www.acil.org). This ACIL annual meeting follows immediately after the UILI Board of Governors meeting at the same hotel on Thursday afternoon, October 7, and Friday morning, October 8.

### Joan Walsh Cassedy Honored By Wharton

UILI Secretariat, Joan Walsh Cassedy, CAE, was the recipient of the Joseph Wharton Award at a dinner in Washington, D.C. USA on June 17. Joan received an MBA degree from the Wharton School of Management in 1982. The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania is one of the most prestigious business schools in the United States.

Joan was recognized for, among many things, her successful career as an association executive, most recently as Executive Director of ACIL and Secretariat of UILI. Her list of accomplishments is extensive, including co-founding an association management company, serving as Executive Director of the Society of Toxicology, and as president of King Publishing Group (publisher of award-winning business information papers and producer of a weekly television program titled "White House Chronicle").

Currently, Joan also serves on the Industry Technical Advisory Committee on Standards and Trade to the Secretary of Commerce and the US Trade Representative, as a Director of the American National Standards Institute, and Committee of 100 top trade association leaders of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. She has also been active in alumni affairs of the Wharton School.

"UILI is proud and most appreciative to have an individual of Joan's talent as Secretariat and sends its sincere congratulations to Joan for this honor," said Ronald E. Harris, Past Chairman UILI.



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ence as a lecturer and an environmental consultant.

The Environmental Division is considering a September 21<sup>st</sup> workshop on measurement uncertainty. As clients are starting to request clarification on and/or reporting of uncertainty, CCIL Directors thought that it would be appropriate to organize a one-day workshop on the subject.

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### Updated Contact Information

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### IA Japan Personnel Change

Mr. Tsutomu Tosaka is the Managing Director of IA Japan as from April 01, 2004.

Mr. Tosaka has been with NITE since 1966, involved in export product inspections, Conformity of Production (COP) Assessments (based on ISO9001) and Test Facility Inspection (TFI) for production plants and testing laboratories of motor vehicle manufacturers and automotive part manufacturers.

Mr. Tosaka is a technical assessor in mechanical and construction material testing. He has conducted JNLA assessment/surveillance visits and is also registered as an APLAC Evaluator.



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

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### 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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