

EUROLAB Newsletter

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Dear EUROLAB Members,

Hereby we present you with the fourth EUROLAB newsletter of 2021, which I hope will find you all safe and healthy.

The last three months have been full of interesting activities for EUROLAB. From the 13th until 16th October, we had the pleasure to participate in the 16th International Conference on Laboratories Competence 2021, excellently organized by CROLAB in Brijuni Island, Croatia. On this occasion Laura Martin offered a presentation with the title "TIC SECTOR EXPLAINED" while I personally contributed with two other presentations on the International Cooperation Promoted by EUROLAB and on the Current and Future Challenges for the Laboratories. I take this opportunity to thank our host Davor Zvizdić and all his collaborators.



On 25-26th October, our NLA-SA partners organized the Test & Measurement 2021 Conference which included a wide variety of technical disciplines in the fields of analytical measurement, calibration and physical testing. EUROLAB had been represented by our Board Member and Past President Álvaro Silva Ribeiro, who gave an update on Calibration and Testing in Europe. Also, many thanks to our friends John Wilson and Steve Sidney for collaboration.

In the recent weeks, EUROLAB has renewed two important Memorandums of Understanding with EURACHEM and IMEKO. We are also preparing to sign a MoU with EURAMET for which a meeting has already been scheduled for January 2022. I would like to underline the importance of these agreements that allow us to activate collaborations with our three key stakeholders, be able to communicate and cooperate for joint projects. Of course, it is not enough to sign agreements, but we must actively participate in each other's activities and keep well informed.

Moreover, on November 16th we held our National Members Meeting and we had the pleasure of hosting Marina Patriarca, EURACHEM Past Chair, Mikko Merimaa, EURAMET Secretary General, Anne Trumpfheller, EURAMET Head of Communications and Frank Härtig, IMEKO President. Their presence testifies to the common will to collaborate in order to create value for our members and for the entire laboratory community. Thanks to this network, we have access to vast skills, and we will continue bringing an added value for our laboratories, aiming to strengthen their expertise and competitiveness. To do this, it is necessary to continue a close collaboration with our key stakeholders, get involved in key projects and activities, as well as exchange of expertise both at the European level and within individual countries and associations.

Therefore, what do we need to do to make our participation in EUROLAB more effective? How to create more added value for our Members and their Associates? It's simple enough, but not that easy: we must participate and bring valuable contributions. I know, it is easier to be said than done! It seems we are snowed under, but we must not forget to keep up to date, informed, and look to the future. Please be active in EUROLAB activities, involve your colleagues, encourage participation in the working groups, respond to our requests, give us feedback and share your opinions. Thanks in advance for your efforts!

Finally, I would like to inform you that the new EUROLAB [leaflet](#) has been published. It is a useful tool to make our federation better known among our stakeholders.

Thank you for your attention and together with the colleagues from the Board and the Secretariat, we wish you the best for the coming days and for the New Year. A warm greeting, in the hope of being able to meet you in person soon.

Paolo Moscatti, EUROLAB President

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EUROLAB Highlights

EUROLAB–EURACHEM Signed their first MoU

In light of a close and fruitful cooperation, **EUROLAB** and **EURACHEM** signed their Memorandum of Understanding on 19 October 2021, via an online meeting.

EUROLAB and EURACHEM will work together in the organisation of joint events, contributing to the joint work in working groups of mutual interest (e.g. on development of guidelines) and assist each other in finding suitable experts for dealing with specific tasks, such as sampling and decision rules. Details about this collaboration could be read on our [website](#).



Test & Measurement 2021 Conference

The **Test & Measurement 2021 Conference** took place on **25-26 October**, organized by EUROLAB member the National Association of Laboratories (NLA) – South Africa. The agenda included **Building bridges** to improve measurement accuracy in **climate change, food safety and laboratory medicine** presented by **Robert Wielgosz**, BIPM - Director of the Chemistry Department; Update on Calibration/Testing in Europe, presented by **Álvaro Ribeiro**, Board Member & Past President - EUROLAB; What has the NLA done during Covid, presented by **Steve Sidney**, Executive Director of **NLA-SA**; Value of Artificial Intelligence in Laboratories, presented by **Archana Arakkal** Practice lead: intelligent data division **Synthesis Software**.



EUROLAB National Members' Meeting

EUROLAB organised a successful National Members' Meeting on 16 November 2021 which was a hybrid event that welcomed representatives from the following key partners **EURACHEM, EURAMET** and **IMEKO**.

The main theme of this year's meeting was the importance of **collaboration** and joint efforts between **stakeholders**, in this regard, various key activities and cooperation opportunities were explored.

The President of EUROLAB, Mr. Paolo Moscati, emphasised the importance of having the support and feedback from the EUROLAB membership as well as the engagement of the members' members at the national level, stating that "**communication** is key, while sharing of expertise and feedback, builds upon a stronger and interactive community". Highlights of the meeting can be read on our [website](#).



EUROLAB and IMEKO signed a new MoU

Following their close cooperation, **EUROLAB** and **IMEKO** signed a new MoU on 2 December 2021. The two organisations discussed future joint projects and collaboration opportunities which will focus on exchange of expertise and communication strategies. EUROLAB will be the main **partner** in the organisation of the next year's IMEKO 45 minutes seminars and conferences related to the IMEKO Technical Committees and the measurement sector.

The two organisations will maintain a continuous communication to explore new future opportunities on common topics and activities such as organisations of webinars on Decision Rules and Sampling, Lab of the future and Digitalisation. Details about this collaboration and to see the MoU, please access our [website](#).



National Members News

EUROLAB SPAIN

EUROLAB-España held a webinar in collaboration with ENAC-The National Accreditation Entity (designated by the Government, to operate in Spain as the only National Accreditation Body), on 24th November, with the title "Decision Rules: Statement of compliance against specifications in the scope of ISO/IEC 17025 according to the ILAC-G8 Guide". The webinar welcomed around 150 attendees. It was organised in collaboration with the National Accreditation Entity. The event was moderated by Ms. M^a Teresa Sanfeliu Ribot – President of EUROLAB-Spain, having as a speaker Mr. José Luis Borrego Nadal – Head of the Department of Laboratories and Product Certification of ENAC.



EUROLAB France

EUROLAB France, the association that represents the French community of testing, calibration and analysis laboratories accredited by COFRAC, introduced a new service for its members. It has created facilities on its website to promote the training courses provided by their members (a catalogue). The system is operational and the first courses are available on the [website](#).



The relation with COFRAC, the French accreditation body, is maintained by the EUROLAB France Board President who is also a treasurer at COFRAC board. He keeps EUROLAB France updated with news from COFRAC where a new administrator has been elected to represent the association.

In order to improve the member's competence, technical work is practiced. For instance, in the fields where there is no accredited intercomparison organiser, EUROLAB France has this role. It organises comparisons sessions between its members (with careful statistical exploitation) and two recent examples are related to the electromagnetic compatibility and climatic mechanics testing. This service has enabled the association to increase its membership.

Also, to improve the work of the Working Groups, the Quality Management WG created a feedback on remote assessments by COFRAC and is to be sent to the EUROLAB France President to discuss the areas that might need improvements and implementation of possible changes.

Regarding the activities for 2022, the Board decided to launch several technical half-days experience sharing (remote) on current topics (IT means, internal metrology, risk and opportunity, remote assessment). As usual, COFRAC will be invited to participate and share opinions and expertise.

ALPI

CENTROCOT, a laboratory member of the ALPI Association, invested in a new multisectoral experimental laboratory for recycling. This was created with the aim of responding to the current need for experimentation and verification of recycling processes for the textile sector and plastic and composite materials, also integrating the fundamental support of intelligence and related training activities.



The new laboratory includes a section dedicated to materials testing, product prototyping and testing of mechanical and thermal recycling processes. These activities can cover the entire range of natural, artificial and synthetic textile materials, also extending it to plastic and composite materials. The acquisition of machines for laboratory and pilot scale processing of textiles and plastics will guarantee the possibility of prototyping and experimentation while new analysis tools, that supplement those already supplied to Centrocot SpA, will allow the execution of the necessary performance checks. The presence of experimental lines for additive manufacturing and smart textiles will then allow to extend the possibilities of experimentation, prototyping and verification of the effective possibilities of recycling and reuse of textile and plastic materials.

The experimental section will be accompanied by an intelligence section, the key element of which will be the M3P (Material Match Making Platform) digital platform capable of supporting companies in identifying potential paths for the recovery and recycling of materials and in accessing information and technologies of interest. The intelligence section will also support technology scouting and a series of specific communication activities.



CENTROCOT
Innovation experience

Finally, the Multisectoral Experimental Laboratory will also include a section dedicated to technical-practical training activities for vocational courses, technical laboratories and specialist training. Specific spaces and equipment will be made available here for practical activities, thus increasing the effectiveness of the training courses. [CENTROCOT SpA](#) is a [ALPI Association](#) Member.

METRICODE Technology is a member of the ALPI WG on Calibration and Testing, specialized in high technology for metrology and weighing processes. Metricode strives to digitalize and simplify the weighing and metrology processes providing weighing software and cloud platform (software as a service). The aim of the company is to make the weighing and legal metrology procedures more efficient, automated and interconnected, reducing errors, time, resources and money.



All software are accessible directly from the internet or from the company intranet; user-friendly: simple and usable by anyone, in all situations; customizable according to your specific needs; usable from desktop, smartphone and tablet.



Company's key points of strength:

- Digitalization of the processes of Calibration, with completely digital registration of data and emission of the document.
- Automatic acquisition of data, the technicians do not need anymore to register manually the data, but they are automatically registered in the software used for Metrology activities
- Integration of Data, every weighing and metrology data is only registered once. All data are integrated with the business management systems.
- Remote Support through Artificial Intelligence technologies (Metricode offers assistance using for example, Chat-Bot)
- Analytics and KPI performance generation. All data collected are used to keep track of the processes, allowing to make promptly changes to correct possible errors.
- Digital Academy, can offer the knowledge they have acquired over years operating in metrology market. They support customers in the processes helping in the path of metrology digitalization.

The technological weighing and metrology solutions enables companies to embrace Ecological Transition: Metricode's software enables companies to operate mostly in remote. The technicians can operate and fix problem directly via computer, allowing the reduction of transportation cost and amount of paper documents. [Metricode](#) participates in the activities of ALPI Association Working Groups for calibration and testing.

IMEKO

IMEKO, the International Measurement Confederation, is delighted to announce the joint EUROLAB - IMEKO TC-11 & TC-24 hybrid conference to be held in Dubrovnik, October 16-20, 2022, under the slogans "*Measurement for a better life*" and "*Chemical measurements towards a sustainable future*".

Conference topics for *Measurement for a better life*:

- ✓ Management systems and Quality in the TIC sector (Testing, Inspection & Certification).
- ✓ Regulatory framework for quality, safety, and security of products and services (agri-food; environment; health; cybersecurity; communication; construction; IoT; AI; among others).
- ✓ Accreditation of conformity assessment bodies.



- ✓ Innovation and validation of methods in testing, calibration, inspection, and certification.
- ✓ Sampling activities related to measurement in the TIC Sector.
- ✓ Metrological traceability, measurement uncertainty, and conformity assessment in TIC Sector.
- ✓ Proficiency testing schemes, inter-laboratory, intra-laboratory comparisons, and other methods of quality assurance.
- ✓ Certification of reference materials and their use in laboratories.
- ✓ Certification of products, processes, management systems, and persons.
- ✓ Management of information using LIMS concept.
- ✓ Promotion of co-operation with other international associations and with IMEKO TC's.

Conference topics for *Chemical measurements towards a sustainable future*:

- ✓ Applied metrology for everyday life:
- ✓ Environmental measurements
- ✓ Measurements for food and agriculture
- ✓ Measurements and sensors for health and medicine
- ✓ Traceability and certificate reference materials
- ✓ Traceability of chemical measurements in the health sector
- ✓ Traceability of environmental measurements in different matrices (water, soils, sediments, etc) at regulation limits levels
- ✓ Measurement traceability in conformity assessment
- ✓ Traceability of on-site measurements
- ✓ Chemical and biochemical sensors
- ✓ Drug delivery monitoring and assessment
- ✓ Measurements in energy and advanced fuels development
- ✓ Data integrity in a chemical laboratory
- ✓ Identifying the unknown, beyond the classical analysis
- ✓ Measurements for Cultural Heritage
- ✓ Electrochemical Measurements and Corrosion

Accepted and presented full papers will be submitted for inclusion in Scopus after the event. After the Conference, selected authors will have the opportunity to submit an extended version of their papers to '**Measurement: Sensors**' (Elsevier) or to '**Acta IMEKO**'. Elsevier will offer a 100% APC waiver for all papers accepted in the Special Issue in 'Measurement: Sensors'. All extended papers submitted to the two journals will undergo the normal peer-review process.

Also, IMEKO is pleased to announce one of the world's largest conferences on food safety and quality in 2022. EUROLAB and Technical Committee TC-23 ("Metrology in Food and Nutrition"), part of IMEKO (International Metrolo-



gy Confederation) organizes *Hybrid Conference, Dubrovnik, November 7-9, 2022* under the slogan: "Food in the global market - opportunities or threats". EUROLAB is also an official partner.

Conference topics are:

- ✓ Food Safety & Food Quality
- ✓ Food authenticity and integrity
- ✓ Food Contact Materials
- ✓ Recent trends in food
- ✓ Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the global food supply chain
- ✓ Novel analytical methods for food quality integrity and Novel foods
- ✓ Accreditation, Proficiency Testing and Reference Materials
- ✓ Risk Assessment and Risk Management
- ✓ Risk communication and public health
- ✓ Nutrition & Health
- ✓ Consumer protection
- ✓ Smart devices

You can keep updated following the news at www.imekofoods.com.

EUROLAB-CZ

EUROLAB-CZ has provided an analysis on the topic "Concrete water-permeable paving elements for permeable paving".

Rainwater management is becoming an important part of environmental protection. The use of permeable paving in selected roads is a suitable way to reduce the amount of rainwater conducted to the sewerage system.

Concrete water-permeable paving elements (blocks or slabs) for permeable surfaces are a new product designed for environmentally friendly structures. These products can work on any principle from standard elements with wide joints filled with precisely defined material up to advanced products based on the principle of concrete with a highly water-permeable structure.

Water-permeability of the material has proved to be its critical feature because paved permeable surfaces must comply with requirements for rainwater infiltration into the subsoil or for the amount of rainwater drainage to the sewerage system. Due to the existing legal requirements for economic design of the entire sewerage system, the second feature appears significantly more important in the assessment of the products.

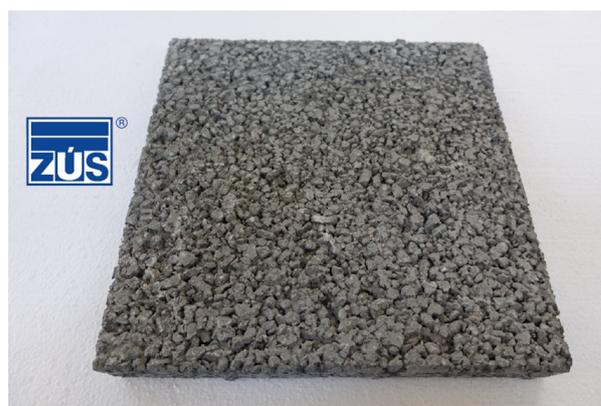
The Technical and Test Institute for Construction Prague, SOE, member of EUROLAB-CZ, has derived a demand for water-permeability of permeable paving from the Czech national standards and regulations. Based on the national standardized fifteen-minute rain intensity and with regard to the safety permeability coefficient according to EN 12056-3 and the national demand for maximum rainwater drainage from permeable paving to the sewerage system,

its level has been determined as $0.048 \text{ l} \times \text{m}^{-2} \times \text{s}^{-1}$.

To assess the water-permeability, the Technical and Test Institute for Construction Prague, SOE, has developed a simple testing method that excludes lateral water leaks soaking through the tested product, which can significantly affect the test result. This testing method has two versions allowing a test of the actual paver made of a porous material or a test of a determined paved area with wide, specially filled gaps.

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The resistance requirements of advanced concrete water-permeable paving elements to power impacts of the road traffic and the climatic influences together with sufficient water-permeability are taken for granted. However, these properties can be determined by means of standardized procedures described for example in EN 1338 or EN 1339. Finally, it is necessary to point out that any type of permeable paving must be designed and installed only on a subsoil with a sufficient ability to drain water into a permeable base or accumulate a sufficient volume of soaked water in case of impermeable subsoil. For more information please contact Ms. Hana Nohelová, Ph.D., +420 604 821 496, nohelovah@tzus.cz.



(Example of concrete water permeable paving flag)

TURKLAB

TÜRKAĞ (The Turkish Accreditation Agency) - **Information Seminar for Non-Governmental Organizations and Public—Ankara on October 13, 2021**

In the opening speech, Ambassador Faruk Kaymakçı, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs & Director for EU Affairs, commented on Turkey - European Union relations, internal activities on compliance assessment, the Paris Climate Agreement, the European Green Deal and green transition. This followed the speeches of Bartosz Przywara, Economic Counsellor for EU Delegation in Turkey, and Barba-

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ros Murat Köse, Head Deputy of the Central Finance and Contracts Unit. The seminar continued with presentations from various speakers including the TURKLAB Honorary President Dr. Ömer Güzel who contributed to the panel on “Strategies for NGOs to help their members to cope with struggles resulting from changes brought by technology, legislation, and business models”.

Two separate panels were held by representatives of public institutions and NGOs while questions from the audience were answered. Statistics on the accreditation activities conducted by TÜRKAK were also shared.

TÜRKAK's Secretary General Banu Müderrisoğlu stated in her speech that TÜRKAK provided services to approximately 2000 accreditation compliance assessment entities, 400 of which were public institutions and NGO affiliates, and 482 (37%) of 1540 auditors and technical specialists employed by TÜRKAK as experts were recruited from public institutions and NGOs. Müderrisoğlu emphasized that such data alone shows how strategic and important is the TÜRKAK cooperation with other public institutions and NGOs when it comes to Turkey's quality infrastructure and accreditation.

TURKLAB Sector– Key Interviews on “What is the Green Deal”?

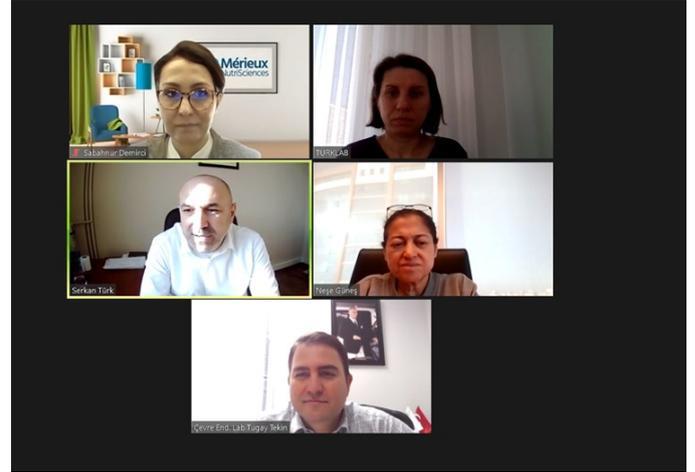
An interview was held at TURKLAB Academy titled “What is the Green Deal?” with the participation of Dr. Nurşen Numanoğlu, Deputy Secretary General for Environment and Climate Change, Sector-Specific Policies and Digital Transformation at TÜSIAD, on October 20th, 2021. Ms. Numanoğlu briefed our members on the European Green Deal, a roadmap for the EU's studies to make Europe the first carbon-neutral continent by 2050, activities by the EU countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and funds allocated for this purpose, as well as the developments anticipated for the countries outside the EU. Many thanks to all the participants and to Dr. Nurşen Numanoğlu were addressed by the organisers for their valuable contributions and cooperation.



European Green Deal Committee Meeting

The second of the TURKLAB European Green Deal (EGD) Committee Meetings was held on November 22, 2021.

The decisions taken in the previous meeting were reviewed and the agenda was discussed. In order to raise awareness among TURKLAB members on EGD, which is one of the objectives of the committee, training suggestions on EGD for our members were assessed. The first of the training series that will feature material topics laid out in the European Green Deal was set to start in December.



Additionally, the initial actions to collaborate with relevant NGOs were taken and plans were made for necessary contacts. The principal objective of the committee is to organize activities on seminars, training courses, workshops and collaborations in order to increase our members' capacity on EGD. The committee meeting ended after the agenda topics for the next meeting were settled.

TÜRKAK Advisory Board Meeting

TÜRKAK Advisory Board meeting was held in Ankara on November 25, 2021, presided by Ambassador Faruk Kaymakçı, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs & Director for EU Affairs, and with the participation of the TÜRKAK Board and the Advisory Board members of the public and private sectors.

The meeting opened with a speech by Banu Müderrisoğlu, TÜRKAK's Secretary General, and continued with presentations by Deputy Secretary Generals Dr. Kürşat Özdemir and Ayşe Yalova Gökçe on the activities, recent developments and goals for the Advisory Board members. Secretary General Müderrisoğlu quoted that they created this year's agenda of the advisory board by reviewing the suggestions from the previous year and under current circumstances. On that note, she reminded that the survey submitted to the advisory board was about “Impartiality” - a requirement for the ISO 17011 standard which is very important for TÜRKAK and which accreditation agencies are obliged to comply with. She delivered her assessments on the survey results, emphasizing the materiality of implementing improvements through the opinions of all stakeholders of the agency.

TURKLAB conducted a three-question survey to its members to see how they would rate the services provided to them by the Turkish Accreditation Agency. 15% of our members provided feedback. The survey collected feedback on the difficulties, satisfaction, and expectations, if any, of TURKLAB members. All pieces of feedback were consolidated and submitted before the Advisory Board. The TURKLAB survey was very much welcomed by the TÜRKAK Management and the Advisory Board. The topics that stand out will be followed by the TÜRKLAB Board.



World Accreditation Day

TÜRKAK organised an event in relation to the Work Accreditation Day on November 24-25th, 2021. The event was entitled “Accreditation: It supports the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)!” and it was opened with a speech by TÜRKAK’s Secretary General Banu Müderrisoğlu. During the meeting Emanuele Riva, IAF Chair, Maribel Lopez ILAC Vice Chair, and Maureen Logghe, President of the European Accreditation Union (EA) also gave speeches on the role of accreditation in reaching the UN Sustainable Development Goals, in other words, the Global Goals.

Highly successful presentations were made by TÜRKAK officials, ministry officials and international speakers as part of the theme “Accreditation: It supports the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”. TÜRKAK Advisory Board member Neşe Güneş represented TURKLAB in the meeting.



ASCOLAB

THIRD INTERVENTION OF ASCOLAB COACHING AT THE STL GECAMINES LABORATORY AT LUBUMBASHI IN ACCREDITATION PROCESS ACCORDING TO ISO/IEC 17025:2017 BY SADCAS

The Management of STL Gécamines (STL—Société Congolaise pour le traitement du Terril de Lubumbashi) and ASCOLAB signed a contract in the form of an order form for a period of three months to support STL laboratory in accreditation process. The Management of STL Gécamines and the Laboratory Department have made a commitment to bring the laboratory to accreditation to meet the zero-discount objective of the white alloy (Cobalt, Copper and Zinc) produced at STL Plant in particular by analyzes or tests carried out by the STL Laboratory. Once again, good luck to the STL Gécamines Laboratory for 2022.



ASCOLAB is fulfilling its mission well during this period of COVID-19 and for 2022 decided the following stages activities plan:

- ⇒ Training of Staff in ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard and others associated standards ABC-management Principles, Validation methods, Calculation of measurement uncertainty and decision rule.
- ⇒ Writing quality manual, SOPs and records what needs be integrated, updated, kept or deleted.
- ⇒ Internal audit, actions plan after audit. This work plan includes compliance actions, responsibilities and deadlines. Selection and training of internal auditors' candidates.
- ⇒ Documentation review and submission documentation for an initial assessment will be carried out / conducted by SADCAS.

TIC Market Trends

Business Developments

- **APH Mexico** has concluded the re-evaluation of its ISO-17025:2017 accreditation with zero non-conformities. [Read more.](#)
- **Apave** has obtained ISO 45001 certification, confirming its commitment to improving employee safety and working conditions and reducing workplace risks . [Read more.](#)
- **Applus+** has received numerous international awards for its drive towards digitalisation. [Read more.](#)
- **Applus+** has been awarded a contract for the provision of fuel sampling and collection for an important industrial complex located in Galicia, Spain. [Read more.](#)
- **Applus+** and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries have announced their intention to develop facilities for environmental testing of highly automated vehicles. [Read more.](#)
- **Applus+** has been awarded by Repsol a contract for the geotechnical study and environmental site characterisation for the construction of a new industrial terminal in Bilbao. [Read more.](#)
- **Baltic Control®** Argentina has been approved as accredited Type 'A' inspection body in accordance with International Standard ISO/IEC 17020:2012 by ANAB. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** has received the “Grand Prix de la Transparence 2021” award in the Code of Ethics category. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** is endorsing the Global Wind Energy Manifesto for COP26. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** has ranked among TOP SBF 120 Companies in terms of women-held executive positions. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** has been named to the Financial Times Diversity Leaders list for the third year in a row. The Group is ranked 355th out of the 850 European companies on the list, #7 out of 16 companies in the Consulting and Accounting section and #32 of the 105 French companies listed. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** has been ranked #1 in the Professional Services Industry category - encompassing the TIC sector - of the 2021 Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI) Corporate Sustainability Assessment rankings. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** and Envision digital have announced their cooperation in the development of net zero innovations for renewable energy generation and ghg emissions reduction. [Read more.](#)
- **Bureau Veritas** has certified green bonds for the construction of solar plants in Brazil which enables investors, governments, and other stakeholders to identify and prioritise climate-resilient and low carbon investments, making a genuine contribution to addressing climate change. [Read more.](#)
- The Regenagri team from **Control Union UK** have recently been invited to contribute to a meeting with the United Nations Environmental Program’s (UNEP) internal task force on Sustainable Food Systems and Resilient Agriculture. [Read more.](#)
- **Cotecna** has signed with Ethiopia for a new mandatory conformity programme. [Read more.](#)
- Kaixin Certification, part of the **Cotecna** Group, has been accredited as a provisional certification body for FSSC 22000 Food Safety System Certification from September 2021. [Read more.](#)
- **Cotecna Kenya** has won the East Africa Maritime Awards (EAMA) award for Best Auxiliary Services . [Read more.](#)
- **DEKRA** has become a member of “Business Ambition for 1.5°C” project aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and combating global warming. [Read more.](#)
- **Element** Materials Technology (Element) has set out new environmental ambitions, committing to science-based targets and net zero emissions across its global business by 2035. [Read more.](#)
- **Element** has further expanded its market leading capacity in the connected technologies sector with an increased footprint in Silicon Valley. These investments are part of the more than \$300M that Element has invested since the start of 2020. [Read more.](#)

- **Eurofins** Technologies has announced the launch of RT-PCR kits for the rapid detection of the fast spreading SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.529. [Read more.](#)
- **HQTS** has launched one stop product compliance solution for Amazon sellers. In response to Amazon's numerous compliance requirements, sudden overseas policy updates, breakpoint compliance operations, and lengthy compliance service communication, HQTS can provide sellers with a one-stop product compliance solutions. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has announced the opening of its new double-award winning EV Centre of Excellence for high voltage EV propulsion systems in Milton Keynes. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has announced its participation as presenter in the Skill Council for Green Jobs' [Sustainable Development, Renewable Energy, and Waste Management Webinar Series](#), running from 15 August 2021 to 15 August 2022. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has announced its participation in the LEAF (Lowering Emissions by Accelerating Forest Finance) Coalition, a new public-private initiative designed to accelerate climate action by providing results-based finance to countries committed to protecting their tropical forests. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has won the IAOB Certification Body of the Year award. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has unveiled Intertek Assuris, the new name for its Health, Environmental, and Regulatory Services (HERS) business. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has been awarded a contract by Tatweer Petroleum for the provision of quality assurance solutions in Bahrain. [Read more.](#)
- **Intertek** has joined the LEAF Coalition Global Initiative to protect tropical forests, furthering its commitment to a net-zero future. [Read more.](#)
- **Kiwa Poland** has joined forces with COBICO, a combination significantly increasing Kiwa's potential on the Polish market and the scope of services to clients. [Read more.](#)
- **Kiwa UK** has been appointed as both a UK Approved Body and Notified Body for the Northern Ireland market, for the Radio Equipment Regulations 2017. [Read more.](#)
- **QIMA** has partnered with Haelixa, a DNA traceability provider, to offer a package of physical traceability and auditing solutions. [Read more.](#)
- **RINA** has announced that it will take part to in 4Weeks4Inclusion 2021, a four-week marathon taking place from 22 October to 22 November, in order to enhance diversity, transform inclusion into an opportunity and convey the values of Inclusion Management. [Read more.](#)
- **RINA** and Marine Engineering Services (M.E.S.) have signed an agreement to cooperate on chemical tankers concepts that will use alternative fuels. [Read more.](#)
- **RINA** has become a member of the UK Chamber of Shipping, the voice of the shipping industry in the UK. [Read more.](#)
- **RINA** has issued the ISCC CORSIA SAF (Sustainable Aviation Fuel) certification in China to Jiangsu Shenou Environmental Protection Technology Co. Ltd. [Read more.](#)
- **RINA** has signed a Joint Development Project (JDP) Agreement, with Fratelli Cosulich Bunkers Singapore and SeaTech, to develop an ammonia bunker tanker design. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has announced it will manage and operate a new laboratory at Albatros Energy in Mali. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has announced it will invest in a new extractables & leachables laboratory in Navi Mumbai, India. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** in Istanbul has expanded testing capabilities for specific migration of primary aromatic amines in food contact plastics. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has announced its accreditation by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) to provide third-party certification of NSF/ANSI standards for food service and commercial appliance equipment products. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has opened a new state-of-the-art site for clinical research in Antwerp, Belgium. [Read more.](#)

- **SGS** has opened a new cosmetics testing facility in Hangzhou, China, to meet growing demand for cosmetics product claim substantiation. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has expanded its Glasgow biosafety testing facility, helping to accelerate quality testing and reduce turnaround time clients. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has signed a contract with Supply Chain Tracking (SCT) Technology, an international supplier of shipment and asset tracking software, to provide Consignment Management Application 'tag, track and trace' (CMA 3T) to power the SGS OMNIS Electronic Cargo Tracking service. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has worked with the Association of European Coeliac Societies (AOECS) to develop a new Gluten-Free Addendum Audit Program that can be delivered alongside any GFSI Benchmarked Food Safety Standard. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has been approved by Textile Exchange as an independent third-party certification body (CB) for its Content Claim Standard, Recycled Claim Standard and Global Recycled Standard certification. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** ranked in the top 10 percent of the Professional Services Industry in the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI) World and Europe. [Read more.](#)
- **SOCOTEC** Monitoring has successfully completed the tunnel monitoring element of the HS2 C1 Main Works package. [Read more.](#)
- **SOCOTEC** UK has invested in Spectra QEST, a globally leading vendor in technical information management systems for construction materials and geotechnical testing. [Read more.](#)
- **SOCOTEC** Italia has received the Sustainability Award 2021. [Read more.](#)
- **SZU** has announced it will participate at the International Engineering Fair from 8th-12th November. [Read more.](#)
- **SZU** has participated in the 62nd International Engineering Fair, representing the Czech Republic at the joint exhibition Czech Republic: The Country For The Future. [Read more.](#)
- **Türk Loydu** together with Mesh Engineering, has been provided a grant support to the "3-Dimensional Ship Structural Analysis System Project with Finite Element Method" with a budget of 2.5 million TL by TUBITAK (Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey). [Read more.](#)
- **TÜV Rheinland** has applied for medical CAB approval under UKAS-MHRA Authorities. [Read more.](#)
- **TÜV Rheinland** has partnered with Technip Energies to expand project management consultancy services, as well as project controls and supervision capabilities to new markets. [Read more.](#)
- **TÜV Rheinland** has announced the opening of its newest testing services laboratory in West Unity, Ohio (USA). [Read more.](#)
- **TÜV SÜD's** South Korea branch has announced it will participate in the 'hydrogen-electric tram demonstration project' implemented by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) of South Korea. [Read more.](#)
- **TÜV SÜD** Rail has become recognised by the Federal German Railway Authority (Eisenbahn-Bundesamt, EBA) as a Notified Body. The approval, which was published under number NB 2915 in the European Union's NANDO database, covers the Rolling Stock subsystem. [Read more.](#)
- **TÜV SÜD** has announced its certification of the Kriegers Flak wind farm in the Baltic Sea off the Danish coast. [Read more.](#)
- **TÜV SÜD** has developed a guideline for defining the "H2-Readiness" of power plants and is offering an independent third-party certification to original equipment manufacturers (OEM) and engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) companies. The certification increases investment security for utilities. Siemens Energy is the first company worldwide to receive this certification for its "H2-Ready" power plant concept. [Read more.](#)
- **TÜV SÜD's** testing laboratories have recently received full accreditation from the International Safe Transit Association (ISTA). [Read more.](#)
- **UKAS** has published its annual report of 2021. [Read more.](#)
- **UL** and the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) have launched the SPIRE Smart Building Verified Assessment, a comprehensive evaluation for smart buildings. [Read more.](#)

- **UL** has launched its SafeCyber™ Digital Security Platform, enabling security posture management throughout entire device life cycle, empowering organizations to navigate mounting cybersecurity threats and increased regulations. [Read more.](#)
- **UL** has launched two new programmes, the Data Centre Integrator Qualification program and the Immersion Cooling Equipment program, aiming at addressing vital data center equipment installation and integration as well as ongoing technology safety and performance. [Read more.](#)
- **UL** has announced the signing of a data acceptance agreement with VdS, an organization specializing in fire detection, suppression, security and natural disaster prevention. [Read more.](#)
- **UL** has achieved technical assessment body designation for UK and European markets for fire safety products. [Read more.](#)
- **UL** has announced that it is among approximately 80 organisations comprising the [International Fire Safety Standards](#) (IFSS) Coalition that contributed to the just-released [Global Plan for a Decade of Action for Fire Safety](#). The plan aims to help ensure an internationally consistent approach to the safety and management of buildings and infrastructure to save lives by reducing risks and preventing devastating fires. [Read more.](#)

Mergers and Acquisition

- **APAVE** has announced the [acquisitions](#) of Tecno Piemonte, OPPIDA and LSTI, and CAMAS and RHEXIS.
- **Element Materials Technology** (Element) has acquired Nanosyn, a full-service pharmaceuticals contract development and manufacturing organisation. [Read more.](#)
- **Element** has signed an agreement to acquire JMI Laboratories (JMI) based in North Liberty, Iowa. Alongside several other significant acquisitions within the sector this year, this further strengthens Element's offering for pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical customers in North America and beyond. [Read more.](#)
- **Kiwa Sweden** has merged with Valiguard, a company specialised in food safety and organic certification of food producers e.g. against BRC, IFS and ISO/FSSC 22000. The acquisition is part of Kiwa's growth strategy to strengthen its position on the Swedish market. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has acquired Groupe IDEA TESTS, a leading provider of clinical, microbiological and in-vitro testing, and regulatory services to the cosmetics and personal care industry in France. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has announced the acquisition of a majority stake in Sulphur Experts Inc., headquartered in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. [Read more.](#)
- **SGS** has announced the acquisition of accreditation for Occupational Health Services in China. [Read more](#)

Personnel Developments

- **Bureau Veritas** has announced the appointment of Shawn Till, effective September 1st, 2021 as Executive Vice-President of Commodities, Industry and Facilities, North America. [Read more.](#)
- **Control Union** has announced that, starting from January 1st 2022, Johan Maris will be the new CEO of the Royal Peterson Control Union Group, replacing Rene van Rijst. [Read more.](#)
- **Element** has appointed Lee Andrews as Group Director, Corporate Affairs and ESG. [Read more.](#)
- Perla Velazquez has been appointed by **Alfred H Knight** as Business Development Manager of AHK Mexico. [Read more.](#)
- **UL's** Jasmin Omerovic has been appointed as the Chair of ExNBG (ATEX Directive Notified Body Group). Mr. Omerovic has been an active contributor to the field of global conformity assessment related to the development and operation of market-relevant conformity assessment schemes since March 2002. [Read more](#)

Accreditation and Standardisation

EA

- EA has held its 50th General Assembly on November 24-25. Resolutions of the meeting can be find [here](#).

IAF

- Mr. Wolfram Hartman of DAkkS has been elected as the WG Food Co-Convener. He replaces Kylie Sheehan of JAS-ANZ who will be assuming the role of MLAC Chair following the 04 November 2021 General Assembly.
- Documents and agenda for the IAF General Assembly of 04 November 2021 have been distributed in October. A report on the GA will follow in December.

IAF/ILAC

- The 2022 IAF ILAC mid-term meetings will be held virtually. Dates to be confirmed.
- The 2022 IAF ILAC General Assembly meetings will be held on November 2 to 11, 2022 in Montreal.
- IAF and ILAC have announced the World Accreditation Day (9 June 2022) Theme for 2022, 'Accreditation: Sustainability in Economic Growth and the Environment'. Continuing on from last year, IAF and ILAC are holding a contest to develop the official poster for World Accreditation Day. The contest will run from 26 November 2021 to 11 January 2022. The winner of the contest will receive USD 1,500, while the two runners-up will each receive USD 500. The contest rules and guidelines for entry can be viewed on the IAF website [here](#), and the ILAC website [here](#).

ISO CASCO

- The ISO CASCO CPC (Chairman's Policy and Coordination group) informs that three of the six positions for A-liaisons are open for the 2022-2023 term.
- ISO CASCO distributed a report on the of the dialogue session CASCO held on October 7 with A-liaisons. Among the key challenges for active participation in CASCO, the lack of available resources seems to persist in many organizations. Often, the work is relying on a small number of volunteers and it is difficult to get more experts involved. All organizations unanimously stressed the importance of raising awareness about the benefits of conformity assessment standards. Industry and in particular SMEs need to realize the value of conformity assessment.
- The systematic review (SR) ballot for ISO 17034:2016, General requirements for the competence of reference material producers, is opened in ISO/CASCO on the 15th of October 2021 until March 2022.
- The [brochure](#) "Misuse of third party marks of conformity" has been published on the ISO website.

The laboratory of the future

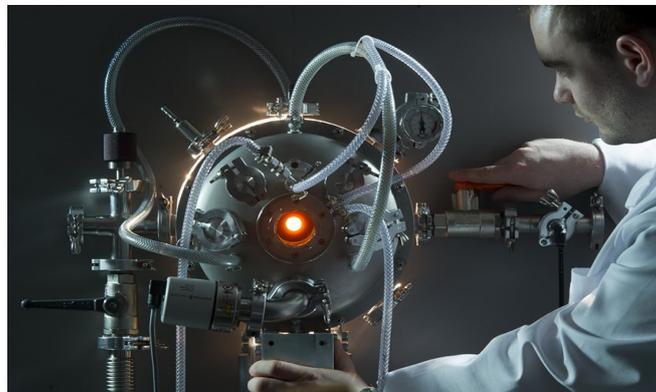
Laboratory News

- **Four challenges to overcome for AI to thrive in medical imaging:** With increased digitisation in medical clinics, comes increased reliance on AI-enabled tools to more efficiently assess and select diagnostic outcomes using artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms based on machine learning techniques. [Read more.](#)
- **At last digital transformation is embraced by the healthcare industry:** The future of healthcare that we envision in 2040 will be a world apart from the current status quo. Emerging technology has become an integral part of our everyday personal and work environment and the healthcare industry is no different. [Read more.](#)
- **What Role Does Quantum Computing and AI Play in Labs?** Over the past decade, quantum computing and artificial intelligence (AI) have become commonplace in laboratories around the world. Below, we explore the role these exciting new technologies play in labs and how they're reimagining the capabilities of modern science. [Read more.](#)
- **Centre for Quantum Technology launches at Glasgow:** The University of Glasgow announced the opening of a dedicated centre for quantum technology research during the SPIE Photonex + Vacuum Technologies conference on September 29. [Read more.](#)



- **World-leading Research Institute officially opens at Nottingham:** With brand new research equipment and laboratories on Nottingham's University Park Campus, the Institute is home to approximately 850 talented academics, researchers, clinicians and support staff who have generated £223m in funding since 2014. [Read more.](#)
- **Chemistry breakthrough leads way to more sustainable pharmaceuticals:** Chemistry researchers at the University of Bath have developed a new method using blue light to create pharmaceuticals in a more sustainable way, significantly reducing the amount of energy needed and the chemical waste created in the manufacture process. The new process gives chemists

a way to connect certain atoms that simply wasn't available before and should help to speed up the discovery process. [Read more.](#)



- **Laboratory Filtration Market worth \$5.3 billion by 2026:** Exclusive Report by MarketsandMarkets™ is revealing that the microfiltration segment accounted for the largest share of the technique segment in the laboratory filtration market in 2020. [Read more.](#)
- **Advanced Microscopes Help Scientists Understand How Cells Break Down Proteins:** Cryo-electron microscopy flash freezes live action in cells to capture the process of ubiquitination. [Read more.](#)
- **Bacteria May Be Key to Sustainably Extracting Earth Elements for Tech:** A proof of principle study uses a bacteria to help extract rare earth elements in a more environmentally friendly way. [Read more.](#)
- **The Sorting Hat: An AI-Powered Image Classifier for Cell Biologists:** Scientists design and evaluate the performance of deep learning models with a user-friendly interface. [Read more.](#)
- **Laboratory Robotics Market 2021 Disclosing Latest Trends and Advancement Outlook 2026:** The Laboratory Robotics Market report offers an in-depth assessment of market dynamics, the competitive landscape, segments, and regions in order to help readers to become familiar with the Laboratory Robotics market. [Read more.](#)
- **For the First Time, DNA and Proteins Sensed by de Novo-Designed Nanopore:** First bottom-up designed peptides, comprising chains of amino acids, that can form artificial nanopores. [Read more.](#)
- **New microscope uses photonics to gain insights into 'superbugs':** Scientists are building a new super-resolution microscope that uses laser light to study the inner workings and behaviours of superbugs to gain new insights into how they cause disease. The microscope will allow scientists to peer into bacteria like Streptococcus Pneumoniae at a molecular-scale resolution – showing up objects smaller than 10,000th the

thickness of a sheet of paper. [Read more.](#)

- **The future's bright, the future's artificial:** As clinical and adjacent staff face overwhelming demands, Cari-Anne Quinn looks at the benefits of digital innovation, technology-led service models, and integrated care systems focused on prevention, to help rebalance healthcare systems in Wales and other nations. [Read more.](#)
- **More Effective Cell Studies Using New AI Method:** A new study opens the way for more effective microscopy, making it easier to research diseases. Studying cells and their components is a cornerstone of biomedicine and pharmaceutical research and can provide information about the health of cells, responses to different medications, or deviations in the cell structure. Two of the most common methods for studying cells using microscopes (bright field microscopy and fluorescence microscopy) both have advantages and disadvantages. [Read more.](#)



- **Noninfectious Versions of SARS-CoV-2 Provide Powerful Research Tools:** With this system, scientists will be able to investigate SARS-CoV-2 and its variants, and test drugs against it. To study a virus as infectious as SARS-CoV-2, researchers need to follow laborious protocols and have access to high-biosafety laboratories. Seeking to make such investigations safer, faster, and accessible to more teams around the world, virologists have created SARS-CoV-2 replicons—self-replicating RNAs that are not infectious but otherwise identical to the real virus. [Read more.](#)
- **Breakthrough Proof Clears Path for Quantum AI:** Novel theorem demonstrates convolutional neural networks can always be trained on quantum computers. Convolutional neural networks running on quantum computers have generated significant buzz for their potential to analyse quantum data better than classical computers can. While a fundamental solvability problem known as “barren plateaus” has limited the application of these neural networks for large data sets, new research overcomes that Achilles heel with a rigorous proof that guarantees scalability. [Read more.](#)
- **Scientists Show Plasma Technology Can Safely Clean Disposable PPE for Reuse:** New method can remove 99.99 percent of coronavirus from contaminated face masks. A new study from the University of Southampton has demonstrated a new method to safely clean and reuse face mask respirators with advanced low-temperature plasma technology. The discovery could help future pandemic responses by providing contingency options should a shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) for frontline

healthcare staff occur again. [Read more.](#)

- **New Computer Modeling Could Boost Drug Discovery:** The computer modeling tool will predict novel sites of binding for potential drugs that are more selective. Scientists from Queen's University Belfast have developed a computer-aided data tool that could improve treatment for a range of illnesses. The computer modeling tool will predict novel sites of binding for potential drugs that are more selective, leading to more effective drug targeting, increasing therapeutic efficacy and reducing side effects. [Read more.](#)
- **An Artificial Material That Can Sense, Adapt to Its Environment:** Metamaterial can respond to its environment, independently make a decision, and perform an action not directed by a human being. In a recent study published in *Nature Communications*, a journal of *Nature*, researchers at the University of Missouri and University of Chicago have developed an artificial material, called a metamaterial, which can respond to its environment, independently make a decision, and perform an action not directed by a human being. [Read more.](#)
- **Materials Advancement Accelerates the Realization of AI Technology:** Korea Institute of Materials Science develops core material for the next-generation neuromorphic semiconductor. Researchers in Korea succeeded in developing a core material for the next-generation neuromorphic (neural network imitation) semiconductor for the first time in the country. This new concept memtransistor uses a two-dimensional nanomaterial with a thickness of several nanometers. [Read more.](#)



- **Researchers Outline How Brain Research Makes New Demands on Supercomputing:** Advances in neuroscience demand high-performance computing technology and will need exascale computing power. The human brain contains around 86 billion neurons that form trillions of contact points. Imaging an entire brain at cellular resolutions produces data in the range of several Petabytes; electron microscopy of a whole brain would amount to more than one Exabyte of data. [Read more.](#)
- **Method to Reveal Undesired Biological Effects of Chemicals:** The method described can be used to detect, at an early stage, undesired biological effects of substances. Researchers from Linköping University

(LiU) in Sweden have applied a method to identify the proteins in the body affected by chemicals. The method can be used to discover, at an early stage, whether a substance has biological effects in an organism. [Read more.](#)

- **Stretchable Pressure Sensor Could Lead to Better Robotics, Prosthetics:** The new pressure sensor can be stretched up to 50 percent while maintaining almost the same sensing performance. In the future, soft robotic hands with advanced sensors could help diagnose and care for patients or act as more lifelike prostheses. [Read more.](#)
- **A Seemingly Unattainable Energy Transition:** Researchers have succeeded in addressing an energy transition in an artificial atom using laser light. The artificial atoms are narrowly defined areas in semiconductors that could one day form the basis for quantum communication. [Read more.](#)



- **A New Way to Generate Electricity from Waste Heat:** This new phenomenon could help make simple energy converters. Forcing electrons to flow perpendicularly to a heat flow requires an external magnetic field—this is known as the Nernst effect. In a permanently magnetized material (a ferromagnet), an anomalous Nernst effect (ANE) exists that can generate electricity from heat even without a magnetic field. [Read more.](#)
- **For the First Time, DNA and Proteins Sensed by de Novo-Designed Nanopore:** First bottom-up designed peptides, comprising chains of amino acids, that can form artificial nanopores. Researchers in Japan have designed the first bottom-up designed peptides, comprising chains of amino acids, that can form artificial nanopores to identify and enable single molecule-sorting of genetic material in a lipid membrane. [Read more.](#)
- **DNA Replication under the Microscope:** Researchers able to study DNA replication machinery at sites where DNA is damaged, thanks to cryo-EM. Cryogenic electron microscopy (cryo-EM) has enabled researchers to study how the DNA replication machinery assembles at sites where DNA is damaged. [Read more.](#)
- **By Keeping Ferroelectric ‘Bubbles’ Intact, Researchers Pave Way for New Devices:** Special ferroelectric features offer promise for microelectronics and energy applications. Scientists at the US Department of Energy’s (DOE) Argonne National Laboratory have

discovered a new way to do an atomic-scale version of the tablecloth trick by peeling off heterostructure thin films containing electrical bubbles from a particular underlying material, or substrate, while keeping them fully intact. [Read more.](#)

- **Artificial Intelligence Successfully Predicts Protein Interactions:** Research led by UT Southwestern and the University of Washington could lead to a wealth of drug targets. University of Texas (UT) Southwestern and University of Washington researchers led an international team that used artificial intelligence (AI) and evolutionary analysis to produce 3D models of eukaryotic protein interactions. [Read more.](#)

Laboratory Events

- **Lab Manager Analytical Chemistry Digital Summit:** Lab Manager will host industry experts speaking on these issues and more during its Analytical Chemistry Digital Summit on January 25-26, 2022. Hear from top leaders in the industry as they explain how to choose analytical instrumentation for your lab, novel applications and methods, and what the future holds for analytical chemistry. [Read more.](#)
- **Lab Manager Green Labs Digital Summit:** Join *Lab Manager* on February 15-16 for our Green Labs Digital Summit. This two-day program will feature industry experts who will share their experiences in developing a more sustainable lab. They will offer advice, helpful strategies, and case studies to help you create a less wasteful, more efficient lab facility. Lab managers will learn new strategies to create a greener work environment, and will develop a sense of what questions to ask when implementing sustainable work processes and equipment. [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. [Read more.](#)

Policy News

Chemicals

- **Chemical Recycling:** Following [REACH](#) registration requirements for recycled materials and finding ways to eliminate substances of concern from plastic waste streams are key to achieving non-toxic recycling .
- **EU chemical strategy:** The [European Commission](#) proposes to ban the most toxic substances by default, authorising them only on a case-by-case basis when they are proven to be indispensable to society .
- **Chemicals:** The European Chemicals Agency's Committee for Risk Assessment is expected to adopt, before the end of November, its Opinion on: (1) the [German proposal](#) to revise the harmonised classification and labelling of sulphur dioxide under the Classification, Labelling and Packaging Regulation, (2) the [Swedish proposal](#) to harmonise the classification and labelling of the substance silver under the Classification, Labelling and Packaging Regulation.

Circular economy

- **The Sustainable Products Initiative:** a cornerstone of the EU's endeavours to create a [circular economy](#). It will include proposals to revise the Ecodesign Directive and other legislative measures with the aim to make products placed on the EU market more sustainable.
- **Circle Lab for Cities:** [ICLEI](#) - Local Governments for Sustainability, Metabolic and the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, Circle Economy is launching the [Circle Lab for Cities](#) programme, supporting cities in boosting their efforts toward a circular economy.
- **Liability rules:** The [European Commission](#) has launched a public consultation on the rules on compensation for damage caused by defective products with the purpose of making liability rules fit for the digital age, AI and circular economy.

Counterfeit products and product safety/compliance

- **General Product Safety Regulation:** ANEC, the European consumer association in standardisation and BEUC, the consumer association in Europe, published a [position paper](#) titled 'Keeping consumers safe from dangerous products – How to make the General Product Safety Regulation a useful tool to ensure safety'.
- **Toy Safety Directive:** ANEC, the European consumer organisation in standardisation, [answered](#) to the European Commission's Inception Impact Assessment on a revision of the Toy Safety Directive.
- **Health Technology Assessment:** The proposed EU Regulation on Health technology Assessment is due for [adoption](#) by the end of the year. The text will create a research based tool to summarise information about clinical, economic, social, and ethical issues related to the use of a health technology in order to help Member States make decisions based on evidence.
- **Health Technology Assessment:** The European Parliament is expected to adopt its [Recommendation](#) for second reading on the proposal for a Regulation on Health Technology Assessment during the plenary session to be held over 13-16 December 2021.
- **GPSD:** the Council of the EU's presidency published a [report](#) on the progress on the General Product Safety Directive proposal.
- **EUDAMED:** the EUDAMED module on UDI/device registration and the module on Notified Bodies and Certificates are [open](#), so economic operators and notified bodies can start entering data in EUDAMED on a voluntary basis.
- **Medical devices:** the Medical Device Coordination Group (MDCG) ad hoc task-force on transitional provisions ('legacy devices' and devices placed on the market prior to 26 May 2021 in accordance with Directives 90/385/EEC or 93/42/EEC) has issued the [MDCG 2021-25 report](#), which has been endorsed as an MDCG guidance.
- **Medical devices:** the Medical Device Coordination Group (MDCG) has issued [MDCG 2021-26](#) - a set of questions and answers about re-packaging and re-labelling obligations introduced by Article 16(2) to (4) under Regulation (EU) 2017/745 on medical devices (MDR) and Regulation (EU) 2017/746 on in vitro diagnostic medical devices (IVDR).

- **Health Technology Assessment:** The European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) adopted its [Recommendation](#) for second reading on the proposal for a Regulation on HTA, paving the way for its approval in plenary in mid-December.
- **Toy Safety Directive:** Members of the European Parliament of the Committee on Internal market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) are scheduled to vote on their [draft Report](#) on the Toy Safety Directive on 9 December. The text will go through plenary in January 2022 (to be confirmed).
- **Wish delisted:** Last week, search engines and app stores have been ordered by the French government to delist US e-commerce platform Wish for its "flouting" of product safety regulations, meaning the site will not appear in search results of engines such as Google and Bing. The decision follows [findings](#) that many of the products being sold on Wish were non-compliant with safety requirements or utterly dangerous, particularly the toys and electrical devices inspected, 95% of which were found to be non-compliant.
- **Machinery Directive:** On 1 December, Members of the European Parliament of the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) held a debate on the [amendments](#) on the proposal for a Regulation on machinery products revising the Machinery Directive. The proposal of revision will also be discussed by Council experts of the Working party on technical Harmonisation on 8 December.

Cybersecurity and digitalisation

- **Cybersecurity:** on 29 October, the European Commission [adopted](#) the [delegated act](#) to the Radio Equipment Directive which lays down new legal requirements in the design and production of the concerned products for cybersecurity safeguards.
- **Artificial Intelligence:** the German justice ministry, together with think tank iRights.Lab, the Fraunhofer Society and the Free University of Berlin, has launched The Center for Trustworthy AI. The Center's goal is to define "trustworthy" AI standards together with civil society, industry and academia. One of the goals of the Center will be to develop a certification scheme for "trustworthy AI".
- **AI in healthcare:** The European Commission published '[The Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare report](#)' which provides an overview of national strategies, the uses and plans for AI in healthcare, and stakeholder views.
- **Artificial Intelligence Act:** The European Parliament's Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) assigned MEP Jean-Lin Lacapelle (ID, France) to be Shadow Rapporteur on the proposal.
- **Digital economy:** Bruegel, a European think tank specialised in economics, published a [policy contribution](#) titled 'Biometric technologies at work: a proposed use-based taxonomy'.
- **Digital in Standards:** CEN-CENELEC, the European standardization organisations, published a [brochure](#) titled 'Digital in Standards: supporting the Digital Transition through standardization'.
- **Digital Europe Programme:** On 10 November, the Commission adopted the [Commission Work Programme](#) 2021-2022 including three work programme for the [Digital Europe Programme](#) and outlining specific topic areas that will receive EU funding.
- **RED:** The European parliament has designated the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) Committee to be responsible for the work on the draft Delegated Regulation supplementing [Directive 2014/53/EU](#) of the Parliament and of the Council with regards to the application of the essential requirements referred to in Article 3(3), points (d), (e) and (f), of that Directive.
- **Artificial Intelligence:** on 23 November, 193 countries adopted [UNESCO's recommendation on AI ethics](#), including having red lines and introducing redress mechanisms that could influence the legislative process on the AI Act.
- **Artificial Intelligence:** some EU countries think the practices banned under the draft AI Act for governments and public authorities should also be prohibited for tech companies. Belgium supports a total [ban](#) on remote biometric identification in public places.
- **AI Act:** The Committee on the Internal market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) and the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) have been appointed to jointly work on the proposal for an Artificial Intelligence Act. The Committees will work on the drafting of the European Parliament's position on the proposal.
- **AI and bias:** On 30 November, the European Parliament's Artificial Intelligence in the Digital Age (AIDA) Committee

held a public hearing with experts to [discuss](#) the impact of bias on the development of a trustworthy AI, and ways to reduce it.

- **Artificial Intelligence:** Bruegel published a [paper](#) titled ‘What is holding back artificial intelligence adoption in Europe?’
- **Artificial Intelligence:** The Slovenian presidency of the [European Council](#) made available a [Progress Report](#) on the proposal for an Artificial intelligence Act, including changes in the areas of social scoring, biometric recognition systems, and high-risk applications, while also identifying future points for discussion.
- **Common charger:** The Think Tank of the European Parliament published a [briefing](#) titled ‘A common charger for electronic devices: revision of the Radio Equipment Directive’.
- **Cybercrime:** The European Commission sent to the Council of the EU on Thursday a [request](#) to authorise the ratification by EU countries of the Second Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Budapest Convention on Cyber-crime.
- **Digital principles:** The Commission has published the [results](#) of the public consultation on a set of digital principles.

Environment

- **Deforestation and Forest Degradation:** The European Parliament’s Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) met on 18 November 2021 to discuss the proposal. MEPs argued that the proposal should cover ecosystems other than forests and the commodities maize and rubber.
- **Green transition:** BEUC, the European Consumer Organisation, published a [position paper](#) on “Climate Action as an Opportunity for All – How the Green Transition should and can Benefit Consumers’ Daily Lives” .
- **Clean air:** The EU Health Policy Platform made available the presentations and the recording of its [webinar](#) ‘Air quality: revision of EU Rules’.
- **Clean air:** The European Commission welcomes your [feedback](#) by 16 December on its public consultation on a proposal of revision for a directive on air quality.
- **EED:** TIC Council published a [position paper](#) titled ‘Energy Efficiency Directive: ensuring the success of energy management systems and audits’.
- **EU Forest Strategy (post-2020):** The Council made available its [Council Conclusions](#) on the New EU Forest Strategy, stressing that a one-size-fits-all approach to forest management risks neglecting the diversity and specificities of each forest ecosystem among Member States and regions .
- **Green Deal:** On 17 November, the Commission [adopted](#) three new initiatives under the European Green Deal:
 - ✓ A new [EU Soil strategy](#), aiming to improve biodiversity and soil quality. It announces several funding opportunities and the future development of a Regulation for Soil Health. Moreover, it connects this strategy with financing opportunities through Taxonomy. It also announces that soil will be addressed in the upcoming revision of Industrial Emissions Directive.
 - ✓ A new [Regulation](#) to curb EU-driven deforestation and forest degradation. TIC Council secretariat wrote a [report](#) on the issue.
 - ✓ A [revision](#) of the Regulation on waste shipments aims at reducing the adverse effects of this activity. To this end, it aims at establishing certain obligations, including a prohibition of mixing waste during shipment, maintaining relevant information, and providing notifications for the transfer of waste.
- **Green investment:** Finland [opposes](#) EU Green Investment Proposal, fearing risks to Forestry funding .
- **Fit for 55:** the Presidency of the Council published a [report](#) providing an overall state of play and overview of progress made on the ‘Fit for 55’ package within the Council.

- **Fit for 55:** BusinessEurope published a [position paper](#) on the European Commission's Fit for 55 package
- **Ecolabel:** the European Commission published the [minutes](#) and the [presentation](#) of the first Ad-Hoc Working Group (AHWG) meeting for the revision of EU Ecolabel criteria for Absorbent Hygiene Products (AHP).
- **Ecolabel:** the Commission Decision (EU) 2021/1871 of 22 October 2021 amending Decision 2014/312/EU establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the EU Ecolabel for indoor and outdoor paints and varnishes was [published](#) in the EU Official Journal.
- **Ecolabel:** the Commission Decision (EU) 2021/1870 of 22 October 2021 establishing the EU Ecolabel criteria for cosmetic products and animal care products was [published](#) in the EU Official Journal.
- **Standards to achieve net-zero:** The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) have [signalled](#) their strong interest in working with the United Nations to combat climate change.
- **Green budgeting:** On 29 October, the European Commission, the International Monetary Fund and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development published a [paper](#) titled 'Green budgeting: towards common principles'.
- **Sustainable taxonomy:** China and the EU have agreed upon a [common classification](#) system that market participants can use to issue green finance products. The agreement covers energy, manufacturing, construction, solid waste and forestry.
- **EU-India cooperation:** Delhi and Brussels have [reaffirmed](#) their commitment to expand collaboration on climate change, with the possible launch of a "green hydrogen alliance" on the agenda of bilateral talks next year.
- **Environmental Liability Directive:** The European Commission welcomes your [feedback](#) on its call for evidence to assess the Environmental Liability Directive by 27 December 2021.
- **EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030:** The European Commission formally [reply](#) to the European Parliament's Resolution on the Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, highlighted its current efforts and intentions to achieve the EU biodiversity targets.
- **EU environment programme:** on 1 December, the Parliament and the Council agreed on an [informal deal](#) on the eighth General Union Environment Action Programme (EAP) including six priority objectives. The purpose of the eighth EAP is to guide the EU's environmental policy to 2030 and align it with the European Green Deal .
- **EU strategic framework on health and safety at work 2021-2027:** On 1 December, the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL) discussed the [amendments](#) submitted to its [Draft Report](#). The Committee would then vote on the amendments and on the draft Motion as a whole during a meeting to be held on 26 January 2022.
- **Green Label:** The Commission is considering allowing some natural-gas and nuclear energy projects to be labeled [green investments temporarily](#), a move that could help the shift to net zero but will also upset environmentalists. This would concern investment in gas plants that replace coal and emit no more than 270 grams of carbon dioxide equivalent per kilowatt-hour. Projects would have to be finalized by 2030.
- **Greenhouse gas emissions:** The Commission is expected to unveil an act amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2066 on the monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions in the first quarter of 2022.
- **Sustainable corporate governance:** The expected initiative of the European Commission on sustainable corporate governance is no longer expected to be presented on 8 December 2021. It is likely to be presented in 2022.
- **CSRD:** On 30 November-1 December, the European Parliament's Committee on Legal affairs (JURI) held a debate on the [draft Report](#) on proposal for a Directive as regards corporate sustainability reporting. TIC Council drafter a report available [here](#).

Food

- **BEUC:** the European Consumer Organisation, published its [position](#) "Towards Meaningful Consumer Information on Food Ecological Impact - BEUC's take on environmental scoring systems for food" .

Medical devices and health

- **COVID-19:** Cross border health crises: the European Parliament voted at Plenary level its [REPORT on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on serious cross-border threats to health repealing Decision No 1082/2013/EU](#). The final text is more favourable to prevention and to supply chain security, which can prove beneficial for our sector. Moreover, it calls for improving the supply chain security for protective equipment and medical devices.
- **In-Vitro Diagnostic medical devices:** The Commission is expected to present an Implementing Act as regards the tasks of and criteria for European Union reference laboratories (EURL), in the framework of the implementation of the [Regulation \(EU\) 2017/476](#) on in vitro diagnostic medical devices (IVDs).
- **European Health Union:** Commission welcomes [agreement](#) on a stronger European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.
- **Pharmaceutical Sector:** EPHA [position paper](#), a Joint response to the [European Commission's Pharmaceutical Strategy for Europe](#).

Trade

- **EU-U.S.:** On 31 October, the US and EU [agreed](#) to end their trade dispute on steel and aluminum and [announced](#) steps to promote low-carbon steel production.
- **Trade policy:** EU's [defence measures against unfair trade practices](#) remained effective in 2020. The system for protecting EU businesses from dumped and subsidised imports continued to function well in 2020 thanks to the EU's robust and innovative ways of using trade defence instruments (TDI).
- **Brexit:** on 27 October, France [announced](#) it will ban UK fishing boats from its harbours from next week as part of a series of tough sanctions on Britain unless London moves to resolve a long-running dispute over licences for French fishing vessels .
- **Brexit:** according to Commissioner Maroš Šefčovič, the EU-U.K. talks on Northern Ireland trade rules will "probably" [continue](#) into next year.
- **Brexit:** the European Union is [preparing](#) a package of retaliatory measures in case the U.K. decides to suspend parts of the post-Brexit trade accord. Negotiations continue on revisions to the Northern Ireland protocol.
- **Supply chain:** on 12 October, Orgalim Presidents' Board [issued](#) a statement regarding industrial supply chains, emphasising the key importance of global supply chains and export markets for the technology industries, and setting out recommendations to policy makers to support the resilience of industrial supply chains.
- **EU-China:** [Hydrogen war](#)- The EU is taking on China in a €300billion plan to rival China's infrastructure projects in the third world, including investing in African hydrogen and renewable energy.

International Events

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

22 March: [Clean Energy Summit](#) – European Business Summit.

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

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

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

19-21 September 2022: IMEKO TC6 Conference on "[Digitalization](#)" , Berlin, Germany.

EUROLAB Events

EUROLAB General Assembly 2022 TBC

1-2 June 2022—TIC Summit

17-20 October 2022: IMEKO TC 11 (Measurement for Testing, Inspection and Certification) and TC 24 (Chemical Measurements) **Joint Conference** on „Chemical measurements towards a sustainable future”, Dubrovnik, Croatia. For more details please access our [website](#).

7-9 November 2022: IMEKO TC23 Conference on “Metrology in Foods and Nutrition”, Dubrovnik, Croatia.



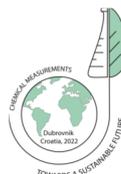
IMEKO TC-11 & TC-24 JOINT HYBRID CONFERENCE

17th-20th October 2022, Dubrovnik, Croatia

THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON CHEMICAL MEASUREMENTS
WILL HOLD ITS FLAGSHIP CONFERENCE UNDER THE MOTTO:

Chemical measurements towards a sustainable future

Call for papers



eurolab

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Christabel Tan, United Kingdom



The IMEKO TC-11 (Measurement in Testing, Inspection and Certification) and IMEKO TC-24 (Chemical Measurements) invite you to participate to their joint conference, to be held in hybrid format, both in Dubrovnik (Croatia) and online from 17th to 20th of October 2022.

— Conference topics

- Environmental measurements
- Traceability of chemical measurements in health sector
- Traceability of environmental measurements in different matrices (water, soils, sediments, etc) at regulation limits levels
- Measurement traceability in conformity assessment
- Traceability of on-site measurements
- Drug delivery monitoring and assessment
- Chemical and biochemical sensors
- Measurements and sensors for health and medicine
- Measurements for food and agriculture
- Measurements in energy and advanced fuels development
- Biomedical robotic methods
- Data integrity in chemical laboratory
- Identifying the unknown, beyond the classical analysis
- Measurements for Cultural Heritage
- Electrochemical Measurements and Corrosion

— Submission

Authors are kindly invited to submit full-papers (4-6 pages) in the appointed scientific topics. The paper should report original research and results of theoretical or applied nature and should explain the significance of the contribution to the research field. The manuscripts must be written in English according to the guidelines provided on the IMEKO TC24 website:

<https://www.imekotc24-2022.com>

Accepted and presented full-papers will be submitted for inclusion in **Scopus** after the event.

— Important dates

31st March 2022	15th June 2022	15th July 2022
Abstract submission	Full-paper submission	Notification to authors of final decision and required corrections

General enquiries: info@imekotc24-2022.com

SPECIAL ISSUES IN 'MEASUREMENT: SENSORS' (ELSEVIER) AND 'ACTA IMEKO'

After the Conference, selected authors will have the opportunity to submit an extended version of their papers to 'Measurement: Sensors' (Elsevier) or to 'Acta IMEKO'. Elsevier will offer a 100% APC waiver for all papers accepted in the Special Issue in 'Measurement: Sensors'. All extended papers submitted to the two journals will undergo the peer-review process.