

## MID-WESTERN TRAINING EVENT AND REGIONAL MEETING

By Ryan Fischer, NCSLI Northern Indiana Section Coordinator



On May 9 and 10, 2013 the Mid-Western Region held a training event and regional meeting. Fort Wayne, Indiana's downtown Courtyard by Marriot provided a more than suitable location and services for our event. The region and section coordinators began planning this event in August 2012. All their efforts paid off with a successful two-day event. On Thursday, May 9 the group held the first regional training event (RTE). Courses for the event were chosen based on member feedback collected during recent section meetings and suggestions by coordinators. Training courses included:

### Root Cause Analysis

*Duke Okes, APLOMET Applied Logical Methods*

The tutorial consisted of lecture, discussion, examples and practice that provided attendees with an understanding of how to analyze a system in order to identify the root causes of problems. The course provided a five-step model for problem diagnosis, and how to use many common quality tools for understanding the problem, process and causes.

### ISO/IEC 17025 Overview and 17025 Observation Exercises

*Ryan Fischer, Laboratory Accreditation Bureau*

The tutorial covered an overview of the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025 as well as reviewing observations from an audit/assessment in a group setting. The tutorial was meant for laboratories familiar with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025 and those looking for objective evidence needed to meet those requirements of the standard. The group exercises covered observations from an audit/assessment setting and discussed within a group setting to determine which area(s) of the standard those observations are applicable.

### Practical Measurement Uncertainty

*Dilip Shah, E=MC<sup>3</sup> Solutions*

This tutorial was hands-on measurement uncertainty that provided an understanding and application of measurement uncertainty for both consumers and suppliers of calibration services. After participating in this workshop, the attendees were able to understand, calculate and report the measurement uncertainty for a customer. In addition, accredited laboratories learned useful techniques to comply with ILAC P14 requirements. Participants were provided worksheets to perform the exercise as Dilip facilitated the workshop.





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Friday, May 10 started with a breakfast sponsored by L-A-B. The meeting kicked off with introductions and the NCSLI update from the Board of Directors. Vernon Alt, NCSLI VP of Learning and Development, provided an update from the Board of Directors meeting which had taken place a few days prior to the RTE. We want to extend a special thanks to Vernon for enduring the travel from Colorado to attend the event.

The day was organized into three parallel tracks allowing participants to choose topics of their interest. The first session choices were Ryan Fischer, L-A-B, "Commonly Cited Issues during ISO 17025 Assessments," Jay Bucher, PhD, Butcherview Metrology, "Traceability to the SI: The proof is Not in the Eating – It's in The Paperwork," Jonathan Gelfius and Darryl Gust, Cummins, Inc, "Interlaboratory Comparisons Results" and "Department of Labor recognition for Calibration or Metrology Technician."

The second session choices were Lloyd Baker, Trescal, "Structured On-the-Job Training," Kevin Kaufman, TEGAM Inc., "Low-Level resistance Fundamentals," Michael Bair, Fluke Calibration, "Gas Flow Metrology and Fluke Calibration Gas Flow Devices."

The final session choices were Dilip Shah, E=mc<sup>3</sup> "Uncertainty Discussion Panel" and Brian Pippenger, Rolls-Royce Corporation, "3-D Model Based Manufacturing and Inspection."

The day ended with final announcements, recognition and door prizes. Attendance was light as this was our first regional meeting but enthusiasm was strong. Attendees expressed appreciation for all speakers and the knowledge shared.

We would like to thank the following sponsors for this event, Measurement Instruments - [www.meas-inst.com](http://www.meas-inst.com), Consumers Energy Laboratory Services - [www.laboratoryservices.com](http://www.laboratoryservices.com), Tegam - [www.tegam.com](http://www.tegam.com), GE Sensing - [www.gesensing.com](http://www.gesensing.com), Fluke Calibration - [www.flukecal.com](http://www.flukecal.com), Trescal - [www.trescal.us](http://www.trescal.us), and Laboratory Accreditation Bureau - [www.l-a-b.com](http://www.l-a-b.com). Without their support for NCSLI International and the world of measurement, this event would not have been possible.

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