

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF INDEPENDENT LABORATORIES (UILI)

Report to CASCO's 22nd Plenary Meeting
To be held in Geneva, Switzerland on 17 - 18 November, 2005
Presented by
Gib McIntee and David Stanger
UILI's Rapporteur to CASCO

This is the fifth annual report submitted by UILI since it was granted ISO/CASCO Liaison 'A' Status by the CASCO plenary meeting held in September 2000. The UILI Governing Board again welcomes this valuable opportunity to report on their activities in support of the laboratory community to the CASCO Members.

Our representative to CASCO from 2000 until UILI's Governing Board's most recent meeting held in London on the 30th September, 2005 has been David Stanger. His active participation in WG's 25, WG 18, Chairman's Advisory Group (CAG) and other CASCO initiatives has ensured that UILI has contributed to the debates on the alignment of the laboratory communities expectations and concerns in relevant standards developments and it is hoped a better appreciation of the inter dependence between our interests and those of the CASCO Members and those international bodies with Liaison Status.

We wish to report that our Governing Board appointed the UILI President Mr Gib McIntee of St Lawrence Testing & Inspection Co.Ltd, Ontario, Canada as the UILI Rapporteur to CASCO. This compliments his long standing liaison with ISO on behalf of UILI.

The Union Internationale des Laboratoires Independent (UILI) incorporated in Paris, France in 1961 is an international association of private laboratories and practitioners from around the world. We serve a membership of over 750 organisations represented in six National Member Associations located in Belgium, Canada, Japan, The Netherlands, Spain and the USA or as individual Affiliate Members providing laboratory services in over 30 countries. Dialogue is on going with specific national laboratory associations and Embassies around the world as part of our business plan to support laboratories in developing countries.

UILI's objectives include the representation of the professional and commercial interests of the private sector laboratories and acts as a forum for the exchange of information and views on an international basis

This past year UILI has witnessed the publication of the laboratory standard ISO/IEC 17025:2005 on the 12th May, 2005. The success of this key standard against which testing and calibration laboratories are assessed on their technical competence and management systems is now the challenge to all parties to the international, regional and national conformity assessment communities . UILI welcomes opportunities to participate in the feedback process within CASCO and through our participation in the work of the Laboratory Committee of ILAC on the application of ISO/IEC 17025:2005. How can cross border trade take advantage of this standard?

UILI continues its participation with CASCO's Liaison A member ILAC and in particular in the work of ILAC's Laboratory Committee and the implementation of ILAC's first Business Plan.

UILI'S REPORT TO CASCO'S 22nd PLENARY MEETING (Continued.....).

During the period covered by this report the UILI Governing Board has met in Orlando, Florida, USA on 7th October, 2004, in Brussels, Belgium on the 18th March, 2005 and on the 30th September in London, United Kingdom.

As recorded at the beginning of this report the UILI Governing Board has completed a comprehensive handover between David Stanger and Gib McIntee as Rapporteur to CASCO. Both extend wishes to all CASCO Members, the ISO Secretary General Alan Bryden; Graeme Drake and his successor Peter Dennehy, the CASCO Secretariat and to all Delegates in Geneva every success in the future.

For further information, please contact us at UILI Secretariat, 1629 K Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20006. USA. Tel: +1 202 887 5872 Fax: +1 202 887 0021, e-mail office@uili.org or www.uili.org.

Report compiled on 12th October 2005