

Microbiological Working Group Teleconference ISPAM
5th floor Conference Room
May 27, 2011
10:30 am – 11:30 am

Attendees:

Russell Flowers President & ISPAM Chair	Paul In't Veld VWA
Jim Agin Q Laboratories	Bob Jechorek 3M
Ron Blakely USDA, FSIS, EALS	Ron Johnson -BioMérieux
Stephanie Campbell Nestle Research Ctr.	Bob Koeritzer 3M
Yan Cao Life Technologies	Harry Marks USDA, FSIS
Victor Cook USDA, FSIS	Mark Mazola Neogen
Peter Evans UDSA,FSIS	Magdalena Michulec Nestle Research Ctr.
Phil Feldsine BioControl Systems	Palmer Orlandi FDA,ORA
Thomas Hammack FDA,CFSAN	Yvonne Salfinger Chair, Committee H
Marcus Head USDA, FSIS	John Szpylka General Mills
Irene Iugovaz – Health Canada	Paul Wehling –General Mills

AOAC Staff:

Scott Coates	Arlene Fox
Krystyna McIver	Nora Marshall
Deborah McKenzie	

1 Introduction:

President Flowers introduced the purpose of the teleconference and the task of the Microbiological Working Group while reviewing Comparison Tables. It was reiterated that the group should avoid pre-conceptions while reviewing the organizations for commonalities and differences.

2 Overview :

- a) A spokes person from ISO, AOAC, Health Canada, FDA and USDA offered a brief overview of their organizations' guidelines, indicating any similarities and/or divergence from other organizations.
- b) During the call, the group reviewed "validation phases" and "categories" for each organization. Due to time limitations and the magnitude of the line-by-line review, it was determined that each participant will continue reviewing individually for differences between the organizations. They will then flag 4-5 highly divergent items for group review with addition of any comments that may assist with resolutions.

- c) Previous Head-to-Head comparison study of ISO and AOAC Guidelines was published in the Journal of the AOAC. This article will be recovered and posted to the ISPAM website for use in possibly discovering useful data between the two organizations.

3 Objective for subsequent call:

- a) Define specific points of divergence then narrow down to top 4-5 highly distinctive differences. Sub-groups will be formed to tackle each point.
- b) Offer comments regarding divergences found with suggestions for convergence.
- c) List any harmonization aspects that are not included in present comparison table.
- d) Statistical points will not be reviewed for divergence. That is under the charge of the Statistical Working Group.
- e) Agree to parameters needed for validation.

4 Future Teleconference:

- a) **June 3th, Friday, 10:30 am-11:30 am**

5 Adjournment 11: 30 am.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Merge FDA & USDA comparison chart with ISO, AOAC, Health Canada and MicroVal.
2. Published comparison study of ISO and AOAC Guidelines will be uploaded to ISPAM website for Microbiology and Chemistry Working Groups.
3. BPMM document will be added to the Microbiology Working Group ISPAM document website.
4. Participants will prepare and submit list of compared divergences, high ranking differences and comments pertaining to suggestions for convergence and aspects that may have been overlooked on present comparison chart. Submit to President Flowers and Krystyna McIver prior to June 3rd teleconference.