

MADISON WISCONSIN SECTION 1317

By Jay L. Bucher



Twenty five people were in attendance (in person and virtually) at the Madison Wisconsin section meeting held at Promega Corporation, in Madison, Wisconsin. Promega's metrology department sponsored the meeting and provided outstanding facilities and afternoon snacks for our first half day section meeting.

I, Jay Bucher, Bucherview Metrology Services and the NCSLI Madison Section Coordinator, welcomed everyone and opened the meeting by having all the attendees give their name, company and what they do. After the introductions, the program got underway.

Our first presenter was John Roethke from Exact Sciences, he gave a presentation entitled: "Excel as a Tool for Metrologists." John discussed several options available for using Excel to collect, compare and evaluate data in different ways using various scenarios. It was obvious John has gone the extra mile in learning the ins and outs of Excel, and how to greatly expand the software's capability to enhance any metrology department's usage of the program.

After Karl's presentation, and a short break, I gave a presentation entitled "Debunking the Two Great Myths about Calibration: Traceability to NIST, and if You Cannot Adjust, You Cannot Calibrate." Again, a well received presentation with lots of discus-

sion and interest. I also furnished my presentation for distribution along with Karl's to those asking to receive it after the section meeting. After taking a group picture, and having our door prize drawing, we broke for lunch. Thanks go out to Bucherview Metrology Services and Promega for providing the door prizes.

After John's presentation, we watched the latest NCSLI Board of Director's power point presentation. One of the slides showed that the NCSLI sections should be using NCSLI's website for registering their meetings. There are still a few bugs to be worked out as several people could not get signed up through the website, we are nothing if not flexible in being ready for walk-ins with our certificates of attendance and name tags. We still encourage everyone to use the online registration if possible before sending their information to the meeting's contact person.

With John completing his presentation a little early, we were able to take a group picture and hand out door prizes. Thank you again to Promega for furnishing the door prizes. Bucherview Metrology Services also gave each attendee one of the infamous Flexi-light laser points.

Dilip Shah once again gave freely of his time to make a presentation on "Excel Template Validation and Verification," another seamless presentation given via a webinar. Dilip's explanations were again so thorough and easy to understand that questions were few and easy to answer for one of the experts in the field.



Madison Wisconsin section meeting.

Thanks, Dilip, for again supporting the Madison, Wisconsin section with another great presentation.

Following Dilip was a presentation by Karl Wigdal from Promega Corporation, "Equipment Evaluation: How Promega Corporation Evaluates and Records New Laboratory Equipment." Karl took us through Promega's metrology department's evaluation process for determining test equipment tolerances, SOPs, and their ability to support new items. It was clear a lot of work went into the process. To the best of my knowledge, this was the first time such a process had been shown at one of our section

meetings. It not only was informative, but gave the attendees an alternative approach (and a very viable one at that) for helping them decide on tolerances and support capabilities for new/old test equipment.

Our next section meeting will be in the spring of 2012, and we look forward to seeing everyone again. Thanks to those that took the time to prepare and present such well received and discussed presentations/topics.

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