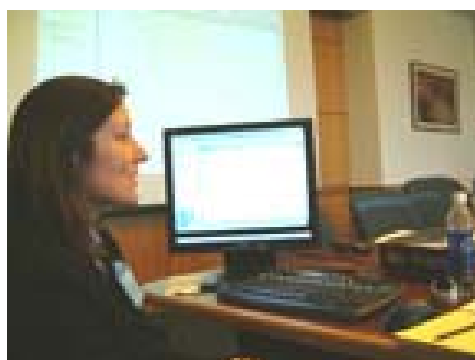


An ASTM First Combination Meeting - Simultaneous Live and Virtual Meetings

Combined Live and Virtual Meeting

The E11 Spring Meeting at ASTM Headquarters introduced the use of cutting edge technology, integrating simultaneous live and virtual meetings with members participating in the technical deliberations and voting from their offices in Australia, and China, and various locations in the United States. Virtual meeting participants viewed documents displayed on their local computer monitors simultaneously with the display in the conference room using special software, the Internet coupled with a telephone conference call for voice communication. Staff Manager, Christi Sierk (photo at left) controlled the displays on the computer monitors and the conference room projector. Surprisingly the older conference call technology was not optimal, although we've since discovered it may have been due to the placement of the conference phone within the meeting room. Dean Neubauer



successfully chaired his task group meeting from his office in Corning, NY.

Among the benefits this combination of technology offers are increased membership attendance, better group focus and real time additions, corrections and modifications to documents in plain view of all, thus expediting consensus. Similarly minutes were recorded and agreed upon in real time. The obvious increase in productivity is remarkable. Attendance was up about 30% over historical norms. Committee E11 plans to utilize this arrangement for its semiannual meetings from now on.

Committee E11 successfully initiated its first virtual meeting for its Executive Committee in February. The clear benefits achieved in expediting and maintaining the momentum of its work was so compelling that E11 plans to use virtual Executive Committee meetings between its regular Spring and Fall live meetings routinely. E11 also plans to initiate task group virtual meetings soon to extend these same benefits to the task group level where the hard nuts and bolts creative standards development work is done. This will make it easier for many who cannot attend meetings to play a more proactive role in standards development.

Be Sure to Vote

There are three standards involved in the upcoming subcommittee ballot relating to **E29**, *Standard Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications*, **E177**, *Standard Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods*, and **E456**, *Standard Terminology for Relating to Quality and Statistics*.

The **E29** ballot item, was initiated at the request of a user who points out that the current practice does not provide guidance on rounding numbers to intervals which don't necessarily align or fit the rounding conventions identified in sections 6.4 (i.e., intervals/powers of 10) or 6.6 (i.e., intervals/powers of 5). A procedure that can be used for rounding to any interval is proposed. Contact Frank Sinibaldi, sinibaldif@aol.com.

The **E177** ballot items relate to beefing up the terminology section, creating a keyword section, and some general housekeeping. Contact Neil Ullman, Neil1@ullman.net.

New Subcommittee Ballot Items.

ASTM Is An ANSI Accredited Standards Developer. In Keeping With The ANSI Requirement For Openess, Membership In ASTM Technical Committees Is Freely Granted To Anyone Who Applies. Technical Expertise Is Important For Subcommittee and Task Group Membership

This New Subcommittee Is On The Roll

If Any Of These Standards Impacts Your Products Or Services, Take Heed.

The E456 involving five ballot items that collectively constitute a significant revision bringing E456 into conformance with the new E11 terminology policy. The referenced document section will contain a list of E11 standards that use the terminology in E456. A significant addition, E456 will encourage use of ISO 3534 terms wherever possible to avoid duplication of efforts between ISO and ASTM technical committees. E 456 will record which of the E11 terms are harmonized with ISO 3534. Contact Tom Murphy, tmurphy33@aol.com.

New Membership Processing

Membership Secretary, Frank Sinibaldi, sinibaldif@aol.com, announced that the procedures for processing new members have been revised to streamline this important step and enable new members to start participating in Committee activities more expeditiously. One Applies for membership in the Main Committee and subcommittees of an ASTM technical committee with submission of the ASTM membership application form. Upon receipt, Headquarters places new members as *pending* on the main committee roster. Applications are reviewed and provisions



for official voting and assignment of classification are made by the membership secretary with review and approval by the executive subcommittee.

Applicants for membership in a subcommittee must have been approved for membership in the main committee. The process will be executed concurrently. Requests for subcommittee membership are reviewed and provisions for official voting and assignment of classification are determined by the subcommittee chairman. Frank Sinibaldi (left), membership secretary and Steve Luko, Chairman of Subcommittee E11.10 confer on a membership classification.

We are looking to the extraordinary pool of skills and knowledge among our rapidly growing membership, which at last count had reach 260, to increasingly play an active role in standards development as leaders and contributors through the medium of virtual meetings, (see the lead article). You can now enjoy the benefits of active participation without the demands on your time and or the usual costs associated with attending our semiannual live meetings. Come join this friendly, knowledgeable family of industry experts.

Subcommittee E11.10

Subcommittee E11.10 has a new vice-chairman – Chuck Proctor, chproctor@msn.com. Chuck, professor emeritus, North Carolina State University, is a world class theoretical statistical mathematician. He has been an active member since 1985, and has an impressive unbroken record of attendance at our semiannual meetings. Welcome to your new post, Chuck.



E11.10 has work underway on three standards, (1) Practice for Sampling Indexed by AQL (WK354), (2) a conversion of MilStd 105E to an ASTM Standard, and (3) a new Standard Guide to Sampling. Steve Luko, Chairman of E11.10, stephen.luko@pw.utc.com, advises that he has authorized registration of a work Item for the MilStd 105E project as soon as details of the title, scope and rationale have been settled. The scope of the new Guide to Sampling will include the housing of all E11 sampling terms together with a basic

guide for several types of sampling common to users of ASTM Standards. Steve Luko will chair the task group himself. For more detailed information or to volunteer for any of these projects, contact Steve Luko. Just double click on the email link. If this doesn't work, copy the email address to the address edit box on your browser and then click go.

Subcommittee E11.20

First, the good news, E2282, *Standard Guide for Defining the Test Result of a Test Method*, has

Please Note: Filling The Task Group Chair Position for WK 1174 Promptly is Crucial.

been published and will appear in the new edition of Volume 14.02 of the ASTM Book of Standards..

Neil Ullman, <mailto:Neill@ullman.net>, advises that Subcommittee E11.20 is seeking new chairpersons for three task groups: **E1169**, *Standard Guide for Conducting Ruggedness Tests*, **E1323**, *Standard Guide for Evaluating Laboratory Measurement Practices*, newly inherited from Committee E36, and **Wk1174**, *Standard Guide for Determining and Using the Anticipated Detection Limit*, newly inherited from subcommittee E11.10.

E1169, has been on the ASTM book of standards since 1989. It was superseded by the current version in 2002. It remains a crucial first step in the development of a new standard but it needs additional updating.

E1323 covers key elements of an evaluation of a laboratory's measurement practices and the statistical analysis of the resulting data. The current version supersedes E1323(89) and was adopted in 2002.

WK1174, is a new standard guide that provides a method for using data from an inter-laboratory study to estimate the detection limit and will furnish a formula to calculate an anticipated detection limit (ADL) to compare to the estimated detection limit (EDL) to judge adequacy of the measurement method. Users and producers of analytic chemistry test methods need a simple definition and calculation for detection limit to summarize the multiple definitions currently in play.

The vacancy in the chairmanship of the task groups for **WK1174** is of matter of concern as this is a new standard, not an existing one. Task groups are expected to hold at least two meetings a year during the semiannual E11 meetings. **Task groups that fail to hold to this minimum are subject to review of progress and possible dismissal for lack of enough interest to justify further work.** Contact Neil, <mailto:Neill@ullman.net>, ASAP. If you need to judge the adequacy of measurement methods the task group for **E1174** needs your input and experience. Don't be shy about volunteering.

Task Group for **E1488**, *Standard Guide for Statistical Procedures to Use in Developing and Applying ASTM Test Methods*, is chaired by Neil Ullman, <mailto:Neill@ullman.net>. It is the core standard relating to **measurement uncertainty** and was central to the recent COTCO initiative in circular letter ballot #720 sent to all ASTM committees. Neil spearheaded the E11 response which was ultimately adopted by COTCO. There is much updating, revision and expansion that need prompt attention as measurement uncertainty is now an arena of rapidly developing world wide concern. Your background and experience are needed. Check with Neil.

Bob Sichi, <mailto:robert.r.sichi@pmusa.com>, is a very busy and capable statistician who does a fair amount of traveling. In addition to his talents, Bob is a valuable resource for real world experimental data. He is chairing the task groups for **E691**, *Standard Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method*, and the task group for **WK3561**, *Practice for Estimating the Uncertainty of a Test Result Using Control Chart Techniques*. Bob really needs some help. Drop him a line and find out where you might fit in.

Ron Holsinger, <mailto:rholsinger@amrl.net>, is chairing the task group for **WK663**, *Practice for Statistical Methods for Evaluating Proficiency Test Data*. This standard describes schemes for the statistical analysis of laboratory test results. The primary users of this standard would be proficiency testing program providers for establishing methods for analyzing data, rating laboratories, and reporting results. Other users could be laboratory accreditation bodies, and regulatory authorities. Participating Testing laboratories could use results as a cornerstone of quality management. This is a standard, the practical ramifications of which could ultimately affect competitiveness among commercial laboratories. The task group is where birth is given to new standards and is where the scope and technical underpinnings of standards are shaped. Pragmatic owner/managers of commercial laboratories will recognize that they have a significant stake in this standard. Interested readers should contact Ron as soon as possible. You don't have to be an ASTM member to serve on a task group.

Peter Fortini, <mailto:pfortini@wyeth.com>, is chairing the new task group for **WK3539**, *Practice for reporting uncertainty of test results and use of the term measurement uncertainty in ASTM test methods*. The purpose of this practice is to present concepts necessary for understanding the term "uncertainty" when applied to a quantitative test method result. Alex Lau, our new vice chairman of E11.30 has some concerns about unilateral bias corrections by laboratories performing standard tests where the bias correction is not a part of the standard. This arises with empirical tests where

*Added Leadership
From An Old Hand*

*Three New Work
Items Are Hot Is-
sues*

*E11.70 Plays a Vital
Role in Bringing
Standards Into Full
Conformance with
ASTM Form and
Style*

the test result is defined in terms of the test method. It is a potentially controversial issue that Peter Fortini's TG will be addressing. It is expected that this work item will be balloted for the first time by the end of 2004. It is not too late to get in on the ground floor with this task group and make sure your ideas and concerns are addressed to your satisfaction. Contact Peter Fortini ASAP.

Subcommittee E11.30

Alex Lau, a dynamic, well informed and energetic leader with Exxonmobile returns after a short hiatus to play an active role as vice chairman of subcommittee E11.30. Welcome back, Alex.

In addition to the five standards under the jurisdiction of subcommittee E11.30, there are three new hot items in the wings. One involves extensions to E2281, *Standard Practice for Process and Measurement Capability Indices*, specifically converting standard errors to PPM, and plotting of indexes. Chairman Frank Sinibaldi, <mailto:sinibaldif@aol.com>, is looking for a volunteer to chair this task group.

Another is planned as an entirely new standard focused on basic statistical analysis, including the mean, median, standard deviation, variance, range, minimum, maximum, confidence interval, skewness, kurtosis, coefficient of variation, histograms, stem and leaf, box plot and dot plots. Steve Luko, <mailto:stephen.luko@pw.utc.com>, is chairing this task group. This is a new initiative for which the task group ranks are not yet filled so task group volunteers are still welcome. Lastly is another new standard on control charts. Among other things this standard will address rules for rational subgrouping, a perennial problem in control charting. Dean Neubauer, <mailto:neubauerdv@corning.com>, is chairing this task group. This is another new initiative for which task group ranks are not filled and volunteers are still welcome.

Editorial Subcommittee E11.70

At the April, 2004, meeting Subcommittee E11.70 completed a revision to the E11 terminology policy, which was approved by the Exec, and will go out to the E11 membership as part of bylaws revision. The policy states that:

- The E11 technical subcommittees shall be responsible for developing and balloting terms and their definitions, and as they are approved these shall be editorially included in E 456, the E11 terminology standard, with an attribution to the technical standard that is the source of the term.
- Each technical standard shall have a terminology section, whether or not any terms are defined in the standard.
- The terminology subcommittee shall be responsible for maintaining the jurisdiction of E11 terms and for resolving jurisdictional disputes on terminology.
- Terms listed in *definitions of terms specific to a standard* in an E11 technical standard shall not be included in E 456.
- Insofar as possible, E11 terms should be harmonized with ISO 3534 Statistics – Vocabulary and Symbols.

A draft proposal was received from COTCO prior to the meeting, sent to committee chairs and terminology chairs, suggesting options for a terminology management section in the model by-laws. Their proposal departed from E11 policy in a number of ways, in that: (1) balloting of term definitions would be conducted by the terminology subcommittee, (2) technical standards would hold no terms but would refer to the committee terminology standard, (3) terms listed in "*Definitions of terms specific to a standard*" would be included in the committee terminology standard. E11 sent a reply to COTCO and offered our policy as an alternate model.

Tom Murphy, <mailto:tmurphy33@aol.com>, and Neil Ullman, <mailto:Neil1@ullman.net>, present and past E11 terminology chairs, attended the spring meeting of Committee E02 on Terminology and found out that the current COTCO proposal originated in E02 and was based on a particular committee's terminology management model. This model was different from older E02 proposal that the E11 model was based on. E02 assured us that the COTCO proposal was only under evaluation and would not be mandatory, even if adopted in its proposed form. We offered to work with E02 to develop alternative terminology management models.

The editorial review function for E11 ballot items is under the leadership of Peter Fortini, E11.70 Vice Chair. The reviewers are Eric Boes, Brad Murphy, and Frederick Schall. A successful test run of this process was conducted this past December on a new standard ballot. All task groups should include a two - four week time period for editorial review in their planning when preparing items for ballot.

This is an On Going Initiative

Human Resources Inventory

Based on initial results, the human resources inventory survey form has been modified to include areas of expertise that members feel they would be comfortable in taking a leadership role in standards development. The new form will be sent to all new members. We are considering, however, sending the new form to members who did not respond to the initial survey later this year to expand our coverage more quickly. Your cooperation will be much appreciated.

Please Remove Me From your Mailing List

[Click Here to send Message](#)

If you have already asked to be removed from our mailing list and have again received our newsletter, we apologize for the annoyance. In a catastrophic failure of our hard disc, all our records were destroyed. Please repeat the process.

