The Central Florida meeting was held April 12 at Lockheed Martin’s Orlando location within the Global Innovation Campus. Lockheed Martin provides defense systems and training simulation systems to the US Military. Breakfast and lunch was provided by Southern Marketing Associates (SMA). The meeting kicked off with Jeff Stevens, NCSL International Region Coordinator, giving an overview of upcoming events and the benefits of NCSLI membership followed by attendee introductions.

The first meeting speaker was Pat Butler, Regional Product Manager for Fluke Calibration. Pat possesses years of experience in the metrology field, including experience working with the US Marines. He gave two presentations during the meeting, the first was “Fluke Software Overview and Update” and the second was “Measurement Uncertainty Requirements in MET/CAL®.” Pat’s first presentation discussed end of life for MET/TRACK and MET/BASE, the new features of Fluke software for MET/TEAM data base management, MET/CAL® automated calibration procedures, Compass for pressure and flow, Tableware, LogWare III, and MET/TEMP II. Fluke Calibration has been in the software business for nearly 40 years, and over that time customer needs have evolved, so have Fluke products in response. The presentation gave an overview on where Fluke Calibration software is today, what options are available, and how it can help improve calibration laboratory or asset management activities.

The second presentation, “Measurement Uncertainty Requirements in MET/CAL®,” explored how calculating and reporting measurement uncertainty for each measurement point can be a daunting task whether done manually or using spreadsheets. Pat demonstrated how MET/CAL provides the tools to collect both type A and type B components and report an expanded uncertainty through several detailed examples.

Both of Pat’s presentations were very informative and generated many questions from attendees since most present used MET/CAL in their labs.

After lunch, the second meeting speaker was Michael L. Schwartz, Automation Engineer with Cal Lab Solutions. Michael also gave two presentations, one being an overview of Metrology.NET and the other a presentation on Open Badging.
The first presentation discussed was on “Metrology.NET,” which is a metrology based system of systems designed to bridge the gap between the multiverse of software tools currently used in calibration labs. As technology moves forward, metrology seems stuck in the past, but Metrology.NET aims to propel the industry into the future. Metrology.NET is a new modular approach to automation and data collections based on proven technologies designed to be language, database, and platform agnostic.

The second was called “Open Badging” and examined how the distribution of plaque, awards, and diplomas is evolving within the digital age. Education is changing, and the next generation continues to live in a rapidly expanding digital world where acquired knowledge will soon be displayed on a virtual wall as opposed to a physical plaque or diploma one would find in their office. Open Badges provides an industry standard for displaying your knowledge, skills, and professional experience on various forms of social media.

Mike’s presentations were also very informative and presented new ways of efficiently running a Calibration Lab. After the meeting, a tour of the Lockheed Metrology Lab was offered to anyone that wanted to see it. Many thanks to NCSLI, our presenters, all that attended, and Jay Sellers and Joe Patchett for hosting the meeting and providing the tour.

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