

EUROLAB Newsletter

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Contact details:

EUROLAB Secretariat
Rue du Commerce 20-22
B-1000, Belgium
Tel.: + 32 2 274 07 12
Fax: + 32 2 502 50 47
E-mail: info@eurolab.org
Website:
<http://www.eurolab.org/>

Dear EUROLAB members,

Please find below the second EUROLAB newsbriefing of 2021 with information regarding the actions carried out by EUROLAB, and relevant developments to the laboratory community.

For me, this is the first opportunity to address you as president of EUROLAB. In fact, at the end of the mandate that Álvaro Silva Ribeiro led with great professionalism and balance, the General Assembly of the last 27 of April expressed its confidence in me by accepting my candidacy for this important task. I will do my best, together with Vice Presidents Alexander Šafařík-Pštrosz and Irache Visiers and my colleagues on the Board of Administrators, not to disappoint these expectations.

The recent pandemic has helped to accelerate some processes that were already in place, but which the sudden need for remote collaboration has speeded up. We have thus witnessed the improvement of videoconferencing platforms, we have learned to participate in meetings without moving from our offices, and very often also from our homes, but we must not forget that only face-to-face human relationships are able to develop that mutual knowledge and sense of trust that foster the development of collaborations and agreements.

We are attentive to the development of the so-called enabling technologies: digitization, sensors, artificial intelligence, internet of things, 5G, have already begun to manifest their importance in various industrial sectors, contributing to the improvement of processes and therefore to the quality of products. The use of these technologies inevitably also involves laboratories, and so we must face new challenges to keep ourselves aligned with the changing needs of the market. We must prepare to manage and analyse a huge amount of data, thus more powerful, performing, redundant IT infrastructures will be needed. Cybersecurity is equally crucial.

I believe that, in this phase of very rapid technological evolution, the task of Eurolab, through collaboration with its Members and stakeholders, is on the one hand to make laboratories, especially the smallest ones, aware of the opportunities, but also of the threats, connected to the adoption, or rejection, of these technologies; and on the other hand, to collaborate with legislators and regulators for ensuring that the conformity assessment of processes and goods does not become a totally automatic process, e.g. based on AI algorithms, that excludes third-party evaluation. We need to increase our cooperation to help our Members keep up with technological evolution and ensure the laboratories' contribution to the improvement of safety and quality of life.

Wishing you all the best, hoping to see you soon, also face to face of course.

Paolo Moscatti

EUROLAB President



eurolab

National Members News

ASCOLAB

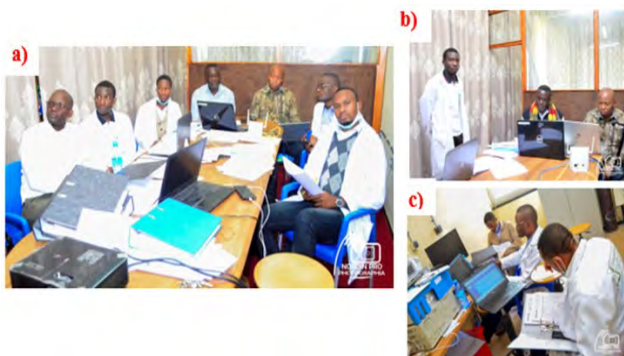
Initial remote assessment of the Environmental Analysis Laboratory of the Polytechnic Faculty of the University of Lubumbashi



Presentation

The Laboratory of Environmental Analysis (LAE) is one of fifteen laboratories of the Polytechnic Faculty of the University of Lubumbashi, newly equipped thanks to the support of the African Development Bank. The company Belge Néo-tech took care of the supply, installation of equipment and training of its staff.

The Environmental Analysis Laboratory is a ASCOLAB Ordinary Member (DRC-NLA) and it is supported by ASCOLAB in the accreditation process.



a) Opening meeting and agenda of 17 May, b) Working session, evaluation of the LAE management system; c) Working session, technical evaluation.

All components (management part and technical part) of the LAE management system have been evaluated against the requirements of the international standard ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and the additional requirements of SADCAS/ILAC/IAF.

Nonconformities encountered

During this initial evaluation, some nonconformities were identified by the SADCAS evaluation team. A corrective action plan was submitted to SADCAS and approved.

Conclusion and recognition

The LAE hopes to be, in the coming days, the first university laboratory in the DRC to be accredited under the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard. It was represented by its President & CEO, Mr. Victor Kanama Viki Mbuya during the initial remote assessment. ASCOLAB wants to thank him as

well as any legal and natural person who contributed to the achievement of these results.

EUROLAB-CZ



Modified test procedure for ETICS hygrothermal behaviour

During the preparation of EAD 040016-00-0404 version 01 for glass fibre meshes for reinforcement of cementitious or cement-based renderings and base coats, the Technical and Test Institute for Construction Prague, SOE, a member of EUROLAB-CZ, modified the hygrothermal behaviour test procedure according to EN 16383 to verify the proper function of a new triaxial mesh for the reinforcement of ETICS window corners and other openings without the additional diagonal strips.

Tests performed under the modified hygrothermal behaviour procedure have proven the proposed test procedure accuracy and have provided information about the true behaviour of the specified reinforcement types of ETICS corner openings. The new triaxial glass fibre mesh displayed test results comparable to the current diagonal strip base coat reinforcement solution. The modified EAD 040016-01-0404 Glass Fibre Meshes for Reinforcement of Cementitious or Cement Based Renderings has been accepted by the EC and should be published soon in OJEU.

For more information, please, contact:

Robert Lhotský, +420 734 432 060, lhotsky@tzus.cz



Test rig with enlarged opening after completed hygrothermal behavioural cycles according to EN 16383

Recent achievements of EUROLAB France within COFRAC

EUROLAB France has communicated that, following the departure of a former member of the Bureau and the Board of Directors of COFRAC (French accreditation body), EUROLAB France has lost a representative. The EUROLAB France Board of Directors and the General Assembly nominated Mr Olivier Delrieu (CEO of the calibration company Trescal) as a candidate, together with Mr Thomas Grenon (President of EUROLAB France).

As a result, at the last COFRAC General Assembly, both candidates were elected Directors, and Mr Grenon was elected Treasurer (joining the COFRAC Bureau). EUROLAB France has thus succeeded in maintaining its influence within the COFRAC Board.

TURKLAB

Information on the "Column Selection in HPLC and Next Generation HPLC Columns" seminar.



TURKLAB's online seminar on "Column Selection in HPLC and Next Generation HPLC Columns", organized through the collaboration between TURKLAB and ANT TEKNİK, was held on April 8, 2021 and generated great interest.

Presentations given by Ant Teknik staff focused on the chromatography theory, types of HPLC systems, HPLC separation techniques, parameters affecting separation performance, definition of liquid chromatography columns, new generation columns, and certain application examples.

Quality and Innovation Days Event

TURKLAB took part in METTLER TOLEDO Turkey's online Quality and Innovation Days from June 15-16, 2021 with its virtual stand. The event, which brought together manufacturers from the chemical, pharmaceutical, food, metal plastics, electronics and many other industries, was a great success.

Food Microbiology Method Validation Training

The TURKLAB Academy organized a training course on microbiological methods in microbiology and validation and verification of measurement uncertainty for food laboratories on June 17, 2021. As part of the online course, Prof. Emrah Torlak held a presentation on the ISO 16140 standard series and the performance indicators as defined by the ISO 16140-3 standard. Torlak also talked about uncertainty calculations with a range-based approach that does not require logarithmic transformations.

TÜBİTAK UME Advisory Board Meeting June 29, 2021

All board members attended the meeting held at the personal premises of the National Metrology Institute Advisory Board (UME) representative, Neşe Güneş. The meeting started off with a presentation of the UME activity report by the Director of the Institute, Mustafa Demirtaş. Participating and in attendance were Advisory Board staff members and members of the Advisory Board. The meeting covered the following topics:

1. The drawing up of a road-map and action plan for the Covid-19 pandemic and similar contingencies.
2. The rapid development of new technologies around the world and the expectations placed on the Institute in terms of their industrial applications (quantum technologies, nanotechnology, advanced production technologies, Industry 4.0 and beyond, communication in the age of 5G and beyond, etc.).
3. TÜBİTAK UME's role in developing the trade of halal products.
4. TÜBİTAK UME's role in increasing Turkey's export performance with respect to the UME's existing international partnerships.
5. Measures/actions required to raise public awareness of metrology and nurture qualified candidates/researchers in the field of metrology.
6. TÜBİTAK UME's role in production and the expectations from the UME in this respect.
7. How to make TÜBİTAK UME more efficient under the "Nation's Quality Infrastructure" concept.
8. Suggestions for new recruitment policies for TÜBİTAK UME to improve and maintain the "Nation's Quality Infrastructure" and contribute more to pioneering science and technology projects.

Attendees expressed their opinions and suggestions on the abovementioned items of the agenda in a workshop format, and the resolutions were entered into the records through a final declaration.



TIC Market Trends

Business Developments

- Alfred H. Knight Energy Services has recently joined the North East Recycle Forum (NERF). [Read more.](#)
- Alfred H. Knight has opened a new copper commodities analysis laboratory, increasing analyses operational space by up to 54%. [Read more.](#)
- Alfred H Knight Energy Services have expanded their Business Development team to further support Waste Management organisations across the UK, due to an increased demand for sampling and analysis of waste streams. [Read more.](#)
- Alfred H. Knight has commissioned a new sample preparation facility of base metal concentrate materials in Poti, Georgia. [Read more.](#)
- ALS Industrial has been awarded ConocoPhillips' 2020 Doing Business Better award for the Asia Pacific region. [Read more.](#)
- AmSpec has announced the opening of a new office and laboratory in Hamilton, Ontario. [Read more.](#)
- AmSpec has announced that their Morocco laboratory in Mohammedia has been expanded, further strengthening coverage in the Mediterranean market. [Read more.](#)
- Applus has expanded its services to monitor the structural health of railway bridges in Alicante, Spain. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ in Indonesia has performed Ex Equipment Inspection for an oil operator at the East Kalimantan offshore platform. The project started in February 2021 and was completed in March 2021. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ Laboratories has successfully managed the Type Approval for a new automotive Telematic Control Unit (TCU) intended to be marketed in China. The TCU will provide connectivity and telematic services to a high-end vehicle's platform. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ in Canada has entered into an agreement with a national agency for the provision of welder qualification testing. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ in Canada has announced that it will be providing Geotechnical Engineering and Consulting Services on a transportation expansion endeavour serving Vancouver, British Columbia, and its surrounding municipalities. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ in Turkey has announced it will participate in an [oil and gas](#) project for a Turkish [NDT](#) company, delivering the digital radiographic service and training for technicians to use the proprietary Applus+ technology [Rayscan](#). [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ in the UK has been recognised with the Constructionline [Gold Award](#) and is now verified as a pre-qualified contractor to provide services to the construction industry within the country. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ has announced it will carry out [LDAR monitoring](#) of the fugitive emissions from the tanks of an industrial complex at an energy multinational in Cyprus. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ has been contracted to conduct a helium leak test at a chemical plant facility in Muscat, Oman for a suspected vacuum leak. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ has supervised water and sewage infrastructure construction in the Ngábe Buglé region of Panama. [Read more.](#)
- Applus+ in Indonesia has performed a Jack-Up Rig Simulation Integrated Test (SIT) and Endurance

Test for an oil operator in offshore East Kalimantan. [Read more.](#)

- **ATG** has obtained an approval from Cessna Aircraft Company as an authorized independent NDI facility. [Read more.](#)
- **Baltic Control** has been listed by NAFED as an international survey/inspection agency for sampling, assaying and inspection of agri commodities at both loading and discharge ports in India and across the world. [Read more.](#)
- **Baltic Control India** has been approved by APEDA as an accredited inspection and certification body. [Read more.](#)
- **Baltic Control Uruguay** has received ISO/IEC 17020:2012 accreditation. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** has joined the [Science Based Targets initiative](#). As a member of this group, Bureau Veritas commits to aligning climate targets to limit the global temperature rise to 1.5°C above preindustrial levels. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** has been contracted by Carnival Corporation & plc, to verify safety and hygiene standards and measures on the company's cruise ships. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** and Shell have announced the successful completion of their Supply-R pilot project, conducted during the first quarter of 2021. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas Benelux** has joined the North Sea Energy (NSE) program as an official partner. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** has opened a testing facility close to Port Adelaide, the hub for Australian naval shipbuilding in South Australia. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** and OPTTEL have published a joint white paper outlining ways to address the unprecedented challenge of assuring COVID-19 vaccine supply around the world. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** has been selected to undertake project certification for the Moray West offshore windfarm in Scotland. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** has been awarded a project management assistance contract for the Nefes Assos Village project, Turkey's first sustainable village. [Read more](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** has signed a three-year framework agreement with the Veolia group, which lists Bureau Veritas as a preferred supplier for regulatory and non-regulatory verifications and certification of Veolia group sites. [Read more.](#)
- **Camin Cargo Control Inc** has announced that its Corpus Christi Laboratory is now offering Amines by GC-NCD and Alcohol Amines by IC. [Read more.](#)
- **CIS Inspections** has announced that the South Sudan National Bureau of Standards based in Juba, Republic of South Sudan has authorised CIS Commodity Inspection Services, to test, inspect and verify conformity of all goods. [Read more.](#)
- **CITADEL Engineering Company (CEC)** has announced a partnership with NSL ASCO lifting, logistics, and management training center. [Read more.](#)
- **CITADEL Engineering Company (CEC)** has become a trusted Calibration Lab for Fiscal & Custody Transfer Flow Meter From the Ministry of Oil of Iraq. [Read more.](#)
- **CITADEL Engineering Company (CEC)** has won the Inspection Service Contract for three years for one of the IOCs in the Republic of Iraq. [Read more.](#)
- **Control Quality** has shared its latest successes in April 2021 despite the technical difficulties imposed by COVID-19. [Read more.](#)
- **Control Union** has announced that its regenerative agriculture initiative "regenagri" will support in the launch of the 'Homegrown/Homespun' Jeans project on regenerative fashion. [Read more.](#)

- **Control Union** has announced the launch of the new version of the regenagri digital hub, regenagri 2.0. [Read more](#).
- **Cotecna** has announced a new service partnership with Maalex.com, a digital platform simplifying cross-border trade, whereby Cotecna will provide inspection and certification services to Maalex.com customers. [Read more](#).
- **Cotecna** has announced that NofaLab, part of the Cotecna Group, a sampling and testing laboratory specialising in the field of food, feed and environmental safety is now completely back to its full original accreditation scope. [Read more](#).
- **Cotecna** has opened a new environmental monitoring facility under the National Accreditation Board For Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) in India. [Read more](#).
- **Cotecna China** has been officially certified as “Multinational Corporation’s Regional Headquarters” by the Shanghai Municipal Government during the Certificating Ceremony on 24 May 2021. [Read more](#).
- **Cotecna** has announced that Neutron, part of the Cotecna Group, has developed “Digital PCR”, an innovative way for the detection and quantification of allergen DNA. [Read more](#).
- **Cotecna** has announced that Nofagroup, part of the Cotecna Group, has doubled its capacity to analyse Mineral Oil Saturated Hydrocarbons and Mineral Oil Aromatic Hydrocarbons in response to growing demand and in compliance with European standards. [Read more](#).
- **Cotecna’s** Gandhidham lab has been granted Approved Analyst status for Grain and Feed testing by GAFTA. [Read more](#).
- **Cotecna Philippines** has been approved by the Department of Energy and Natural Resources to operate Air Pollution Source and Control Installations for 5 years. [Read more](#).
- **Control Quality** has completed an initial audit to the Gafta Standard for Supervision, Sampling & Check Weighing 2019. [Read more](#).
- **CWM** has announced that it will offer auditing and certification for sustainable tourism for the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) standards. [Read more](#).
- **DEKRA** has opened its first periodical technical inspection station in Chile. [Read more](#).
- **DEKRA** has been listed as MFi Authorized Test Laboratory to offer selected CarPlay certification testing, pre-testing and advisory services for vehicle, telecommunications and infotainment system manufacturers, which are licensees of Apple’s MFi program. [Read more](#).
- **DEKRA DIGITAL** has issued a certification to the E-scooter provider Spin based on the Micro-Mobility Standard for safe and sustainable micro-mobility. [Read more](#).
- **Element Materials Technology** has signed a Shared Service Agreement with the Bristol Earthquake and Engineering Laboratory (BEELAB) at the University of Bristol to provide commercial seismic qualification testing. [Read more](#).
- **Element Materials Technology** has received approval to take part in the FDA’s Accreditation Scheme for Conformity Assessment (ASCA) pilot program for medical device testing. [Read more](#).
- **Element Materials Technology** has received UKAS accreditation for creep and stress rupture testing at its Magna Way Laboratory in Sheffield. [Read more](#)
- **Element Materials Technology** has announced that it is a founding member in the development of OpenBuilt, a new open hybrid cloud platform to connect the construction industry’s fragmented supply chain. [Read more](#).
- **Element Materials Technology** has announced a new agreement with Rolls-Royce that will provide Element’s customers with access to the rig and component test capability and engineering expertise

of Rolls-Royce in Germany. [Read more.](#)

- **Element Materials Technology** has reached an agreement with Rolls-Royce that will provide Element's customers with access to the rig and component test capability and engineering expertise of Rolls-Royce in Germany. [Read more.](#)
- **Element Materials Technology** has invested in new electrical safety testing capabilities at its UKAS-accredited laboratory in Wimborne, UK, expanding Element's existing UK electrical safety testing capabilities. [Read more.](#)
- **Element Materials Technology** has opened a center of excellence for its connected technologies business in Maryland, US to support its growth plans in the sector. [Read more.](#)
- **Element Materials Technology** has received the Nadcap accreditation for chemical analysis at its Antwerp, Belgium laboratory. [Read more.](#)
- **Element Materials Technology** has announced that the Element Jeddah laboratory has expanded its scope of services to offer environmental testing in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Western Province. [Read more.](#)
- **Eurofins** has developed two new products for the detection and identification of emerging COVID-19 variants of concern. [Read more.](#)
- **Eurofins'** "empowerDX" at-home COVID-19 testing kit has received FDA-emergency use authorization for children three years and older. [Read more.](#)
- **Eurofins** has announced that EAG Laboratories, part of the Eurofins Group, is expanding its medical device testing capabilities with a new 20.000 square-foot laboratory located in St. Louis. [Read more.](#)
- **Eurofins Discovery** has announced the launch of new services in support of clients working to address the immune consequences of SARS-CoV-2 and other infectious disease. [Read more.](#)
- **Eurofins** has announced that Eurofins Covid Testing Services Ltd (ECTS) are now officially an approved government provider for day 2 and day 8 PCR testing in the UK. [Read more.](#)
- **Eurofins** has launched a new multiplex PCR assay for rapid detection of the B.1.617 "India" SARS-CoV-2 variant. [Read more.](#)
- **FORCE technology** has announced its participation in a new Danish research project with the aim of developing an automated solution to in-service inspection of wind turbine blades. [Read more.](#)
- **HQTS Group** has been listed as a third party Pre-shipment Inspection Agency under the Department of Plant Protection in the Ministry of National Food Security and Research, of the Government of Pakistan. [Read more.](#)
- **HQTS** has announced that its new Testing Laboratory in Vietnam has gained an accreditation by ISO 17025. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has announced that it has been awarded a contract by the Ministry of Industry, Trade, Green and Digital Economy (MICEVN) of Morocco to support its Verification of Conformity Programme (VoC) for exports to the country. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has announced an agreement with Chrysos Corporation to install two Chrysos PhotonAssay units at Intertek's new Minerals Global Centre of Excellence in Perth, Western Australia. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has been selected as an accredited testing laboratory under the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Accreditation Scheme for Conformity Assessment (ASCA) Pilot Program. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has announced the launch of Intertek Protek Maritime, a health and safety solution for the maritime industry that will provide guidance to ship owners and crew. [Read more.](#)

- **Intertek** has announced that the scope of accreditation for its North American Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Center of Excellence has been expanded to include evaluation of barrier face coverings to ASTM F3502. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has launched a suite of transaction due diligence services to assess quality, safety, sustainability, and regulatory risks. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has announced the expansion of its Health, Environmental, & Regulatory Consultancy (HERS) business line into Russia and Spain. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has announced that it has been accredited to provide independent third-party certification of the Organic Content Standard (OCS). [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has awarded Egyptian Natural Gas Holding Co (EGAS) with the globally-recognised ISO 50001 certification for Energy Management Systems. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has announced the approval of its first lab in Canada as an ATEX notified body. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has been appointed to undertake technical assessment for the Energinet Energy Islands Project in Denmark. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has launched 'Tradeable', a portfolio of solutions to support validation of suppliers or manufacturers as well as production, shipment and goods handling processes across the international supply chain to mitigate supply chain risks. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has signed a MoU with PRECISE for anti-COVID-19 surface protection. [Read more.](#)
- **ISQ**, in partnership with Optimal Structural Solutions, INEGI and Stratosphere, has announced the development of new materials for the aeronautical sector, within the scope of an R&D program established with Airbus. [Read more.](#)
- **Kiwa Italy** has issued an ISO 9001 certificate to the "Studi e Applicazione Normativa" (Studies and Regulatory Enforcement) unit of Rome's local police force. [Read more.](#)
- **Kiwa Korea** has received an award for supporting the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals. [Read more.](#)
- **Kiwa Sweden** has been approved to perform Rainforest Alliance Supply Chain certification. [Read more.](#)
- **Moroni & Partners**, part of the Kiwa Group, has recently performed vendor technical advisor activities for Octopus Renewables, specialised in investment management in the renewable energy sector in the UK and Europe. [Read more.](#)
- **Kiwa** has signed a partnership agreement with PV Evolution Labs, an independent test lab for the global downstream solar and energy storage industry, based in the United States. [Read more.](#)
- **Kiwa** and Dutch energy network company Alliander have officially opened the Hydrogen Experience Centre, a demonstration and training location where professionals learn how to convert the natural gas supply in residential areas for hydrogen application. [Read more.](#)
- **QISJ** has issued a notice on Continuous Road Worthiness Inspection/Certificate of Conformity (RWI/COC) Inspections for Kenya. [Read more.](#)
- **RINA** has been awarded Assessment Body (AsBo) and Notified Body (NoBo) contracts for the construction of the Favrholm station in Denmark. [Read more.](#)
- **RINA** has been awarded a framework contract to provide engineering and consultancy services by Vopak LNG in support of their Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) growth strategy. [Read more.](#)
- **RINA** has provided due diligence services and support to [SUSI Partners](#) in completing the acquisition of four lithium-ion [battery storage](#) assets in the UK. [Read more.](#)

- RINA has published new rules for the use of “ammonia as a fuel” and the class notation “Ammonia Ready”. [Read more.](#)
- RINA together with [Snam S.p.A.](#) and [GIVA Group](#) has carried out the world's first test of a 30% natural gas/hydrogen blend - supplied by [Sapio Group](#) in the forging processes used in industrial [steelmaking](#). [Read more.](#)
- RINA has been awarded together with BIP Group a project by the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA) to develop a methodology for the cost-benefit analysis for the use of BIM in public tenders. [Read more.](#)
- RINA has announced the completion of the Biosafe SHIP notation evaluation with CMHI for a new-building expedition cruise ship. The vessel is under construction at China Merchants Heavy Industry yard in Jiangsu. [Read more.](#)
- RINA has announced its support for ship owners and managers in complying with the new measures introduced by IMO MEPC 76. [Read more.](#)
- **Saybolt** has been ranked first in this year's EnergyPoint Research Oilfield Services Customer Satisfaction Survey. [Read more.](#)
- SGS has announced that SGS Geneva is now a Gafta (the Grain and Feed Trade Association) approved Superintendent, following the successful completion of a Gafta Standard Audit. [Read more.](#)
- SGS has been officially approved by the Microfibre Consortium (TMC) as a Third-Party Laboratory Member and will soon be extending its fiber fragmentation testing services beyond consortium member organizations. [Read more.](#)
- SGS has announced that the Harrisburg, PA laboratory has expanded with a new vitamin laboratory, offering full, integrated testing to the dietary supplement market. [Read more.](#)
- SGS has announced that its Cyberlab in Graz, Austria has gained accreditation from the BSI (Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik), the German Federal Office for Information Security, to carry out cybersecurity evaluations according to Common Criteria for the Technical Domain 'Smart Cards and Similar Devices'. [Read more.](#)
- SGS Canada's laboratory in Sherwood Park, Alberta now compliments the seed testing and sampler services of the SGS flagship US laboratory in Brookings, South Dakota, which have both been officially accredited by the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA). [Read more.](#)
- SGS has set out Sustainability Ambitions for 2030 (SA2030). [Read more.](#)
- SGS has been selected by SHELL NEFT, LLC to provide fuel quality monitoring at Shell petrol stations in Russia. [Read more](#)
- SGS has developed and launched with PublicisLive Live & Safe, a program developed to provide the meetings, incentives, conferencing and exhibitions (MICE) industry with a health and safety blueprint for events. [Read more](#)
- SGS has announced the opening of a new filtration performance laboratory in Suzhou, China. [Read more](#)
- SGS China has opened a new facility in Xiamen for cosmetics testing. [Read more](#)
- SGS has announced that its Canary Islands site in Spain has expanded its scope to include bitumen testing as well as gas oil and fuel oil testing. [Read more](#)
- SGS has been selected by Cepsa to provide fuel quality monitoring at Cepsa petrol stations in Spain and Portugal. [Read more](#)
- SGS has announced the opening of its new food testing laboratory in Papua New Guinea. [Read more.](#)

- SOCOTEC Certification UK Ltd, the UK division of SOCOTEC Certification International, has officially launched its new website. [Read more](#)
- SZU has recently opened its newly built testing laboratory for heating and cooling technology. [Read more](#)
- TCRC has been accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB). [Read more.](#)
- TÜV Austria has announced that SberCloud - Cloud & Artificial Intelligence has successfully passed an audit according to the ISO/IEC 27001, 27017 and 27018 standards, audit performed by TÜV Austria itself. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV Rheinland has been designated by the German Federal Motor Transport Authority as technical service for vehicle cybersecurity according to UN-R 155. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV Rheinland has launched a global hydrogen competence center. [Read more](#)
- TÜV SÜD has published its new white paper, “Achieving Global Market Access for xEV Battery Systems”. It discusses the key safety and performance issues that must be addressed in all xEV battery designs as well as the special requirements applicable to xEV battery systems in the EU, the USA, China and other major markets worldwide. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD has become a member of “We Stay PRIDE” programme, presented by Uhlala Group. This LGBT+ Employer Excellence Programme supports companies to embrace diversity within their working environment. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD has joined the World Economic Forum as a Platform Partner, covering areas within advanced manufacturing and production and focusing on the four initiatives of CO2 Reduction in Production, Additive Manufacturing, Smart Industry Readiness Index and Smart Safety in Connected Manufacturing. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD has issued a certificate to FUJIFILM for IVDR, which regulates the sale of in vitro diagnostic products to the European marketplace. This is the first review project conducted by TÜV SÜD Japan to issue IVDR certification. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD has announced that it has won the contract for wind condition analysis and AEP (annual energy production) assessment services for the next phase of an offshore wind farm project off the south-west coast of South Korea, which started commercial operation in 2019. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD National Engineering Laboratory has launched a Joint Industry Project (JIP) that will support regulatory authorities and industry to establish new standards and practices for the use of online oil-in-water analysers at remote locations. [Read more](#)
- TÜV SÜD Division Mobility has announced a new collaboration with SAE International over cybersecurity training for the automotive industry. [Read more](#)
- TÜV SÜD has been designated by Germany’s Federal Motor Authority (KBA) as a Technical Service for cyber security and software updates in motor vehicles. [Read more](#)
- UL and The Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) have announced plans to expand their relationship to increase manufacturer access to testing to the IBHS Impact Resistance Test Protocol for Asphalt Shingles. [Read more.](#)
- UL has received from the US Food & Drug Administration (FDA) a Leveraging and Collaboration Award. [Read more.](#)
- UL has received designation as an accredited ISO/IEC 17025 laboratory under the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Accreditation Scheme for Conformity Assessment (ASCA), a voluntary pilot program for medical device safety and performance testing. [Read more.](#)
- UL has become a Registered Signatory of the Building a Safer Future (BSF) Charter, a U.K.-based effort to improve leadership commitment and culture in relation to building safety. [Read more.](#)

- UL has announced that they are now an U.K. Approved Body for Products used in Hazardous Location. [Read more.](#)
- UL has successfully extended its authorization scope to facilitate the Saudi Quality Mark (SQM) service for gas appliances in North and South America. [Read more.](#)
- UL has partnered with Australia's National Science Agency to help advance fire safety for the construction industry. [Read more.](#)
- UL has announced plans to collaborate with NREL towards the commercialisation of SolarAPP+ automated permitting tool to help local governments expedite permitting on residential solar projects. [Read more.](#)
- UL has expanded their laboratory in Poland to include European consumer technology safety testing capabilities. [Read more.](#)
- UL has launched a new vaccination tracking tool to support U.S. return-to-workplace programs. [Read more.](#)
- UL has acquired Clear Sky Analytics which will strengthen UL's renewables offerings to assess and optimise solar plant performance. [Read more.](#)
- UL has announced that as a member of the Arm Functional Safety Partnership Program, UL will now offer functional safety training expertise to help address a wide range of semiconductor technologies and components. [Read more.](#)
- UL has announced it will offer Wi-Fi 6E testing services in Europe to help advance market growth. [Read more.](#)
- UL has opened an electric vehicle charging laboratory in Germany. [Read more.](#)
- UL has recognised Somfy Smart Control as the first home automation device to achieve IoT security rating. [Read more.](#)
- UL has announced it will recognize PSA Certified as a fast-track for achieving UL's Secure IoT Component Qualification to help demonstrate that components incorporate industry best practices for Internet of Things (IoT) cybersecurity. [Read more](#)
- UL and Stantec GenerationAV, the autonomous vehicle consulting arm of global design firm Stantec, have announced that they are collaborating to advance the safe deployment of autonomous vehicle (AV) projects. [Read more](#)
- **Viglienzone Adriatica Srl** has signed an agreement for a period of 3 years (renewable up to 2 years) with UNHCR, for the provision of general inspection services for quality control. [Read more.](#)
- **Viglienzone Adriatica Srl** has signed an exclusive agreement with Mansorin International For Inspection And Conformity Company (Libya). [Read more.](#)
- **Vinçotte** has announced its validation of Clear Channel Belgium as a CO2 Neutral company. [Read more.](#)

Personnel Developments

- **Bureau Veritas** has announced the co-optation of Christine Anglade Pirzadeh as a Director. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has announced that Ross McCluskey has been promoted into an operational role as Executive Vice President Europe and Central Asia. Moreover, Jonathan Timmis has been appointed an Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer of Intertek. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has announced the appointment of Yvonne Tse as Vice President, Global Softlines division. [Read more.](#)

- SZU Ing. Tomáš Hruška has been re-elected chairman of CQS for another term. [Read more.](#)
- TÜV SÜD has announced that Matthias Rosenthal is the new Vice President Consumer Products (CPS) for TÜV SÜD's Business Line Softlines. [Read more.](#)
- UL's Jasmin Omerovic has been appointed IECEx TAG Deputy Chair for a three-year term. [Read more.](#)
- UL has announced the appointments of Charles W. Hooper, Lisa M. Lambert and Michael Thaman to its board of directors. These appointments bring UL Inc.'s board of directors to 11 members. [Read more](#)

Mergers and Acquisition

- **Appplus+** has acquired IMA Dresden, a European independent materials testing laboratory for product development. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** has announced the acquisition of Bradley Construction Management, a US-based provider of construction management services for the renewable energy sector. [Read more.](#)
- **Cotecna** has announced the acquisition of Shandong Baier Inspection Limited Company, a food safety testing laboratory in China. [Read more.](#)
- **DEKRA** has acquired Centro Misura Compatibilità (CMC) in Thiene, Italy, expanding its global network of laboratories for electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) and radio frequency (RF) testing. [Read more.](#)
- **Element Materials Technology** has acquired AIRCOM, a conformance testing provider to the wireless devices market's primary network operators. The acquisition strengthens Element's services within the fast growing 5G and connected technologies market. [Read more.](#)
- **Eurofins** has announced that its subsidiary, Eurofins Clinical Testing US Holdings, Inc has entered into an agreement to acquire DNA Diagnostics Center ("DDC"). [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has entered into an agreement to acquire SAI Global Assurance, a leading provider of assurance services. [Read more.](#)
- **Kiwa** has acquired Hudson Cybertec, specialised in cyber security for Industrial Automation & Control Systems (IACS) to expand its presence in the cyber security market. [Read more.](#)
- **Kiwa Germany** has announced that ZERTPUNKT GmbH, specialised in management system certification for sustainability and social standards, has become part of Kiwa Germany. [Read more.](#)
- **RINA** has acquired the Italian-based company Interconsulting Engineering, which is specialised in [aerospace](#) systems, to expand their expertise in safety-critical software engineering and complex electronic systems prototyping. [Read more](#)
- **SOCOTEC Italia** has announced the acquisition of TecnoLab Srl, an Italian company specialized in construction material testing and geotechnical services. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has announced the acquisition of Brightsight, the leading cybersecurity evaluation laboratory network for chip-based security products. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has announced that SYNLAB Analytics & Services will now be known as SGS Analytics, following its previous acquisition. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has announced the acquisition of the minority stake in The Lab (Asia) Ltd (TLA). It now becomes a wholly owned subsidiary of the SGS Group following the initial acquisition of 51% in 2016. [Read more.](#)

Accreditation and Standardisation

EA

- The EA 2020 Annual Report is available [here](#)
- EA has informed its members on the ruling of the European Court of Justice on Regulation 765. The ruling was in favor of ACCREDIA and the European accreditation system regarding accreditation of European CABs by non-EA accreditation bodies. The full text of the ECJ ruling is [here](#).
- EA has released a report (only for internal use) regarding the HHC work on remote assessments. EA also informed that an HHC guidance members' procedural document will be developed based on the report and potential international and stakeholders' inputs. The HHC has established a TFG convened by Martin Sencak (SNAS) and the NWIP to start to develop this document has been approved.
- EA decided to hold all autumn 2021 EA meetings remotely. The EA General Assembly is still planned for 24-25 November 2021, remotely.
- The ballot for a revised "EA-4/20 Guidance for the assessment of laboratories against EN ISO 15189 and EN ISO 22870 Point-of Care Testing (POCT)" was successful. The revised document will be published soon on the EA website.
- For information: ENISA published the first scheme under the Cybersecurity Act - called Common Criteria based European candidate cybersecurity certification scheme (EUCC). It includes provisions on the certification of ICT products by accredited CBs and with involvement of accredited Laboratories (ITSEFs). The scheme cannot be used yet, because ENISA has to establish first the implementing act. But it is a good source for preparation. ENISA is currently working also on the guideline for the accreditation of ITSEFS and the rules for the Cybersecurity label.
- Fredrik Langmead (SWEDAC) has been elected as the new Vice-Chair of the HHC.
- EA-3/01 "EA Conditions for the use of Accreditation Symbols, Logos and other claims of accreditation and reference to the EA MLA Signatory status" has been approved and is available [here](#).
- Save the date: on 24 September 2021 (presumably 09:30 - 13:00 CET) EA will be hosting a webinar in support to the preparation of the implementation of the EUCC scheme.

IAF

- IAF has informed that, as of 28 April 2021, the Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand (JAS-ANZ) will withdraw all accreditations of Assure Quality Management Certification Services Pvt. Ltd. (AQMCS), 1172 Sector-11, Panchkula Tri City Chandigarh 134109 INDIA, for the issuance of certification without any procedural compliance, and merely in exchange of money. JAS-ANZ will maintain any certifications issued by AQMCS on its register for ninety days from the date of public notice being included in the Times of India newspaper, to enable those clients to transfer to another JAS-ANZ accredited certification body.
- Mr. Matt Gantley, Chief Executive of UKAS, has been appointed as the new Chair of the IAF CertSearch Database Management Committee (DMC) effective 01 May 2021.
- The IAF Technical Committee met virtually on May 12. Two important outcomes followed: the working group developing the MD XX on conformity assessment schemes will continue its work - the decision was 36 yes and 17 no. Furthermore, the CABAC proposal to transform selected TC decision into resolutions was not approved, 24 to 24.
- Version 5.1 of the FSSC 22000 scheme has been accepted by the IAF Executive Committee following review by the IAF liaison sector representative and MLA Committee Chair in accordance with IAF PL3.

The [IAF MLA Status](#) document has been updated accordingly and is available on the IAF website under the IAF PR 4 listing in the [Publications - Procedures Documents](#) area, and on the [IAF MLA page](#).

- IAF is calling for nominations for:
 - ⇒ IAF Financial Oversight Committee Association Member (2022-2024) - Dr Micheal Berger (PEFC) is completing a first three-year term, and has indicated his availability to run for a second term.
 - ⇒ Chair of the IAF MLA Committee (2022-2024) - Mr. Norman Brunner (AA) has completed his second three-year term. One nomination was received for Kylie Sheehan of JAS-ANZ.
 - ⇒ Chair of the IAF Communications and Marketing Committee (2022-2024) - Mr. Brahim Houla of GAC (GCC) is completing a first three-year term. He has confirmed his willingness to run for a second term.
- Another round of voting for the position of IAF Vice Chair is being conducted as none of the three original candidates received more than 51% of the votes. Lori Gillespie of ANAB and Wolfram Hartmann of DAKKS are on the second ballot.
- Kevin Belson of UKAS has been elected Chair of the IAF Technical Committee.
- A Task Force “to produce a definitive document on remote auditing/assessment” has been established by IAF.
- An Accreditation WG has been established in IAF. The first task of the WG Accreditation is to review [IAF MD15:2014 IAF Mandatory Document for the Collection of Data to Provide Indicators of Management System Certification Bodies' Performance](#).

IAF/ILAC

- The in-person 2021 Joint IAF-ILAC Annual Meetings are cancelled. Remote meetings are being planned along the same lines as the 2020 Annual Meetings and in a similar time period to the originally proposed in person meetings, ie 28 October - 06 November 2021.

ISO CASCO

- ISO CASCO has issued a clarification on ISO IEC 17065. For further information, see [here](#) and [here](#).

EA-IAF-ISO CASCO

- A question on consultancy in the context of ISO/IEC 17021-1 was raised in the EA Certification Committee where it was agreed that a request for clarification should be submitted to ISO CASCO. Procedurally, the request had to go through IAF TC.

The laboratory of the future

Laboratory News

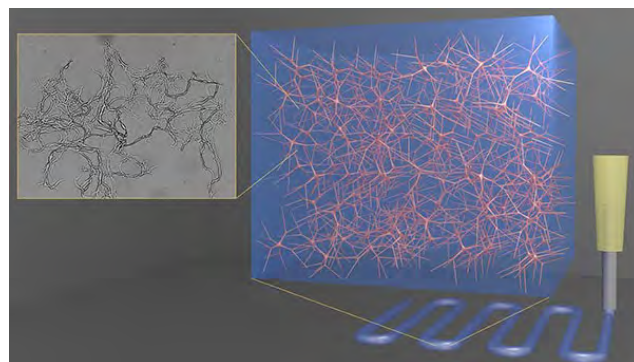
- **Research points to a green energy system sooner than we'd hoped!** Research shows solar photovoltaics are already cheaper, more innovative, and more integrated into the world's energy systems than previously expected. Additionally, system developments already in the pipeline will enhance this upward trend even further. So, assuming politics doesn't prevent it, we might expect global green energy to be available even sooner than previously predicted. [Read more.](#)
- **Recycled graphene from tyres can make more environmentally friendly concrete:** This could be where the rubber truly hits the road. Rice University scientists have optimised a process to convert waste from rubber tyres into graphene that can, in turn, be used to strengthen concrete. Recycled tyre waste can be used to make more environmentally friendly concrete and Rice University lab's optimised flash process could reduce carbon emissions. [Read more.](#)
- **Expansion microscopy: Imaging biological samples at nanoscale using an ordinary light microscope.** Using an ordinary light microscope, MIT engineers have devised a technique for imaging biological samples with accuracy at the scale of 10 nanometers -- which should enable them to image viruses and potentially even single biomolecules. "If you could see individual molecules and identify what kind they are, with single-digit-nanometer accuracy, then you might be able to actually look at the structure of life." [Read more.](#)



- **Innovation roadmap to improve smartphone apps for point-of-care diagnosis and treatment guidance.** A new review paper looks at advanced research in smartphone-based imaging systems for healthcare. The researchers focused on understanding the core functionality

necessary for biomedical imaging and the most effective use-case scenarios for medically savvy smartphone imaging systems with the aim of providing an innovation roadmap aimed at improving and customising control of light delivery and identifying top emerging technologies for point-of-care diagnostic and treatment guidance applications. [Read more.](#)

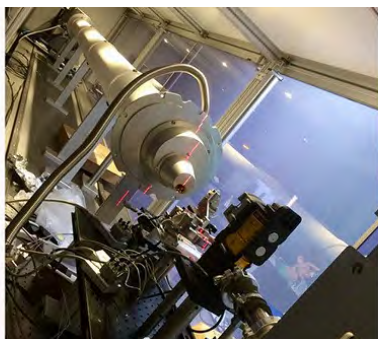
- **Pre-programmed degradation makes 'biodegradable' plastics truly compostable.** By embedding polymer-eating enzymes in plastic, researchers have found a way to make previously tricky polyester plastics break down more easily, with just heat and water, within a few weeks. By solving the issue of contamination when composting plastic accessories such as lids and utensils, the pre-programmed degradation of biodegradable polymers for single-use plastics should help keep plastics recycling on the track and help eliminate microplastics. [Read more.](#)



- **Replacing plastics in fibre-based packaging for full recycling:** New research highlights biodegradable barrier polymers to replace plastics and non-repulpable laminating adhesives currently being used in fibre-based packaging. The commissioned study concludes that 'recycle ready' adhesives and fully soluble barriers can deliver fully functioning packaging for food, drink and household goods that are non-toxic, marine safe, dissolvable and subsequently biodegradable and so fully recyclable. [Read more.](#)
- **Texas CRISPR gene editing opens new battlefront against Duchenne MD.** Thirty five years ago the human gene that causes Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) was discovered. It was hailed as a light bulb moment in understanding the disease mechanism. However, there was little practical progress towards new treatments or

therapies over the next two decades. Now, the rapid emergence of CRISPR gene editing technique is proving a game changer in the revised battleplan against the distressing condition. [Read more.](#)

- **3D-printed hydrogels with improved tunable properties.** The design of 3D-printable seaweed hydrogels that use multiple interpenetrating networks to enable enhanced mechanical properties offer new applications in biomedical materials, 3D printing, and soft robotics. New research reports a class of self-reinforced homocomposite hydrogels (HHGs) offering more tunable properties for jelly materials that can be used for improved wound healing and drug delivery products. [Read more.](#)
- **X-ray Ptychography performed for first time at small-scale Laboratory Source.** X-ray ptychography has been used to perform high-resolution phase contrast diffraction imaging on small-scale laboratory sources. A compact liquid metal-jet (LMJ) X-ray source for a proof-of-field experiment that opens lab-based far field X-ray ptychography to new areas of science and university-based study. [Read more.](#)



- **First virtual symposium on quantum technology, semiconductors, and power generation.** Oxford Instruments plc is pleased to announce its first Virtual Symposium on Quantum Technology, Semiconductors, and Power Generation, taking place on June 8th-10th, 2021 under the motto "Helping the experts of today take on the challenges of tomorrow". [Read more.](#)
- **Commercial quanta image sensors - a new era in solid-state imaging.** Solid-state technology capable of imaging individual photons of light to enable full-speed photon counting at room temperature is now accessible commercially. The CMOS-based QIS devices use patented sensor architecture and pixel design to achieve record low noise that enables accurate detection of individual photons of light. [Read more.](#)

- **Record quantum entanglement rates: A step closer to the Quantum Internet.** In a landmark step for quantum communications, researchers have achieved record entanglement rates of two multimode quantum memories located in different labs separated by 10 meters, and heralded by a photon at the telecommunication wavelength. This is a major step forward for the future quantum internet. The technological system could be integrated into the fibre communication network, paving the way to operation over long distances. [Read more.](#)



- **Electron microscopy just became a thousand times more efficient.** Imaging a million samples a second to make electron microscopy a thousand times more efficient, the new 'Ruska' microscope will be able to see proteins fold and capture drug molecules in action. Being able to view features smaller than the wavelength of visible light, the new technology is set to be a game-changer for physical and biological sciences. [Read more.](#)



- **SoyFilm: Is this the end of fossil fuel single-use plastics?** At last! A sustainable, scalable and 100 percent natural plant protein-based polymer that functions like plastic and can be broken down naturally after use. Inspired by spiders webs, the polymer is as strong and flexible yet easily deconstructable and offers 'planet-first scalability'. The new material requires none of the chemical additives commonly seen in biopolymers, and decomposes naturally in the environment leaving no pollutants behind. Potential

applications include replacements for single-use packaging such as carrier bags, sachets and capsules. [Read more.](#)

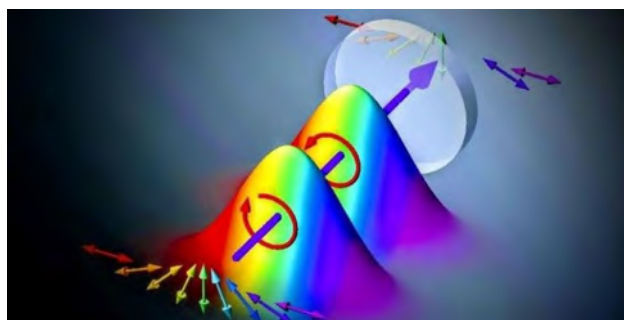


- **Wastewater Treatment System Recovers Electricity, Filters Water.** A dual-function electrode in a microbial fuel cell combines two previously separate functions. [Read more.](#)
- **Scientists Find New Way of Predicting COVID-19 Vaccine Efficacy.** Australian researchers have identified the immune response associated with protection from COVID-19—a discovery that may help cut the time it takes to develop new vaccines. [Read more.](#)
- **How Holograms Increase Solar Energy Yield.** A newly developed holographic light collector boosts solar panel efficiency for an energy conversion increase of about five percent over the course of a year. [Read more.](#)
- **Fighting Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria with a Glowing New Weapon.** New tool reveals bacterial weaknesses and could lead to more targeted or new treatments for bacterial infections. [Read more.](#)
- **Scientists Discover New Approach to Stabilize Cathode Materials.** Chemists study an elusive material property looking to stabilize high-nickel-content cathodes for future batteries. [Read more.](#)
- **Future Washable Smart Clothes Powered by**



Wi-Fi Will Monitor Your Health. Smart clothing will make you more productive and even call for help if you suffer an accident. [Read more.](#)

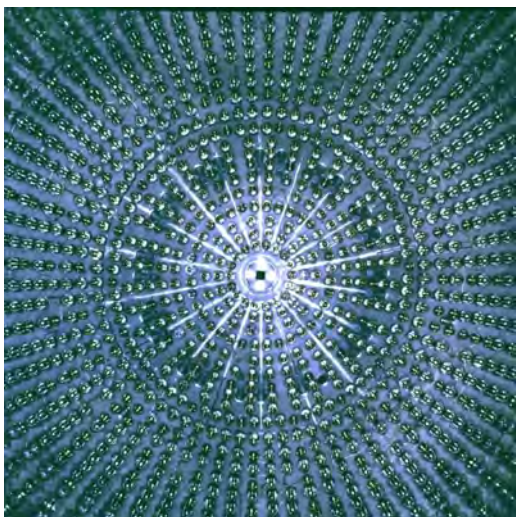
- **Eco-Friendly Technology to Produce Energy from Textile Waste.** Scientists propose a method to convert lint-microfibers found in clothes dryers into energy. [Read more.](#)
- **New High-Speed Method for Spectroscopic Measurements.** New method opens possibilities to measure spectral changes on a nanosecond time scale. [Read more.](#)
- **New Research Opens Pathway to Artificial Intelligence Discoveries.** Nanowire network trained to solve simple problem mimicking neural pathways. [Read more.](#)
- **Scientists Utilize Carbon Dioxide More Efficiently with Magnets in Electrolysis.** A new opportunity to use magnetism to reduce the energy required for CO2 electrolysis. [Read more.](#)
- **Collaboration to Accelerate NGS and Immunology Diagnostic Tools Announced.** Mayo Clinic, a nonprofit organisation committed to innovation in clinical practice, education and research, and Thermo Fisher Scientific have joined forces to bring innovative solutions to patients by accelerating clinical validation, and commercialisation of selected next-generation sequencing (NGS), mass spectrometry and immunology diagnostic tools. [Read more.](#)



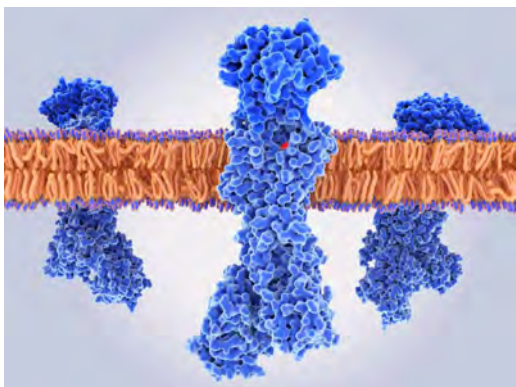
- **Protein Degradation Centre to Revolutionise Drug Discovery.** The University of Dundee is launching a new translational research centre, boosting its world-leading position in a field of chemical biology that is revolutionising drug discovery, while helping to facilitate the development of high growth companies and create skilled jobs. [Read more.](#)
- **Therapeutic Pipeline Investment aims to Reduce Developmental Risk.** An investment of €1M (\$1.2M) in a new pipeline of complex therapeutic targets and native antigens of high relevance for pharmaceutical companies has been announced by French biotech Calixar. [Read more.](#)

Laboratory Events

- **NTU Singapore Scientists Develop System to Deliver Electrically-activated Glue for Sealing Defects in Broken Blood Vessels.** A team of researchers led by Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) has developed a device that offers a quicker and less invasive way to seal tears and holes in blood vessels, using an electrically-activated glue patch applied via a minimally invasive balloon catheter. [Read more.](#)



- **How can Fragmentation Tandem Mass Spectrometry help to Identify Molecular Biosignatures of Life Forms?** An international research team has found a way of quantifying the structures of complex molecules, which could help identify the unique chemical signatures of life forms on other planets, or potentially of new life forms created in the laboratory. [Read more.](#)
- **Can Controlled Nanoparticles be used in Biological Systems?** Biocompatible nanoparticles with controllable properties that will benefit the development of non-invasive biosensors, signal systems and non-toxic dyes have been produced by scientists at ITMO University, St Petersburg. [Read more.](#)



- The IMEKO XXIII World congress (IMEKO2021) will be held as an international conference in August 30-September 3, 2021, co-organized by Science Council of Japan (SCJ) and The Society of Instrument and Control Engineers (SICE). All information [here.](#)

- The 20th International Metrology Congress, CIM 2021, will be held on 07-09 September 2021 in Lyon, France. The Congress is a showcase for industrial best practices and advances in R&D dedicated to measurements, analysis and testing processes. 200 technical presentations and 6 round tables sessions will address three main applications where trust in measurements is key: Industry 4.0, Green Deal and Health. [Read more.](#)



- The 37th International Symposium on Microscale Separations and Bioanalysis will take place on July 12-15, 2021 in Boston, Massachusetts, USA. It is an international forum where researchers from around the world will introduce, promote and discuss the latest innovative scientific research results related to all areas of microscale separations and bioanalysis. [Read more.](#)
- The ARABLAB+ event, originally scheduled for September 2020, will take place instead in Dubai on 15-17 November 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.](#)
- The ACHEMA 2022 live event will be held on 4-8 April 2022 in Frankfurt. With manufacturers and service providers from over 50 countries presenting their products for chemical, pharmaceutical and biotech research and manufacturing as well as energy and environmental services ACHEMA is one of the main events for the international process industries and their suppliers. [Read more.](#)
- The Paperless Lab Academy 2022 will take place on 26 - 27th April 2022 at Lake Maggiore in Italy. No information on the agenda or on the speakers is available yet. [Read more.](#)

Policy News

Chemicals

- **Toxic-free consumer lives:** BEUC published a [report](#) entitled 'Towards toxic-free consumer lives, BEUC's take on the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability'.
- **Tobacco:** the European Commission [published](#) a study on the application of Directive 2014/40/EU concerning the manufacture, presentation and sale of tobacco and related products.
- **Fertilisers:** the European Commission is expected to present a draft act to amend the [Commission Implementing Decision](#) on a standardisation request to the European Committee for Standardisation as regards the EU fertilising products in support of [Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1009](#).

Circular economy

- **Farm to Fork Strategy:** The Agriculture Ministers from the Visegrad Group, Bulgaria, Croatia, and Romania presented a [joint declaration](#) on the Farm to Fork Strategy where they insisted on carrying out an impact assessment before implementing the Strategy.
- **SPI:** on 8 June, Orgalim [published](#) a position paper on the Sustainable Products Initiative from the European Commission.
- **Circular economy:** the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform Coordination [Group](#) published its [2021 Work Plan](#). It will focus on 8 identified key areas: retailers, consumer, and skills; cities and regions; circular procurement; food waste, food systems and bioeconomy; construction and infrastructure; textiles; network governance and circular economy hubs; economic incentives.

Counterfeit products and product safety/compliance

- **Marine equipment:** On 30 April, the European Commission adopted its [Delegated Directive](#) updating EU rules on marine equipment as regards the standards for testing laboratories.
- **Unsafe products:** ANEC and BEUC published a [report](#) entitled 'EU report on unsafe product notifications demonstrates need for legal reform'.
- **Accreditation:** as part of the European Accreditation Strategy 2025, EA has [developed](#) a service concept, the "EA Training Academy", for training and benchmarking purposes.
- **Regulation on batteries:** The European Parliament's Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) Committee has been [appointed](#) lead committee to examine the Commission's [proposal](#) on the new regulatory framework for batteries.
- **Standardisation:** CEN-CENELEC [published](#) a leaflet on "How to Address Accessibility in Standardization".
- **Cosmetics:** the Commission Regulation (EU) 2021/850 of 26 May 2021 amending and correcting Annex II and amending Annexes III, IV and VI to Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009 on cosmetic products was [published](#) in the EU Official Journal.
- **Washing machines:** the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/936 of 3 June 2021 on the harmonised standards for household washing machines and household washer-dryers drafted in support of Regulation (EU) 2019/2023 and Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2014 was [published](#) in the EU Official Journal.

- **Accessibility of lifts:** ANEC published a [position paper](#) entitled “Accessibility of Lifts: How the European standard prEN 81-70:2020 can meet the legal requirements?”
- **CASP20:** the [report](#) of the CASP 2020 project, which was sponsored by the European Commission, and consisted in EU member states’ market surveillance authorities carrying out compliance tests for specific product categories has been made available.
- **Vehicles:** the European Commission [adopted](#) a delegated regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2144 by laying down detailed rules concerning the specific test procedures and technical requirements for the type-approval of motor vehicles with regard to their intelligent speed assistance systems.
- **EU General Product Safety Directive:** on 30 June, the Commission [proposed](#) a [revision](#) of the General Product Safety Directive (GPSD) to enhance consumer rights in a world reshaped by digitalization, environmental issues and the COVID-19 pandemic. It aims to reinforce safety for EU consumers, for example, by making sure that dangerous products are recalled from the market or addressing risks related to new technology products.
- **General Product Safety Directive:** the Commission published two [reports](#) to support the preparation of an evaluation of the GPSD as well as of an impact assessment on its revision.
- **Standardisation:** the European Commission is expected to publish its annual [work programme](#) for European standardisation for 2020 in the coming weeks.

Cybersecurity and digitalization

- The Secretariat-General of the Council of the EU published a Commission [staff working document](#) summarizing the impact assessment report accompanying the Proposal for a Regulation on machinery products.
- **Cybersecurity in Connected and Automated Mobility (CAM):** On 5 May, ENISA published a [report](#) aiming to provide a high-level overview of the cybersecurity challenges in the CAM sector and to highlight both the concerned CAM actors and associated recommendations.
- **Cybersecurity:** The European Parliament’s Committee on Industry, Research and Energy published a [draft report](#) on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union, repealing Directive (EU) 2016/1148. The Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection also released a [draft opinion](#) on the same topic.
- **Network and Information Systems Directive (NIS2):** BEUC published a [position paper](#) entitled ‘Review of the Network and Information Systems Directive’.
- **Network of cybersecurity:** On 3 May, the Commission issued a [Communication](#) to the European Parliament to inform it of the approval of the Council position as it preserves the original objectives of the Commission proposal from September 2018.
- **European Cybersecurity Competence Centre:** On 19 May, MEPs [adopted](#) the [initiative](#) for the creation of a European cybersecurity competence centre with a related network of national coordination centres.
- **Artificial intelligence (AI):** The European Parliament’s Think tank made available a [study](#) entitled “The role of AI in the European Green Deal”. It illustrates the need for regulatory action to align design and deployment of AI with the goals of the European Green Deal and concludes with specific recommendations.

- **Artificial intelligence:** The European Parliament's Think tank made available a [report](#) on the "Challenges and limits of an open source approach to Artificial Intelligence".
- **DSA:** on 21 May, BusinessEurope [published](#) a position paper on the Digital Services Act (DSA).
- **DMA:** on 27 May, France, Germany and the Netherlands released a [joint statement](#) calling for a reinforcement of the EU's Digital Markets Act (DMA) in a range of areas, from member states involvement to merger control. On 21 May, BusinessEurope [published](#) a position paper on the Digital Markets Act (DMA).
- **Artificial intelligence:** the Council of Europe, the Strasbourg-based human rights organisation, will start negotiating its AI treaty by May 2022, the Committee of Ministers [decided](#) last Friday.
- **IoT:** on 9 June, the European Commission has [published](#) the preliminary results of its competition sector inquiry into markets for consumer Internet of Things (IoT) related products and services in the European Union.
- **Artificial intelligence:** the European Parliament's Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) Committee has been [appointed](#) as lead committee to discuss the proposal for an Artificial Intelligence Act.
- **Cyberthreats:** the members of the European Parliament have [called](#) for a strengthening of the EU's security against cyber threats in a [resolution](#) on the Union's Cyber Security Strategy, the EUCSS, for the digital decade. The document stresses the need to tackle evolving hybrid threats by non-state actors that are becoming increasingly sophisticated and numerous as well as address the geopolitical dimension of cyber threats.
- **Artificial intelligence:** the OECD [published](#) a report on how countries are implementing the five recommendations to policymakers contained in the OECD AI Principles.
- **Artificial intelligence:** on 21 June, the European Data Protection Board (EDPB) and the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) [adopted](#) a joint opinion on the European Commission's Proposal for a Regulation laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence calling for a ban on the use of AI for automated recognition of human features in publicly accessible spaces and some other uses of AI that can lead to unfair discrimination
- **Cybersecurity:** on 23 June, the European Commission [published](#) its first report on the implementation of the EU's Cybersecurity Strategy for the Digital Decade.
- **Innovation:** on 24 June, Orgalim [published](#) a position paper titled "Putting innovation at the heart of the twin transitions and the EU recovery".

Environment

- **EU's green finance labelling:** BEUC plus scientists and environmental groups [denounce](#) EU's green finance labelling plans.
- **Renewable energy Directive:** An early draft of the EU's upcoming renewable energy directive [confirms](#) the bloc's objective of sourcing 38-40% of its energy from renewables by 2030, roughly doubling the share of solar, wind and other renewables in Europe's energy mix by the end of the decade.
- **Pollution:** on 12 May, the European Commission adopted the EU Action Plan "[Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil](#)", as part of the European Green Deal. It sets out an integrated vision for 2050: a world where pollution is reduced to levels that are no longer harmful to human health and natural ecosystems.
- **Energy:** the European Consumer Organisation (BEUC) published four position papers on [energy efficiency improvements](#), [energy performance certificates](#), [renewable energy](#), and [district heating](#).

- **Energy:** Orgalim published three position papers on the revision of the [Renewable Energy Directive](#), the [Energy Taxation Directive](#), and the [Energy Efficiency Directive](#).
- **A European Strategy for Hydrogen:** On 19 May, the Parliament report – a non-binding motion with no legal consequences - on the EU’s hydrogen strategy won [support](#), backing the use of “low-carbon hydrogen” made from fossil gas as a bridge towards 100% renewable production.
- **Ecodesign Working Plan (2020-2024):** The four final Task Reports on the Ecodesign and Energy Labelling Work Plan ([EELWP](#)) 2020-2024 have been made [available](#). With the publication of these Reports, the work of the Preparatory study for the EELWP is deemed completed.
- **Carbon levy:** According to a leaked document, the European Union is [planning](#) to slap an import levy on steel, cement and aluminium produced in countries with lower environmental standards, as it seeks to become a world leader on climate without harming domestic producers.
- **Single-Use Plastic rules:** On 31 May, the European Commission has [provided guidance](#) on the EU rules on single-use plastics and has adopted an [Implementing Decision](#) on the monitoring and reporting of fishing gear placed on the market and waste fishing gear collected.
- **Climate:** on 10 June, European Union environment ministers [approved](#) the EU’s new climate change adaptation [strategy](#), which sets out a vision up to 2050 to make Europe resilient and “fully adapted to its inevitable impacts”.
- **Taxonomy:** the European Commission [adopted](#) the delegated regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2020/852 by establishing the technical screening criteria for determining the conditions under which an economic activity qualifies as contributing substantially to climate change mitigation or climate change adaptation and for determining whether that economic activity causes no significant harm to any of the other environmental objectives.
- **Sustainability and e-commerce:** Ecommerce Europe [published](#) the 2nd edition of its Collaborative Report on Sustainability and E-commerce in Europe.

Food

- **Safety criteria for food:** The European Commission will present an [initiative](#) aiming to align EU rules with international ‘Codex alimentarius’ standards on the acceptable level of contamination by *Listeria monocytogenes* of certain categories of ready-to eat food sold on the EU market. The main objective is to protect consumer’s health while facilitating official controls carried out by the competent authorities.
- **Food safety:** On 6 May, the European Food Safety Agency published a new [opinion](#) where it has deemed titanium dioxide, a widely used food additive, to be unsafe, contradicting an earlier conclusion and paving the way for an EU-wide ban after a decade of debate.
- **Food:** FoodDrinkEurope has [launched](#) #FoodFuture, an initiative “to engage European citizens, policy makers, NGOs, academics and industry in a constructive dialogue about the future of our food”.
- **World Food Safety Day:** CELCAA, Copa-Cogeca, EuroCommerce, FEFAC and FoodDrinkEuropeTrade published a joint [press release](#) entitled “World Food Safety Day: EU Agri-food chain’s commitment to safe food now for a healthy tomorrow”.
- **Organic:** the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/1006 of 12 April 2021 amending Regulation (EU) 2018/848 as regards the model of the certificate attesting compliance with the rules on organic production was [published](#) in the EU Official Journal.

Medical devices and health

- **MDR/IVDR:** A Unique Device Identification (UDI) system has been introduced under Regulations (EU) 2017/745 on medical devices (MDR) and (EU) 2017/746 on in vitro diagnostic medical devices (IVDR), which become applicable from 26 May 2021 and 26 May 2022, respectively. On 17 May 2021, the European Commission launched a new helpdesk to support economic operators in implementing the obligations and requirements introduced by the new UDI system. You can access the helpdesk [here](#).
- **Medical devices:** on 26 May, the new [Medical Devices Regulation](#) has [entered](#) into force.
- **Lessons learnt:** on 15 June, the European Commission [presented](#) a [Communication](#) on the early lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic and building on them to improve action at EU and national level.
- **Health:** on 22 June, the European Parliament and Council [reached](#) a provisional agreement on the health technology assessment (HTA), in a move to help member states take more “timely and evidence-based decisions on patient access” to their healthcare systems.
- **Digital COVID Certificate:** on 1 July, the EU Digital COVID Certificate entered into [application](#). This means that EU citizens and residents will now be able to have their certificates issued and verified across the EU.
- **Medical devices:** the public consultation on the draft Implementing Regulation on European Database on Medical Devices closed on 22 June. The public consultation received 14 comments accessible [here](#). The Commission is expected to adopt the act in the third quarter of 2021.
- **Health and safety at work:** on 28 June, the European Commission adopted the EU strategic [framework](#) on health and safety at work 2021-2027. It sets out key [actions](#) needed to improve workers’ health and safety over the coming years.

Trade

- **EU-India:** on 8 May, the EU and India [agreed](#) to revive long-stalled talks on a free trade deal. The EU and India are also expected to launch negotiations on a stand-alone Investment Protection Agreement that would set out provisions on investment protection standards and investment dispute resolution.
- **EU-China:** the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) [published](#) an in-depth analysis of the EU-China Comprehensive Agreement on Investment.
- **EU-China:** On 20 May, the European Parliament [halted ratification](#) of a new investment pact with China until Beijing lifts sanctions on EU politicians, deepening a dispute in Sino-European relations and denying EU companies greater access to China.
- **Global supply chains:** Bloomberg released a [report](#) on how Covid supply shocks and surging corporate demand are upending supply chains.
- **China:** on 26 May, the think-tank Bruegel [published](#) a study titled “How difficult is China’s business environment for European and American companies?”.
- **EU-Switzerland:** on 26 June, Switzerland [decided](#) not to sign a new cooperation agreement with the EU. The so-called framework agreement had been negotiated between 2014 and 2018 and was supposed to upgrade EU-Swiss relations — which are currently governed by a patchwork of bilateral treaties — in the areas of seamless travel, mutual recognition of industrial standards, agricultural products, state aid, medical devices, civil aviation and land transport.
- **EU-U.S.:** The EU has suspended its tariffs on imports of certain US products that would match the economic loss suffered by the EU from the US steel and aluminium tariffs until 30 November 2021. The suspension of tariffs comes after the EU-US [joint statement](#) of 17 May 2021, where the two parties com-

mitted to starting discussions in order to reach a mutual resolution of concerns as regards steel and aluminium disputes. When President Joe Biden travels to Brussels next month, the European Union and the U.S. will commit to trying to [end the trade conflicts](#) that have tainted the transatlantic relationship while also pledging to work together to move past the Covid-19 pandemic.

- **EU-U.K.:** The European Union [extended](#) the grace period on exports of chilled meat from the British mainland to Northern Ireland until the end of September—temporarily diffusing a trade dispute dubbed the “[sausage war](#)”. Under the Brexit agreement, Northern Ireland is still bound by EU food standards, meaning some exports across the Irish Sea are in effect banned. The British government wants to renegotiate.
- **EU-Mercosur:** on 28 June, several European business associations representing different European sectors, [called](#) for the swift ratification of the EU-Mercosur association agreement.
- **Unfair practices:** on 7 June, EuroCommerce [published](#) a position paper on “Implementation of Unfair Trading Practices Directive and impact”.
- **EU imports:** the European Commission released a [publication](#) entitled “EU imports requirements, authorizations and prohibitions for animal products: comparison between different categories of third countries”.
- **EU-Australia:** the eleventh round of negotiations for an ambitious and comprehensive EU-Australia trade agreement was [held](#) virtually from 1 to 11 June 2021. Negotiators discussed and progressed in most areas of the future agreement, such as services and investment, trade in goods, technical barriers to trade, trade and sustainable development, intellectual property rights including geographical indications, sanitary and phytosanitary measures. The chapter on professional services was provisionally concluded. The next negotiation round is planned for autumn 2021.

International Events

July 12-15 2021: [International Symposium on Microscale Separations and Bioanalysis](#) – Boston, USA

30 August-3 September 2021: [IMEKO XXIII World congress](#)

7-9 September 2021: [20th International Metrology Congress](#) - Lyon, France

TBD September 2021: [Fragmentation. Europe's cybersecurity challenge](#) - Orgalim

19-22 September 2021: [XXII World Congress on Safety and Health at Work](#)

23 September 2021: [EU Product Safety Award](#)

27-30 September 2021: [10th Eurachem Workshop on Proficiency Testing in Analytical Chemistry, Microbiology and Laboratory Medicine](#)

28-30 September 2021: [20th International Metrology Congress CIM 2021](#)

29 September 2021: [CEN-CENELEC - Harmonised European standards: Drafting standards compliant with EU legislation](#)

25-29 October 2021: [EU Sustainable Energy Week \(EUSEW\) 2021 Sustainability Week: Countdown to COP26](#)

1-12 November 2021: [2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference](#)—Glasgow, UK

14-17 November 2021: [ARABLAB+](#) - Dubai, UAE

3-4 February 2022: [DIGITALEUROPE's flagship summit "Masters of Digital"](#)

4-8 April 2022: [ACHEMA Live Event](#) – Frankfurt, Germany

26 - 27th April 2022: [Paperless Lab Academy](#) - Lake Maggiore, Italy.

23-24 June 2022: [EU Safety 2022](#)—Vienna, Austria

EUROLAB Events

9 September 2021 – EUROLAB Board Meeting

15 September 2021—EUROLAB TCQA Working Group on Decision Rules Meeting

17 September 2021 – EUROLAB TCQA Meeting

5 October 2021—EUROLAB Webinar on Decision Rules

16-17 November 2021—TIC Summit

TIC Council publishes a report on the value of the TIC sector

The report on the Value of the Testing, Inspection and Certification (TIC) sector was developed jointly by the international law firm Steptoe and the London-based consultancy Europe Economics.

The report illustrates how the TIC sector benefits a variety of stakeholders across a large number of sectors and industries around the world. The study looks at the scale and scope of activities that it performs, the various ways that the sector can benefit different kinds of stakeholders, and provide a few case studies to demonstrate that the value arising from the sector can be significant.

You can read the report [here](#)



EUROLAB publishes a leaflet for guidance on Decision Rules

This leaflet on the subject of decision rules for laboratories and customers was created in response to the current problems of communications between labs and customers that have emerged in recent times.

It was then decided to create and distribute a leaflet dedicated to customers in order to better explain the concept and the principles of the matters related to decision rules.

This document is now available on the EUROLAB website and can be found [here](#).

