



Twin Cities Meeting.

●●● REGIONAL NEWS

Twin Cities



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The NCSL International Twin Cities Region met this May 15th, 2018 at the New Brighton Community Center in New Brighton, Minnesota. The spring meeting held on this beautiful day was hosted by Martin Calibration. The day started with NCSLI, New Brighton, and hot dog (yes, hot dog) related trivia. For example, did you know that the formation of the Minneapolis Stockyards and Packing Company in 1888 was deemed the “most significant point” in New Brighton history? After everyone settled in, the host for the evening, Rick Brion from Martin Calibration, introduced attendees to Martin Calibration’s history, capabilities, and vision for the future.

Following Rick’s presentation, Harry Spinks from TechTrolgy led an interactive discussion on creating uncertainty budgets. Attendees worked as a group to review the provided specification sheets and brainstorm inputs, then develop an uncertainty budget for a thermometer. More experienced attendees provided insights, tips, tricks, and past lessons learned to the remainder of the audience. Once a draft of the uncertainty budget

was developed, the group discussed ways to improve the calculated uncertainty by identifying factors with the largest contributions to the overall uncertainty and looking for alternatives.

After a break for refreshments and networking, Corey Garbers from 3M presented on the topic of “Scopes of Accreditation – Beyond the CMC.” Corey explained what CMC is (calibration and measurement capability), provided examples of actual scopes of accreditation, dissected the anatomy of a scope of accreditation, and highlighted several watch outs. By the end, attendees were more familiar with interpreting scopes of accreditation to ensure understanding and eliminate confusion.

Before lunch, Dave Kreitlow from MTS Systems reviewed the initiatives he has implemented related to “Safety in the Calibration Lab.” Dave explained that safety is about risk management and challenged all of us to continually ask ourselves, “How can I work safely?” He walked the audience through an I Spy exercise to identify unsafe practices in a series of photographs and discussed safer working methods.

Martin Calibration generously provided lunch for attendees (hot dogs and Italian sausages, hence the aforementioned hot dog trivia). The group then took a picture together to commemorate the day.



Dave Kreitlow, MTS Systems.



Harry Spinks, TechTrolgy.

For the final presentation, Mike Imholte from Boston Scientific provided a sneak preview of the presentation he will be giving at the NCSLI annual conference this summer. The presentation, entitled “Oxidation, Contamination, and Automation for High Temperature Verification of Thermocouples,” illustrated the difficulties Mike faced getting his thermocouples calibrated and the solution he developed in bringing this capability in-house.

Mike provided pictures of his set-up and reviewed the system uncertainty. It was an effective case study in problem solving.

The successful and informative meeting wrapped up with a round of door prizes donated by the steering committee members. The Twin Cities Region would like to offer a sincere thanks to the entire Martin Calibration team for hosting and sponsoring this meeting!