The NCSL International LA/Orange County section meeting was held on August 9, 2016 at Keysight Technologies in El Segundo, California. There were a total of 50 participants in attendance for the meeting. This particular meeting covered a range of topics related to improving uncertainty and automation of measurements. Tours of the Keysight laboratories were conducted throughout the meeting as well.

Jon Sanders, LA/Orange County section coordinator, provided the welcome and introduction to NCSLI. Jon’s presentation covered membership benefits and divisional highlights. Following Jon, Ilyas Nuri gave the host introduction about Keysight Technologies. Keysight Technologies sponsored the venue, refreshments and lunch for the meeting attendees.

Matthew Woerner, Keysight Technologies, started the technical portion of the meeting with a presentation on “Automation to Assure Quality Calibration Results.” He provided several examples of how Keysight has recently been able to apply near real-time statistical analysis for quality process control in their calibration labs which has resulted in significant improvements when combined with periodic proficiency testing. He discussed how the process works and provided data from examples of their quality monitoring.

Howard Zion, Transcat, was the next presenter covering “In Tolerance Non-Conformance Investigation.” Many presentations focus on out of tolerance (OOT) non-conformance investigation and the steps required to ensure the results are not biased. Howard explores the conditions where an instrument could be believed to be in tolerance, but actually have a negative impact on the process it is used in. Guard banding and decision rules were discussed within this presentation.

In the afternoon, Michael Schwartz, Cal Lab Solutions, discussed “Systems-of-Systems Metrology Software – Metrology.NET.” This presentation focused on software system architecture design that bridges the islands of metrology into one unified solution.

Matthew Woerner then presented his second topic on “Conformance Decision Rules to Support ISO/IEC 17025 CD Under Revision.” This presentation highlighted understanding and implementing four simple decision rules for assessing "Pass" or "Fail" conformity decisions along with associated false-accept and false-reject risk.

The LA/Orange County section would like to thank all of those involved with preparing the facilities at Keysight. They did a fantastic job and the tours were very much appreciated. We would also like to thank our attendees, speakers, and NCSL International for their continuous support of the metrology community.
Keysight Technologies lab tour.

Howard Zion, Transcat.

Matthew Woerner, Keysight Technologies.

Michael Schwartz, Cal Lab Solutions.