

EUROLAB Newsletter

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Newsbriefing No. 3/2020

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Dear EUROLAB members,



- 2 Please find below the third EUROLAB newsbriefing of 2020 with information regarding the actions carried out by EUROLAB and developments relevant to the laboratory community.
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- 12 In the current context, laboratory activity is experiencing a moment of transition of organizational, social and technological models, highlighting the growing importance of digitalization, teleworking and AI, among others. The necessary adaptation to new realities is a huge challenge for everyone and, in particular, to rethink the role of EUROLAB in this evolutionary process.
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- 18 Thinking about the future, EUROLAB joins the TIC Council, promoting events that aim to discuss the challenges and solutions to overcome successfully the new times expected. In this context, I would like to highlight the initiative that will be organized together this October, focused on the "laboratory of the future and the future of laboratories", with speakers and round tables that intend to expose different perspectives on the theme. I look forward to your participation and interest.
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- 19 Today, for EUROLAB, there are different aspects that motivate reflection and that guide its action, from the start, the perception that its representation of the laboratory community is quite diverse, from small to large organizations, public and private, with different challenges such as, testing new characteristics of products and materials, maintain support for traditional activities with classic production models, and develop forms of evaluation and conformity assessment associated with algorithms and digital systems of high technological level.
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- 21 EUROLAB is a European project created in 1990 to network laboratories. Today we are proud to represent and voice more than 9.000 laboratories and 150.000 high skilled professionals of the large community of laboratories in Europe, believing that laboratories are key to develop a better future based on Quality and Innovation.
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Thank you for your time and keep safe and healthy!

EUROLAB President

Álvaro Silva Ribeiro

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National Members News

ALPI

- TÜV Italia Group: a new Testing Laboratory went live near Turin



The new Testing Laboratory of TÜV Italia Group opened its doors in Volpiano near Turin in mid-August. It creates one single testing hub instead of the former 5 facilities in 2 locations of the TÜV Italia Product Services Division and the Bytest Laboratories.

The project began 12 months ago in Summer 2019 and has been completed almost on time despite the 3 months of lockdown in Italy. In total, the new Lab consists of an area of 8.000 sqm: 2.000 sqm for the offices and 6.000 sqm for the plenty of different testing labs, as for instance a state of the art 10m semi-anechoic EMC chamber and a new bunker for non-destructive radiographic tests.

The new Laboratory is one of the largest third-party testing laboratories in Italy and in Europe, with a broad portfolio of services for Aerospace, Automotive and the Oil & Gas industry.

"We are very proud" - says Oliver Jacob, CEO of TÜV Italia and WE Region - "that the project has come to life so successfully and the lab is now operational. We are sending the market a very encouraging message because TÜV SÜD invests in the future even during this challenging period and confirms its growth path."



ASCOLAB

- ASCOLAB continues to assist the Gecamines' BU/US central laboratory of Panda in the implementation of ISO/IEC 17025:2017



ASCOLAB signed in May 2020 a contract following a purchase order with BU/US Management and Direction of laboratories department and with the sche-

dule of agreed activities:

1. Training of Staff in ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard and others associated standards.
2. Writing quality manual, SOPs and records what needs be integrated, updated, kept or deleted.
3. Internal audit, actions plan after audit. This work plan includes compliance actions, responsibilities and deadlines.
4. Selection and training of internal auditors' candidates.
5. Review management and a follow-up plan of the planned actions will be developed to assess the degree of achievement. This evaluation will be made by the Quality Team.
6. Documentation review and submission documentation for an initial assessment will be carried out / conducted by SADCAS.



Figure 1—ABC of QMS Training in progress

But with the COVID-19 health crisis, the program has been completely altered and a new timetable has been adopted to carry out the activities of developing the manual, procedures and records remotely from the months of May to August 2020.

After the lockdown in September activities were rescheduled, in particular:

- (a) ABC of QMS Vocabularies, Principles and Problem Solving;
- (b) Calculation of measurement uncertainties and Decision rule;
- (c) Documentary audit;
- (d) Training in ISO / IEC 17025: 2017 and Metrology;
- (e) ISO 19011: 2018 internal audit training New practices.

(a), (b) and (c) for September 2020, (d) and (e) for October 2020.

With all these activities it will be possible to plan the activities provided above in the contract in points (3) and (4) for November and December 2020.

So, the Panda Central Laboratory will be able to receive SADCAS assessors at the start of the 1st quarter of 2021.



Figure 2—Calculation of measurement uncertainties and decision rule training

Croatian Metrology Society

• Impact of the COVID-19 on the work of laboratory for preparation of microbiological media

High quality medical diagnostic is supported by chemical, physical and microbiological measurements using new technologies, knowledge and experience. The laboratory for preparing microbiological media (MM) in time of COVID-19 has done the transport medium for detection of viruses (Hanks` s solution).

It is used after taking a nasopharyngeal swab before the use of the RT-PCR method. Its function is to preserve the active virus in the clinical sample. Therefore, the transport medium is a useful and unavoidable system for transporting the virus in active form to the laboratory for isolation. The records of all stages of preparation and quality control of the MM, ensures the traceability of each issued microbiological finding.

Laboratory infrastructure is a key component of a modern Quality Infrastructure (QI) system with high technical requirements. QI includes the technical and administrative procedures established by the standard ISO/IEC 17025:2017 which guarantee the quality of measurements. In addi-



Figure 1—Hank's solution

tion to the quality of management system, the laboratory adheres to all set criteria. The standard requirements of the laboratory are to plan and implement actions to address risks and opportunities. This is reflected on impartiality, statements of conformity, management of nonconforming work, and management reviews.

By applying assessment of a potential risk, causes of risks in laboratories can be predicted or reduced. Therefore, using a risk analysis, the FMEA method, we obtain a clear and transparent picture of potential situations that could lead to complications in the production of Hanks` s solution. The greatest sources of risk were found to be staff and equipment.

In terms of staff, the laboratory has done the following preventive actions to reduce risk: continued education, split staff into two teams to prevent the spread of COVID-19, enhanced safety measures at work as well as held social distancing.



Figure 2—Measuring pH value in Hank's solution

At the time of the pandemic, the laboratory also implemented more frequent checking of equip-

ment and enhanced internal quality control measures. This was done in order to ensure a good preparation of Hanks's solution that affects the results of SARS-CoV-2 detection by RT-PCR.

From IQC the following were applied:

- use of certified reference materials (CRM)
- use of reference materials
- repeating the test by the same method
- intralaboratory comparisons
- application of control charts.

Also, the laboratory plans an internal audit as well as a management audit to verify the adequacy of the quality of infrastructure system.

PhD Anita Rakić, Public Health Institute of Split and Dalmatia County, Croatia

EUROLAB-CZ

eurolab-cz

• Contactless measurement of deformation in tests—An innovative way of testing

Technical and Test Institute for Construction Prague, SOE, member of EUROLAB-CZ, has implemented a variety of test procedures contactless measurement of deformation by laser in laboratory in its branch in the city of Brno.

This mode of measurement of change of length allows for scanning and recording until total failure of test specimen occurs. This approach gives complete information on behaviour of test specimen during the all time of test. Obviously, automatic record of full relation of test force/ deformation in graphic form and fully automatic control of test procedure in test machine either by force management or by deformation management are integral part of such tests.



Figure 1—Test arrangement of product similar to geotextiles

This manner of measurement has a substantial advantage in the marking of the measured base only by two bonded reflective strips. It allows to test safely, with high accuracy and without undesired damage specimens of tested materials, for which mounting of conventional contact sensors would be risky or even impossible.

Contactless record of deformations is used for a number of less common, but also very common test procedures, such as:

- Tensile tests of geotextiles and similar product
- Tensile tests of glass fibre meshes for ETICS
- Tensile tests of fibre reinforcement for concrete
- Tensile tests of pultruded fibre-composite profiles
- Tensile tests of steel reinforcement for concrete
- Tests of modulus of elasticity of concrete either in pressure or in bending
- Tests of shear characteristics of thermal insulation products
- Tests of bending characteristics of steel- or synthetic-fibre reinforced concrete
- Tensile or bending tests of plastic materials, etc.

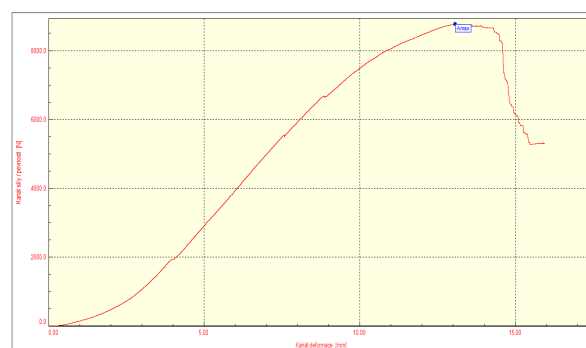


Figure 2—Example of recorded working relation of tested material

Contactless measurement of deformations has a considerable advantage in the fact that it allows to accurately deformations even in places, where conventional sensors cannot be placed for limited space. Only an appropriate gap for the optical beam is sufficient in such cases. Measurement is performed usually on one tested base of test specimen only, but if necessary, technical equipment of the laboratory allows to measure on two different places or from two different sides.

Information on tests:

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MAKLAB

- The new MAKLAB website has been launched

In this period of adjusting to the new global reality affected by COVID 19 pandemic, we at MAKLAB have focused on creating new web site for our association.



The new website is designed for easy access to main activities of MAKLAB, providing information for past and upcoming events organized by MAKLAB.

Since the pandemic situation has an influence on every segment of the society world wide, we at MAKLAB are committed to maintaining quality communication with our members and relevant authorities using our new mail address maklab@maklab.mk



ning. The topics covered a wide range of themes, namely:

- Water for Human Consumption Sampling Techniques
- General Competence Requirements for Laboratories: NP EN ISO / IEC 17025: 2018 and the Portuguese AB Guides
- Quality Control in Water Sampling - Chemical Analysis
- Management of Industrial Laboratories
- Uncertainties in Sampling
- Non-Destructive Testing for Penetrating Liquids - Level 1 and Level 2 (according to ISO / TR 25107)
- Statistics Applied to Testing Laboratories
- Complaints and Corrective Actions, (NP EN ISO / IEC 17025: 2005 transition NP EN ISO / IEC 17025: 2018)
- Qualification Management of Chemistry Laboratory Technicians under NP EN ISO / IEC 17025
- Risk-Based Thinking in the Management of a Laboratory
- Water Analysis by Classical Methods, from Theory to Practice
- Quality Control in Chemical Analysis - With Resolution of Excel Case Studies

RELACRE

- RELACRE Webinars

As part of RELACRE's 29th anniversary celebrations, a program of webinars were designed aiming to promote some of the most relevant topics for the Portuguese Laboratory Community. The second webinar took place on September 24, 2020, with the title "Decision Rules and Conformity Assessment", presented by Álvaro Ribeiro, with nearly 100 participants.



- Training activities for laboratories

Following the constrains found in the training activities due to Covid-19, RELACRE is adapting many of the training activities using the online approach, with the cooperation of many of the trainers and experts that provide new ways of capacity building. Since July, RELACRE organized 13 training courses, 11 of them using a virtual platform, providing more than 170 hours of training.



- Proficiency Testing Activities

RELACRE is developing a large number of proficiency testing programmes for the laboratory community. One of the most relevant is the annual proficiency testing related with sampling of water for human consumption, being held in 21 and 22 September in the facilities of "Águas do

Norte” of the “Águas de Portugal Group”, partner in this process, in the City of Braga (Portugal). In this PT RELACRE had 75 participants, including 49 certified technician and 26 Laboratories. Another proficiency testing was held in 15 Sept. 2020 at LNEG (National Laboratory for Energy and Geology), related with sampling and testing of 19 parameters on waste water, with 49 participants.



On 29 Sept. 2020, the Water Proficiency Testing (EAA) took place in Oliveira do Hospital (Coimbra), with 48 parameters together with a sampling proficiency testing for radioactive parameters in Water (Radon), with a total of 62 participants on both PT's. Other proficiency testings that are being carried out include: non-destructive testing, electrical counters, construction materials - aggregates and calibration (multimeters, weighing instruments, frequency meters, burettes and dial gauges).

• NDT Workshop

OLYMPUS and RELACRE are organizing a Workshop about new technologies applied in the non-destructive testing, based on phased array. The Workshop will have a practical approach focused in the use and good practices of this type of testing equipment. The Workshop will be held in Lisbon, during 8th and 9th of October.



COIMBRA, 10 E 11 DEZEMBRO 2020



• NDT Portuguese National Conference

RELACRE and the NDT Sectorial Forum (FSEND), with the support of the University of Coimbra, are jointly organizing the 5th National Conference of NDT, to be held in 10 and 11 of Dec. 2020 at the University of Coimbra.

• 13th ECNDT

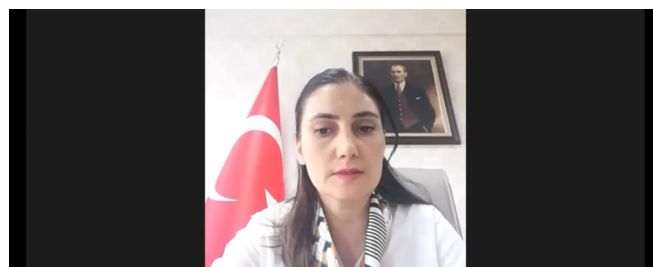
RELACRE is the host of the 13th ECNDT (European Conference on Non-Destructive Testing), to be held in Lisbon in 2020.

TURKLAB

• TURKLAB Sectoral Interview July 2, 2020



Sakine OVACILLI, President of the Research and Development Institute for Occupational Health and Safety, and her colleagues Meltem METE KILIÇ, Kadriye ÇINAR, Barış KONUKLAR and Dr. Bülent GEDİKLİ joined a live zoom session that lasted about one hour.



Following an initial informative talk by the President of the Research and Development Institute for Occupational Health and Safety about the current state of affairs, Dr. Bülent GEDİKLİ talked about the work currently being done by the Head Department and the Institute in reference to COVID-19 and what is in the pipeline in the coming months. Meltem Mete Kılıç provided general information on the revision of the “Regulation on Laboratories for Industrial Hygiene Measurement and Test Analysis”.

• TURKLAB Sectoral Interview July 16, 2020

Mechanical Engineer Filiz PEHLİVAN, founding partner of FNP Mühendislik Müşavirlik Ltd. Şti., joined us on July 16, 2020 in the context of our interview series with industry representatives, technical experts and stakeholders to talk about “Covid-19 Contamination Dynamics and Mechanical Installation Systems”.

The interview also addressed Covid-19 contamination dynamics and the mechanical installation design of ventilation systems. Another focal point was about potential ways of preventing the airborne spread of virus particles.

• TURKLAB Technical Seminars July 23, 2020

The webinar on “Aflatoxin and PAH Analyses Using HPLC with Highly Sensitive Fluorescence



Detection Technologies”, organized jointly by TURKLAB and ANT TEKNİK, took place on July 23, 2020 and it drew great attention from our members.

The presentations by Ozan Halisçelik, Assistant Manager, and Ömer Halit Turmuş, Application Team Lead at Ant Teknik, dwelt upon the working principles and hardware of HPLC, as well as the 17-point PAH analysis for drinking water and wastewater with high sensitivity fluorescence detectors and aflatoxin analysis in foods, vital themes for food and environmental safety.



On September 4, 2020, a one-day training course on Measurement Uncertainty for employees of Standart Pompa took place. The participants got insights about ways of ensuring metrological traceability, approaches to estimate measurement uncertainty and statistical methods. Learners calculated measurement uncertainty using the company's own test methods.



- **Azerbaijan AZETEST Calibration ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Training**

TURKLAB Academy organized the online standard training “TS EN ISO/IEC 17025:2017” for employees of the Azerbaijan-based AZETEST Calibration Laboratory from 29 to 30 July 2020. Quintessentially a training course with a practical side, the seminar focused on case studies and pre and post training tests. Case studies were carried out on the changes associated with the second revision of the ISO 17025:2017 standard, in particular on risk and opportunity analysis.

- **TURKLAB Technical Seminars August 13, 2020**

Jointly organized by TURKLAB and MERCK, the webinar on “Quality Levels of Reference Materials and the Selection of the Right Reference Material” took place on August 13, 2020.

Merck Jr. Following a presentation by Marketing Manager Mehtap Şahan on the 352 years old history of Merck and Merck's new portfolio of brands in the field of life sciences, there was a fruitful talk and discussion about important terms and definitions in the world of reference materials, the matters to be considered in the Certificate of Analysis and certification methods for reference materials. The important differences between reference material quality levels were then explained and the importance of choosing the right reference material for quality was highlighted.

- **Measurement Uncertainty Training September 4, 2020**

TIC Market Trends

Business Developments

- ALS has partnered with the advanced online oil condition monitoring (OCM) provider Poseidon Systems. [Read more.](#)
- AmSpec, in conjunction with ASTM, CCQTA and major H₂S scavenger supplies, has developed and validated a precise method for quantitation of tramp amines in crude oil. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ in India has started to provide inspection services for solar power plant projects. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ has started to incorporate into its pathology reports the 3D modelling of the regasification plant in the Port of Sagunto, Valencia. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ has become part of the construction an offshore pipeline of several sections with Carbon Steel and Corossion Resistant Alloy in West Africa. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ Velosi in Saudi Arabia has mobilised to carry out quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC) site inspections on welding, pipe-coatings and electrical installations on a large refinery project in Saudi Arabia. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ has extended the scope of its accreditation for the Quantitative Risk Analysis (QRA) activity, within the environmental inspection of soil and groundwater field associated with potentially polluting activities. [Read more.](#)
- Baltic Control has been appointed by General Administration of Customs in the People's Republic of China to inspect, supervise and certify their imports of waste materials exported from Denmark. [Read more](#)
- Bureau Veritas has launched Supply-R, a solution designed to meet companies' new challenges relating to supplier network reliability and ensuring business continuity in all circumstances. [Read more.](#)
- Bureau Veritas and The Ascott Limited (Ascott) have signed a global agreement to provide audits and certification for the hygiene and safety standards of Ascott's properties worldwide. [Read more.](#)
- Bureau Veritas and the 'French Flag' have developed a compliance approach for SeaOwl's remotely-operated vessel project. [Read more.](#)
- Bureau Veritas has approved the hygiene measures implemented by the private airport operator VINCI Airports in its network of airports in France, the United Kingdom and Portugal. [Read more.](#)
- China Leon Inspection Holding Limited has successfully launched the SAP-ERP project. [Read more.](#)
- Control Union and Peterson has turned 100 years old. [Read more.](#)
- Control Union South Africa has announced the exclusive partnership with the South African Organic Sector Organisation (SAOSO) in order to further develop and strengthen the organic sector in South Africa. [Read more.](#)
- Control Union and Zero Plastic Oceans have launched a new component to their Ocean Bound Plastic (OBP) certification program. Initially designed to encourage the recycling of OBP, this program has been reinforced by the introduction of a label promoting the collection and proper disposal of non-recyclable OBP. [Read more.](#)
- Cotecna has opened new sample preparation lab for metals and minerals analysis in Turkey, which will be offering a wide range of inspection and testing services. [Read more.](#)
- Cotecna has announced that they have been appointed by AGANOR (Agence Gabonaise de Normalisation) to support Gabon's verification of conformity programme PROGEC (Programme Gabonais d'Évaluation de la Conformité). [Read more.](#)

- **Cotecna** has been appointed by SFDA (Saudi Food & Drugs Authority) as a Conformity Assessment Body to operate Verification of Conformity (VOC) programmes for Food and Cosmetic Products imported into Saudi Arabia. [Read more.](#)
- **CWM Survey & Inspection** has been accepted by the Malaysian Authorities as a certified and registered 3rd party inspection company for scrap metal imports. [Read more.](#)
- **DEKRA** has been recognized as an Authorized Laboratory by ioXt Alliance to perform testing services for Internet-of-Things cybersecurity market. [Read more.](#)
- **DEKRA** has become an authorized third-party test Lab for Alexa Built-in devices. [Read more.](#)
- **DEKRA** has announced the beginning of vehicle inspections in Mexico. DEKRA has been commissioned by the Mexican state of Jalisco to open six emission check stations with 42 lanes in Guadalajara, the country's second-largest city. They are expected to open in the spring of 2021. [Read more.](#)
- **DEKRA** has awarded the first DEKRA seal for industrial lifting accessories. The first company to be certified, J.D. Theile GmbH & Co. KG (JDT) of Schwerte, is an international manufacturer of chain slings and hoisting chains as well as lifting accessories and attachment points in grades 8, 10 and 12. [Read more.](#)
- **DEKRA** has further expanded its automotive testing and certification services in Asia. [Read more.](#)
- **DEKRA** experts have developed an online assessment tool for determining the fitness of IT security and data protection during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Read more.](#)
- **Eurofins** has published robust method to analyse SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater samples, providing early warning of potential COVID-19 outbreak at a given site. [Read more.](#)
- **Eurofins Scientific** has announced that it has received its first public long-term issuer credit rating by Moody's Investor Services which assigned an investment grade rating of Baa3 with a stable outlook. [Read more.](#)
- **Eurofins Technologies** has announced the launch of reagents for automated isolation of high-quality SARS-CoV-2 RNA (ribonucleic acid) from viral particles of human respiratory specimens. [Read more.](#)
- **Eurofins Technologies** has announced the world's first AOAC performance tested methods SM status for a screening method to detect Aflatoxin M1. [Read more.](#)
- **Eurofins U.S. Clinical Diagnostics** has announced the launch date of its pooled PCR test to detect SARS-CoV-2 and significantly reduce the price per PCR test for clients. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek Caleb Brett** has expanded capability in Oil Condition Monitoring services to support clients in Asia and Europe. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has expanded personal protective equipment services and COVID-19 solutions with N95 Respirator Precertification Testing. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has launched functional safety design evaluation and certification program for industrial automated machinery and robotics. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has launched surface hygiene testing for the oil & gas market as part of the Intertek Protek Assurance programme. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has announced the launch of the SourceClear™ that allows brands to show visibility and traceability of their product sustainability claims across the supply chain. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has announced the first certification under its Zero Ozone Verification program, granted to RGF Environmental Group for their HALO-LED™ air purification system. The certification illustrates that the HALO-LED™ system complies with Intertek's stringent indoor air quality requirements for ozone emissions in North America. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has launched Protek in the Middle East and has won multiple contracts including Saudi Arabian ALBAIK Quick Service Restaurants. [Read more.](#)

- **Intertek** has started to support Penlon with electromagnetic compatibility testing for its ESO 2 Emergency Ventilator Project to meet rising demand for ventilators during COVID-19 pandemic. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has announced the approval to perform Sedex Virtual Assessments (SVA) to provide remote audits of sites and workplaces around the world. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek & Roquette** have announced the launch of a new shared audit program dedicated to the food industry. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has joined forces with Sinopharm Tech to establish an accredited face-mask testing laboratory in Hong Kong. [Read more.](#)
- **KIWA** will provide assessment and certification of Safe Tourism in Turkey. [Read more.](#)
- **KIWA** has received renewed CSR management system certificate. [Read more.](#)
- **KIWA** has started setting up a new hydrogen test rig in the Netherlands. [Read more.](#)
- **KIWA** and **ABS Quality Evaluations** have launched a new COVID-19 preventive measures standard for the American hospitality industry. [Read more.](#)
- **KIWA** has joined forces with **AQS Nederland**, strengthening its position in the food, feed and farm sectors. [Read more.](#)
- **QIMA** have provided an overview of the most relevant changes to compliance regulations worldwide. [Read more.](#)
- **Ravi Energie** has been accredited by Quality Council of India to carry out Workplace Assessment for Safety and Hygiene. [Read more.](#)
- **RINA** has partnered with **Bio Feeder** and **SCHOTTEL** to carry out a customized upgrade to the Norwegian bulk carrier "Kryssholm", carrying out the review of the proposed solutions, the approval of the design, the certification of the components and the commissioning on board. [Read more.](#)
- **RINA** has helped launching the new **EU GREENFOOT H2020** project in order to finance football building energy efficiency renovations and renewable energy installations through a crowd-funding scheme. [Read more.](#)
- **Saybolt** has opened an office in Ghent. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has received approval from Belgium's Federal Agency for Medicines and Health Products (FAMHP) and has initiated the first site to begin a new clinical trial of a potential treatment for patients with COVID-19 related respiratory failure. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has recently opened its new state-of-the-art commercial geochemistry laboratory in Tarkwa, Ghana. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has partnered with **Sampoerna School Systems** to provide enhanced control of its current hygiene and disinfection protocols, fit for COVID-19 purposes, to ensure the safety of its employees and students during the reopening of its head office and campuses. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has worked together with **HotellerieSuisse** to launch measurable monitoring of cleaning and disinfection in the Swiss hospitality industry. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has opened its new purpose-built geochemical laboratory in Townsville, Queensland, Australia. The laboratory will offer increased capacity, improved client services, in-house analysis and new analytical technologies for metals and mining groups, operating exploration of greenfields and brownfields. [Read more.](#)
- **SVTI** (Swiss Association for Technical Inspections) has held their 151st General Assembly on June 24th, 2020. [Read more.](#)
- **SZU** has recently become a recognized inspection and certification body of the ENplus® wood pellet certification scheme. [Read more.](#)

- TÜV Austria's task force 'TÜV Trust IT' has investigated "User Trust Experience" (UTE) in cooperation with Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University and Huawei UCD centre. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV NORD has announced it will certify the world's largest offshore wind turbine, the SG 14-222 DD prototype, on its way to market maturity. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV NORD has monitored a test programme for Transmashholding in Egypt to assess the reliability of wagons in real operation. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV Rheinland of North America has started to implement excellence centre program for product testing. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV Rheinland has received full membership of the Association of Professional Social Compliance Auditors (APSCA). [Read more.](#)
- TÜV Rheinland has extended dates for IATF 16949 certificates / risk assessment based on monitoring as an alternative to surveillance audit / close consultation with auditing companies required for corporate audits. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV Rheinland of North America has implemented Excellence Center Program for Product Testing. "Under One Roof" is being implemented as the next step in the company's overall growth strategy and in an effort to continue streamlining operations and providing a better overall customer experience. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV Rheinland has implemented several projects with Startup Synthesia, a company for AI-supported video production. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD has started cooperating with DRIVESEC to provide cybersecurity solutions. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD has published the complete guidelines for Hyperloop applications. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD's National Engineering Laboratory has undergone developing standards for accurate flow metering and pricing at hydrogen refuelling stations as part of the European Metrology Programme for Innovation and Research (EMPIR). [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD Dunbar Boardman has secured a place on an £80M Fusion 21 Lifts Framework Programme. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD Japan has launched certification service for Blue Light Ratio in July 2020. This service provides a certification mark including the percentage of the Blue Light Ratio for PC, televisions, smartphones, and other devices that have been tested according to international standards. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD has developed a sustainability assessment scheme for battery production which is currently undergoing implementation for the first time in a pilot project with Microvast GmbH. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD has summarised its services for a sustainable hydrogen industry under the banner of "Hydrogen: fuelling a green future". [Read more.](#)
- UL has released an end-to-end EMV (Europay, MasterCard and Visa) certification program to help ensure seamless acceptance of U.S. Bank Voyager Fleet Card chip-enabled fleet transactions. [Read more.](#)
- UL has announced the relocation of the Poland office and laboratory, to a strategic new location in Warsaw beginning on August 10th, 2020. [Read more.](#)
- UL has advanced wireless innovation with an expanded Silicon Valley 5G testing facility. [Read more.](#)
- UL has launched BIS recognised toy testing services in India. [Read more.](#)
- UL has received accreditation from the Digital Illumination Interface Alliance (DiiA) to be a Digital Addressable Lighting Interface (DALI) protocol test house. [Read more.](#)
- UL's materials testing laboratory in Krefeld, Germany, has been approved as an external laboratory for emission testing according to PV 3942 for Volkswagen component validation. PV 3942 tests the emission behavior of parts, components and semi-finished products for vehicle interiors. [Read more.](#)

- UL has launched BIS recognised testing services for Solar PV Inverter manufacturers in India. [Read more.](#)
- UL has collaborated with Agilis to simplify chemical material and ingredient sourcing. [Read more.](#)
- UL has received First Accreditation in India for testing grid code compliance as per central electricity authority standards. [Read more.](#)
- UL has joined forces with Portable Lights American Trade Organization on Portable Light Performance. A new collaboration between UL and PLATO helps to certify the performance of flashlights, headlamps, area lights, bike lights and spotlights. [Read more.](#)
- UL's European Lighting Laboratory has received Accreditation to Test Street Lighting Products for Import to Saudi Arabia. [Read more.](#)
- UL has been granted the right by Mexico's Ministry of Economy, General Directorate of Standards (DGN) to conduct safety and energy efficiency testing globally for electronic products and equipment imported into that country. [Read more.](#)
- UL has introduced its first-ever consumer and commercial robot certification document to address human-robot interaction safety concerns. [Read more.](#)
- Vallis Group Limited has assisted Yara International in the coordination and management of the logistics for the distribution of the fertilizer to farmers across Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia. [Read more.](#)

Personnel Developments

- Bureau Veritas has announced the appointment of Béatrice Place Faget, effective August 3, 2020, as Executive Vice-President in charge of Group Legal Affairs and Internal Audit. [Read more.](#)
- SGS has announced the appointment of Franck Picard PhD as Business Manager of SGS Life Sciences in France and Global Head of Bioanalysis. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD has appointed Mary Grigsby as Head of its UK Product Service division. [Read more.](#)

Mergers and Acquisition

- Control Union and Finotrol Oy have agreed on an acquisition in which the entire share capital of Finotrol Oy have been transferred to Control Union. [Read more.](#)
- Eurofins has announced the acquisition of the SunDream Group. [Read more.](#)
- Eurofins Scientific has announced that it has signed an agreement with Noritsu Koki Co., Ltd. to acquire GeneTech Inc., the pioneer in NIPT and a leading player in genetic analysis in Japan. [Read more.](#)
- SGS has announced the acquisition of Groupe Moreau, headquartered in Indre-et-Loire, France. The acquisition comprises B.C.L. Contrôle Technique, A.S.M. Contrôle Technique and Contrôle Technique RIALTO - C.T.R. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV AUSTRIA has taken over the renowned Dornbirn test and expert company Dipl.-Ing. Heinz Millner GmbH. [Read more.](#)

Accreditation and Standardisation

Accreditation

IAF/ILAC

- Following the 19th IAF-ILAC Joint General Assembly that took place on 29 October 2019 and its resolutions regarding the merger, the following documents have been published:

- ⇒ The Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee approved at the May JEC meeting.
- ⇒ The tender document for the selection of a contractor to assist IAF and ILAC in the establishment of a single international accreditation organization.
- The 2021 Joint Mid-Term meetings will be held as a series of virtual meetings, supported by Say Something Communications (SSC). The 2021 Joint Annual Meetings in-person are scheduled in Montréal, Canada, from 28 October - 06 November 2021. The 2020 Joint Annual meetings are cancelled and Committees, Working Groups and Task Forces continue to be encouraged to complete their work virtually.
- The IAF/ILAC Joint Working Group A-Series has published a series of frequently asked questions on the implementation of specific clauses of ISO/IEC 17011. Read more [here](#).
- The IAF and ILAC Secretariats have confirmed the status of the upcoming IAF and ILAC and Joint IAF and ILAC main committee meetings for the next several months.

IAF

- The following materials have been published by IAF:
 - ⇒ IAF MD 8:2020 Application of ISO/IEC 17011:2017 in the Field of Medical Device Quality Management Systems (ISO 13485), available [here](#).
 - ⇒ IAF Outlook for June 2020, available [here](#).
 - ⇒ IAF/ILAC Global Accreditation System Handbook, updated for June 2020 in accordance with the 2020-2025 IAF Strategic Plan, available [here](#).
 - ⇒ IAF Overview Presentation, updated for June 2020 in accordance with the 2020-2025 IAF Strategic Plan, available [here](#).
 - ⇒ IAF MLA Status - 23/06/2020, available [here](#).
 - ⇒ A new question (#29) has been added to the list of [COVID-19 FAQs](#).
 - ⇒ IAF Secretariat has sent out an e-mail detailing the process of nominations for a new Accreditation Body Member representative of the FOC, following Ms. Yuko Yoneoka's retirement. Nominations must be submitted to Secretary@iaf.nu, by 10 August 2020 COB.
 - ⇒ IAF has released a new issue of the IAF Outlook for April-June.
 - ⇒ The 2019 IAF MLA Annual Report, available [here](#).
 - ⇒ The 2019 IAF MLA Infographic, available [here](#).
- The 30-Day Ballot IAF ID4:202X Market Surveillance Visits to Certified Organizations (Issue 2) resulted in approval of the document.
- The 30-Day Ballot IAF ID1:202X IAF Informative Document ForQMS and EMS Scopes of Accreditation (Issue 3) resulted in approval of the document.
- The 30-Day Ballot Transitional Arrangement for ISO/IEC 27006:2015 AMD 1:2020 resulted in approval of the document.
- The IAF Executive Committee has decided to hold a half day virtual IAF General Assembly on 05 November 2020 to update Members on the progress of IAF activities since the 2019 IAF GA. Please note that voting on draft resolutions will not be done during the General Assembly itself, but via ballot immediately subsequent to the meeting. The meeting agenda, the exact timing of the meeting, the registration details, and draft resolutions will follow at a later date.
- With the nomination period for a new Financial Oversight Committee Accreditation Body Member closed, the IAF Board has appointed Mr. Yuzuru Moriuchi (JAB) to the position.
- The IAF Board has appointed Mr. Mario Andrade Castro for a three year term as Quality Manager,

effective immediately. Mr. Pedro Alves was thanked for his exemplary service during his two terms as Quality Manager.

- The ISO 9001 Auditing Practices Group News informs that the paper on "Effective use of ISO 19011" has been revised and expanded to give an overview of ISO 19011:2018. A new paper on "Auditing Digital Processes" has been published. Both can be found in "Auditing General". The paper "Electronic Documented Information Systems" has been removed as its former content is now covered by the papers on "Auditing Digital Processes" and "Remote Audits".

EA

- The EA Report 2019 has been released. You can find it [here](#).
- Regulation (EU) 2020/1056 on electronic freight transport information has been published and EA is working to determine which harmonized standard(s) would be applicable to the accreditation of certification bodies.
- EA has planned an online event on IT security and digitization on 26 November 2020 in the afternoon (14:00 – 17:00 CET). Please block the date for this online event. You will receive soon more information, including about the registration.
- Due to the Covid-19 – related situation, the EA Executive Committee has decided to cancel all Spring 2021 face-to-face EA meetings, including the EA General Assembly. All meetings will take place virtually.
- EA will have a special online workshop on the assessment/accreditation of CABs in the regulated railway sector which will take place on 08 December 2020. Further information will follow in due time.
- SWEDAC is issuing an invitation to a webinar on the Future of Accreditation to be held on 19 October 2020. For any question, please contact Linnea Holm at Linnea.Holm@swedac.se.
- Publications now available on the EA website:
 - ⇒ EA-3/12 EA Policy for the Accreditation of Organic Production Certification in "Members' Procedural Documents": read more [here](#).
 - ⇒ EA-INF/07 National Accreditation Body Communication with National Regulators – Best Practice Guide in "Information and Promotional Documents": read more [here](#).
 - ⇒ INF/05 "Directory of European legislations and EU schemes with provisions on accreditation and/or conformity assessment": read more [here](#).
 - ⇒ INF/04 "Statement on acceptance and recognition of activities under the EA MLA": read more [here](#).

ILAC

- ILAC P10:07/2020 ILAC Policy on Metrological Traceability of Measurement Results was approved for publication and is now available [here](#). This latest version of ILAC P10 has an implementation period of 12 months from the date of publication, i.e. July 2021.
- ILAC has informed that IAAC, the Inter American Accreditation Cooperation, has been recognized for the accreditation of proficiency testing providers and its recognition for the accreditation of calibration and testing laboratories, medical laboratories and inspection bodies has been continued.
- The ILAC Arrangement Council has endorsed the recommendation to recognise the APAC MRA for the accreditation of reference material producers (RMP) using ISO 17034, following the evaluation of APAC for this extension.
- ILAC is inviting nominations for the ILAC Financial Audit Committee (FAC) positions for a 3-year term. The FAC work is undertaken via email. The FAC currently consists of three members, 2 of whom come from ILAC Full Members and one from an ILAC Stakeholder. The current Stakeholder member is willing to serve another term.

The Laboratory of the future

Laboratory News

- **Monitoring COVID-19 plasma viscosity:** A clinical viscosity diagnostic instrument is proving to be valuable in the research and treatment of coronavirus after laboratory scientists have identified its ability to provide meaningful data for medical teams treating COVID-19 patients. In COVID-19 patients, a rise in plasma viscosity increases the risk of a blood clot forming (thrombosis). Routine plasma, blood and serum viscosity monitoring contributes to the understanding of COVID-19 progression and could help develop a more scientifically targeted treatment for patients producing improved recovery outcomes. [Read more.](#)

- **Algae as living biocatalysts for a green industry:** Better still: living algae can be used as biocatalysts for certain substances, and they bring the co-substrate along, producing it in an environmentally friendly manner through photosynthesis. [Read more.](#)

- **New candidate for raw material synthesis through gene transfer:** Cyanobacteria hardly need any nutrients and use the energy of sunlight. Bathers are familiar with these microorganisms - often incorrectly called "blue-green algae" - as they often occur in waters. A group of researchers at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) has discovered that the multicellular species *Phormidium lacuna* can be genetically modified by natural transformation and could thus produce substances such as ethanol or hydrogen. [Read more.](#)



- **Lab-made virus mimics COVID-19 virus:** Airborne and potentially deadly, the virus that causes COVID-19 can only be studied safely under high-level biosafety conditions. Scientists handling the infectious virus must wear full-body

biohazard suits with pressurised respirators, and work inside laboratories with multiple containment levels and specialised ventilation systems. While necessary to protect laboratory workers, these safety precautions slow down efforts to find drugs and vaccines for COVID-19 since many scientists lack access to the required bio-safety facilities. [Read more.](#)

- **Characterising acrylic polymers with Thermal Field-Flow Fractionation coupled to Multi Angle Light Scattering.** A new application report from Postnova Analytics demonstrates how Thermal Field-Flow Fractionation coupled to Multi Angle Light Scattering (TF3-MALS-RI) can be used to characterise different polyacrylate formulations. [Read more.](#)



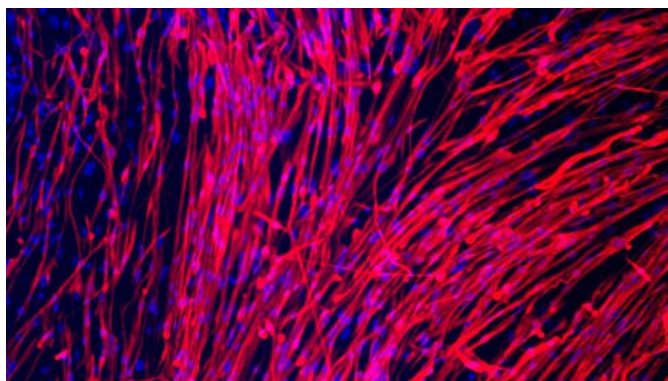
- **Hydrogel paves way for biomedical breakthrough:** A University of Sydney team of biomedical engineers has developed a plasma technology to robustly attach hydrogels (a jelly-like substance which is structurally similar to soft tissue in the human body) to polymeric materials, allowing manufactured devices to better interact with surrounding tissue. [Read more.](#)

- **AI stratification significantly improves treatment outcomes for COVID-19 patients:** An EIT Health project demonstrates early positive results on improving treatment outcomes of patients hospitalised with severe COVID-19 (as part of the EIT's Crisis Response Initiative, this project directly contributes to the European Union's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. [Read more.](#)

- **Improved cybernetics hardware - human interfacing:** Although true 'cyborgs' -- part human, part robotic beings -- are science fiction, researchers are taking steps toward integrating electronics with the body. Such devices could monitor for tumour development or stand in for

damaged tissues. But connecting electronics directly to human tissues in the body is a huge challenge. Now, a team is reporting new coatings for components that could help them more easily fit into this environment. [Read more.](#)

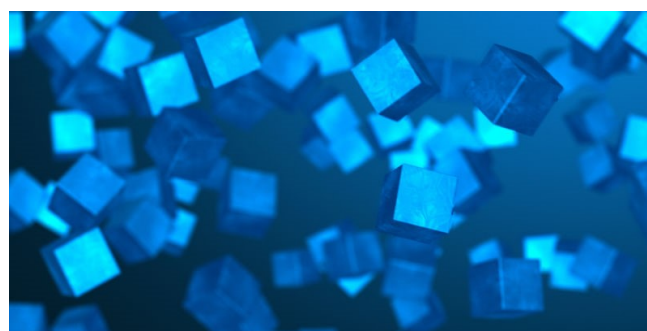
- **Medicines Discovery Catapult creates a worldwide virtual biobank:** Today, Medicines Discovery Catapult (MDC) announce the rapid expansion of its Biosamples supply network, creating one of the largest virtual biobanks worldwide accessible to life science innovators. [Read more.](#)
- **Diabetes-in-a-dish model uncovers new insights:** Using cells taken from patients with type 2 diabetes and new techniques to convert them into specialised precursors of muscle cells, researchers have developed a novel 'disease-in-a-dish' model to study the basic molecular factors that lead to the development of type 2 diabetes. [Read more.](#)



- **Elastic to kinetic energy conversion through biomimicry:** Venus flytraps do it, trap-jaw ants do it, and now materials scientists at the University of Massachusetts Amherst can do it, too - they discovered a way of efficiently converting elastic energy in a spring to kinetic energy for high-acceleration, extreme velocity movements as nature does it. [Read more.](#)
- **Environmentally friendly silicon recycling:** Skoltech scientists and their colleagues from Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU) have developed a new method of silicon recycling. Their research was published in ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering. [Read more.](#)
- **Single-step 3D printing multimaterial microstructures:** Researchers have developed an automated 3D printing method that can produce multicolour 3D microstructures using different materials. The new method could be used to make a variety of optical components including optical sensors and light-driven actuators as well

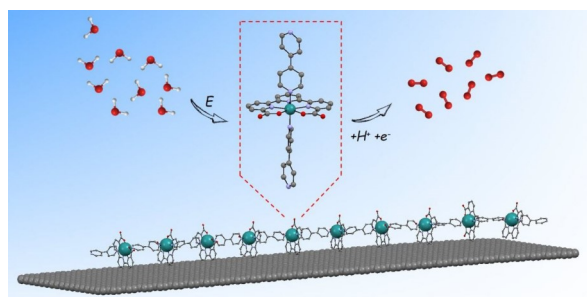
as multimaterial structures for applications such as soft robotics and medical applications. [Read more.](#)

- **New Catalyst Has Potential to Transform Chemical Manufacturing:** A newly discovered metal-free carbon-based catalyst that has the potential to be much less expensive and more efficient for many industries. [Read more.](#)
- **Chemist Develops New Type of Water-Repellent Film:** The invention can be used as a protective coating in electronics and as a part of molecular filters. [Read more.](#)
- **Team Uses Laser to Cool Polyatomic Molecule:** After firing the lasers and bombarding the molecules with light, the scientists gathered around the camera to check the results. By seeing how far these cold molecules expanded they would know almost instantly whether they were on the right track or not to charting new paths in quantum science by being the first to cool (aka slow down) a particularly complex, six-atom molecule using nothing but light. [Read more.](#)
- **Physicists Make Electrical Nanolasers Even Smaller:** Research lays the foundation for ultra-fast optical data transfer in the many core microprocessors expected to emerge in the near future. [Read more.](#)
- **New Design Principles for Spin-Based Quantum Materials:** Criteria for designing targeted quantum materials could support Internet of Things devices and other resource-intensive technologies. [Read more.](#)



- **Oligomeric Materials to Enhance Water Splitting:** The generation of electro-anodes and cathodes for water splitting devices based on molecular complexes anchored onto solid surfaces is gaining traction. [Read more.](#)

- **Singapore Scientists Develop ‘biorubber’ Glue for Faster Surgical Recovery:** Materials scientists from Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) have invented a new type of surgical glue that can help join blood vessels and close wounds faster and may also serve as a platform to deliver pain relief drugs. [Read more.](#)
- **Dedicated AI Supercomputer Moves Closer:** Progression with the UK’s largest Supercomputer received a significant boost following the signing of a four year, £5 million contract between Atos, a global leader in digital transformation and the University of Oxford to deliver the JADE-2, deep learning supercomputer. [Read more.](#)
- **Thailand LAB on October 28-30, 2020** will offer a hybrid edition to increase the accessibility of the trade fair to participants from across the globe. This year, Thailand LAB INTERNATIONAL will celebrate its 10th Anniversary with top-notch activities to be held. More than 60 conferences & seminars to be conducted both physically and virtually to update the recent industry news and knowledge for people around the world. [Read more.](#)
- The **ARABLAB+** event, originally scheduled for this September, will take place instead in Dubai on **22-24 March 2021**. The event will bring together more than 1,000 laboratories, who will have the chance to showcase their work and innovations to 10,000+ visitors and meet buyers from 100+ countries. [Read more.](#)



Laboratory Events

- On **October 19-22, 2020**, Analytica will organise the **World’s Leading Trade Fair for laboratory technology, analysis, biotechnology and analytica conference: the digital transformation of the laboratory world**. The virtual event will be mainly focused on the changes of the laboratory world against the background of increasing digitalization. [Read more.](#)
- **Advanced Engineering and Lab Innovations:** The UK Government has recently endorsed the reopening of conferences and exhibitions, releasing a series of guidelines to keep participants safe. To guarantee that these are followed to the utmost standard, Easyfairs, the organiser of Advanced Engineering UK and Lab Innovations, has partnered with SGS, the global leader in the verification of hygiene and disinfection protocols. The shows, which will be co-hosted at the NEC in Birmingham on **4 & 5 November 2020**, will follow the highest standards of safety and cleanliness. [Read more.](#)
- The **Paperless Lab Academy** will take place on **27 – 28th April 2021** in Baveno, Italy. The conference will set the stage for discussions on strategies and implementation of 21st-century technologies in the laboratory. It is about discussing key milestones to generate solid business insights from the laboratory, connecting with colleagues who share similar operational issues, learning about user’s case studies and how they are deployed into their processes, discovering the informatics trends from cutting-edge thought leaders, being in the know about the last informatics tools and methodologies in a creative and productive atmosphere. [Read more.](#)
- The **Meeting of Innovation, Collaboration and Technology**, organized by OpenPharma Research, will be scheduled in two different appointments: **26-27 October 2021, Beurs van Berlage, Amsterdam**, and **13-14 April 2021, Hilton Back Bay Boston, USA**. It is large scale, multidisciplinary conference and exhibition allowing participants to discuss and debate best practices with industry peers and solution providers. The event aims to drive the successful incorporation of new technologies and thinking into the lab to enable collaboration, foster innovation and deliver new medicines. [Read more.](#)

Policy News

Chemicals

- **Harmful chemicals:** MEPs adopted a [resolution](#) urging the European Commission to adopt a strong stance against dangerous chemicals. The resolution is providing inputs for the “European Union Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability” that will be presented by the EC in Autumn.
- **ECHA:** The European chemicals agency published [two reports](#) concerning the progressive substitution of substances of very high concerns (SVHCs) which is a key aspect of the REACH authorisation titles.
- **Skin sensitising chemicals:** ECHA’s committees are backing an EU wide restriction proposal for skin sensitizing chemicals. The substances are especially present in textile products and are causing allergic reactions for millions of consumers. If adopted by the European Commission, the restriction will be enforced through labelling and testing. You can have more information on this [link](#).

Circular economy

- **New Circular Economy:** On 2 September, Ms Anna Cavazzini (Greens/EFA) presented her [draft opinion](#) on the ENVI own-initiative report on the “New Circular Economy Action Plan”. The Rapporteur for opinion underlined the importance of the Commission’s Action Plan published in March for achieving the goals set in the European Green Deal and highlighted certain key IMCO policy areas which could be strengthened with the Parliament’s report, such as laying down a horizontal sustainable products framework, fostering reparability of products, consumer information and transparency, as well as green public procurement.

Counterfeit products

- **Amazon forms Counterfeit Crimes Unit to go after bogus sellers.** Amazon says that its existing anti-counterfeiting programs have done well so far, with the company noting that “99.9% of all Amazon products viewed by customers did not have a valid counterfeit complaint.” What’s more, the company says that in 2019, it “blocked over 6 billion suspected bad listings” and “blocked over 2.5 million suspected bad actor accounts before they were able to make a single product available for sale.” Source: [Slash Gear](#)
- **Counterfeit and illegal sellers to be targeted in Digital Services Act, Vestager says:** A crackdown on the sale of counterfeit and illegal goods across online platforms is likely to feature in the European Commission’s upcoming Digital Services Act plans, the EU’s Vice-President for Digital Affairs, Margrethe Vestager has said. Source: [Euractiv](#)
- **New Consumer Agenda:** ANEC published its [position paper](#) on the New Consumer Agenda. The report highlights the importance of standards for the protection of consumers: the understanding of safety should be enlarged in order to include security threats (e.g. Machinery Directive), while environmental standards and labelling schemes should be extended. More cooperation between Member States is encouraged with respect to market surveillance.
- **BEUC:** The consumer protection organization has released a [Position Paper on the Digital Single Act](#) (DSA). BEUC encourages the creation of a mandatory legal framework able to hold the online market places liable for the dangerous and defective products being sold online and welcomes the Commission’s initiative to upgrade the liability and safety rules for Digital platforms as it deemed the previous self-regulation attempts (e.g. the Product Safety Pledge) unsuccessful.

Cybersecurity and digitalization

- **Digital Services Act:** Ecommerce Europe published a [position paper](#) in light of the public consultation of the European Commission on the “Digital Services Act”.
- **High-level Digital Dialogue:** On 10 September, the Commission held its first [High-level Digital Dialogue](#) with China. Chaired by Executive Vice-President for A Europe Fit for the Digital Age, Margrethe Vestager, and the Vice Premier of China, Liu He, this online dialogue covered key issues such as Information and Communication Technologies standard setting, Artificial Intelligence, Product Safety of articles sold online, Digital Taxation, and Research and Innovation.
- **Super computers:** The Commission has proposed a [new Regulation](#) for the [European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking](#) to maintain and advance Europe’s leading role in supercomputing and quantum computing. The proposal would enable an investment of €8 billion in the next generation of supercomputers. This is a strategic investment priority which will underpin the entire Digital strategy, from [artificial intelligence](#) to [cloud technologies](#) and [cybersecurity](#).
- **Special Committee on AI:** The Special committee composed of 33 members has been established to study the impact and challenges related to the implementation of AI for the EU economy. The Special Committee held its constitutive meeting and elected its Chair and Vice-Chairs. You can have more information on the elected persons by following this [link](#).
- **EU Security Union Strategy:** the European Commission has set out the basis for the EU security union strategy covering the period 2020-2025 in a [Communication](#) released last week. The strategy is mainly focused on building capabilities and capacities for a future proof security environment. The importance of a cybersecurity certification framework is specifically highlighted as key enabler of this strategy.
- **Trustworthy AI:** the High-Level Expert Group on Artificial Intelligence (AI HLEG) presented their [Sectoral Recommendations on Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence \(AI\)](#) as a follow-up of the Assessment List of Trustworthy AI provided on 17 July. Three key sectors are being scrutinized: the Public Sector; the Healthcare and the manufacturing of industrial Internet of Things (IoT). The working group has identified lack of skills, data spaces and digital infrastructure as the main roadblocks to AI innovation in healthcare, manufacturing and government.
- **Eurosmart:** The trade association for Digital Security has published a [position paper](#) highlighting the complementary function of the Cybersecurity Act with respect to the eIDAS regulation concerning the electronic identification risks (i.e. electronic signature, electronic seals, time stamping, electronic delivery service and website authentication).
- **ENISA:** The European Union Agency for Cybersecurity released its [Annual Report](#) on Trust Services Security Incidents. The Electronic trust services include a wide range of electronic services (i.e. digital signatures, digital certificates, electronic seals, timestamps, etc.). The report revealed an increase of 80% of notified incidents, most of them however reported as minor. Unlike the previous year, no incident in the “disastrous impact” category were reported.
- **Digital agenda: Autumn/Winter Policy Briefing:** After a turbulent start to 2020, in the second half of the year the EU will embark on a range of ambitious initiatives in the digital arena, some of which will be directly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic and its knock-on effects. EURACTIV is providing an update on the developments in the digital policy agenda since the start of this year and give a low-down on the most important areas to look out for in the coming months as part of the EU’s [digital transformation](#). Source: [Euractiv](#)
- **The demise of Privacy Shield may be the end of US-Europe data transfers:** Increasing restrictions on data worldwide are prompting companies to rethink how they do business. Source: [POLITICO](#)

Environment

- **EU Climate Law:** the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety [adopted a report](#) on the [proposed](#) European Climate law, which would establish a framework for achieving climate-neutrality. The report will now be put to vote by the full Parliament in October.
- **Europe's new climate plan heralds energy "transformation":** Meeting the EU's proposed new climate targets for 2030 will require a "transformation" of the bloc's energy system, with a renewed focus on renewables and further efforts to cut fossil fuels in buildings, transport and industry, the European Commission has said. Source: [Euractiv](#)
- **EU to withdraw free CO2 pollution credits to clear way for carbon border tax:** The European Commission plans to withdraw free allowances given to polluting industries under the EU's emission trading system (ETS) in order to clear the way for their inclusion in the bloc's upcoming carbon border adjustment mechanism. Source: [Euractiv](#)
- **EU presents new strategy on 'critical raw materials':** The EU has launched a new strategy to diversify access to rare earth materials used for electronics and consumer goods. The vast majority of the EU's current supply comes from countries with poor environmental standards. Source: [Deutsche Welle](#)

Food

- **Commission launches public consultation on EU organic plan, backs regulation postponement:** The European Commission launched a public consultation on its future action plan on organic farming on Friday (4 September), and also proposed to postpone by one year the entry into force of the new organic regulation. Source: [Euractiv](#)
- **Common ground and the forging of new ties in the US and EU agricultural sectors:** With the coronavirus still raging across much of the world, the economic hardship brought on by the global pandemic has taken a heavy toll on every key industry in both the United States and the EU, including agriculture. US Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue sat down with New Europe in an exclusive interview to discuss how the US' encouragement of innovation and new technology can help farm operations of all sizes and how, as close allies and trade partners, Europeans and Americans can forge an even stronger relationship that will help guarantee a sustainable food supply for the world's billions of people. Source: [New Europe](#)
- **Food labelling:** The European Commission is expected to present a proposal concerning a mandatory front-of-pack nutrition label in 2022. The introduction of an objective, transparent and consumer-friendly label is one of the key aspect of the "Farm to Fork Strategy". As a next step, the Commission will launch an impact assessment to evaluate the options of labelling available. [This EPRS briefing](#) provides an overview of the different nutritional schemes already in use by some Member states.

Medical devices

- **Setting standards for Europe's recovery:** In response to a request from the European Commission, CEN and CENELEC, two of the official European standardisation organisations, took the unprecedented step of making freely available a series of European standards for medical devices, ventilators and personal protective equipment (PPE). Source: [TheParliament](#)
- **MEPs approve EUR 6.2 bn to tackle crisis, speed up vaccine deployment:** The EU Parliament gave the go-ahead to an increase in the EU budget of EUR 6.2 billion Thursday, to improve the chances of an effective and safe vaccine, and to step up COVID-19-related cohesion funding. Source: [EUBusiness](#)

- **UK outlines post-Brexit medical device regime starting January:** The U.K. has set out how it will regulate medical devices after it fully splits from the European Union at the end of the year. Source: [MedTechDive](#)
- **IVD Industry Calls for Clear Testing Protocols to Prepare for the Winter Season during the COVID-19 pandemic:** The IVD industry has been active in developing and producing IVD tests which reliably guide patient management decisions in the upcoming winter season and resurging COVID-19 pandemic. Several diagnostic tests already exist and are being produced to detect SARS-CoV-2 and seasonal diseases individually. Combined diagnostic tests (for laboratory-based and point-of-care / near-patient testing) that allow the detection of SARS-CoV-2 and other seasonal viruses at the same time have been developed, and more tests are likely to become available over the next weeks. Source: [MedTech Europe](#)
- **MedTech Europe:** The trade association for the medical technology industry issued a [position paper](#) urging the European Commission to provide guidance “virtual” audits. According to MedTech Europe, a proper guideline and a clear risk-based approach should help notified bodies to perform remote audits when “on-site” audits are not possible. ICT solutions such as Google glasses, webcams, use of teleconferences should be fully leveraged to allow auditors to walk through the manufacturing lines.

Trade

- **EU, China sign food protection deal:** The EU and China signed a bilateral agreement to protect each other’s exported food and drink items against “usurpation and imitation.” Source: [New Europe](#)
- **UK and Japan reach first major British trade deal:** The UK-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement is based on the text of the EU-Japan trade deal. Source: [POLITICO](#)
- **EU strikes trade deal with US – without conceding on standards.** The European Union has struck an ambitious trade deal with the US which will eliminates or reduces tariffs for €168 million in EU and US exports. Source: [The London Economic](#)
- **New EU Commissioner:** As a result of the Phil Hogan’s resignation after a controversial meeting in Ireland which broke the coronavirus restrictions, President Von Der Leyen announced the nomination of [Valdis Dombrovskis](#). The former Latvian prime minister will be in charge of the trade portfolio.
- **Single Market Barriers:** As a follow-up of the European Commission’s report entitled “[Identifying and addressing barriers to the Single Market](#)”, Business Europe published its [report](#) concerning the barriers to the Single Market. The lack of harmonised standards is described as a cost for companies and as a factor decreasing the safety for consumers.
- **UK guidelines:** A set of guidelines have been issued by the UK government concerning the change of status of the [notified bodies](#), the application of the [UKCA mark](#), and the requirements for [placing products on the British market](#).
- **EU-Vietnam:** On 31 July, the [EU-Vietnam trade agreement](#) comes into force. As a result, the tariffs will be almost completely eliminated for the EU exports to Vietnam.

International Events

- 5-9 October, 2020: [DigiTranScope Autumn Institute 2020](#) - Florence
- 13-14 October 2020: [Meeting of Innovation, Collaboration and Technology](#), Amsterdam
- 13 October: [Shaping together the circular economy for nonwovens](#)—Edana
- 14-17 October, 2020: 16th international conference "[LABORATORY COMPETENCE 2020](#)", Brijuni Archipelago, Istria
- 14 October: [World Standards Day 2020](#) - CEN and CENELEC
- 19-22 October 2020: [17th IMEKO TC 10 Conference: "Global trends in testing, diagnostics & inspection for 2030](#), Dubrovnik
- 27-28 October, 2020: [ICPHSO International Symposium](#) - Brussels
- 27 October: [Artificial Intelligence in healthcare \(stakeholder workshop\)](#) - CEN and CENELEC
- 27-28 October: [ICPHSO International Symposium](#) - Brussels
- 28-30 October 2020: [Thailand LAB](#), Bangkok
- 17 November: [Innovation with a purpose](#) - Orgalim - Stockholm
- 3-4 November: [European Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference](#)
- 8-11 November 2020: [14th world conference on injury prevention and safety promotion](#), WHO - Adelaide
- 2 December: [Industrial AI and its impact on the existing legislation](#) - Orgalim
- 4 February 2021: [Masters of Digital 2021](#) - Digital Europe
- 22-25 February 2021: [ICPHSO Annual meeting](#) - Orlando
- 22-24 March 2021: [ARABLAB+](#), Dubai
- 27-28 April 2021: [Paperless Lab Academy](#), Baveno
- 5-6 May 2021: [Digital Transformation in Legal Metrology](#) - OIML - Berlin

EUROLAB Events

- 27 October: The Lab of the future and future of labs - Eurolab and TIC Council Joint Webinar
- 18 November: EUROLAB Board Remote Meeting—Online
- 9 December. EUROLAB TCQA Remote Meeting—Online

17th IMEKO TC 10 and EUROLAB Virtual Conference



The second conference jointly organized by IMEKO and EUROLAB aisbl will be titled “Global Trends in Testing, Diagnostics & Inspection for 2030”, and is to be held online, on October 20-22, 2020. It has the aim to enhance the co-operation on global level, building a great opportunity to see worldwide top specialists with professional experience in industry, universities, research & development as well as in metrology, testing, inspection, diagnostics and certification.

The conference will be a virtual forum for exchanging ideas about challenges for the third decade of the new Millennium, with focus on new technologies, techniques, methods, standards, conformity assessment, quality management and their application in industrial processes and scientific community.

The conference will have 9 Keynote Speakers and more than 60 participants from countries all over the world, related with the different scientific topics considered, providing an updated overview of many R&DI developments in the fields of testing, diagnostic and inspection.

For more information on the conference topics, the keynote speakers and for registrations, visit: <https://www.imekotc10-2020.com/>

