



BHSC NEWS

March, 2008

BeO Standard Reference Material Available Soon

NIST anticipates being able to make the beryllium oxide standard reference material (SRM 1877) available very soon, possibly as early as the end of March. This will culminate a two-year effort involving several federal agencies (DOE, NIOSH, and NIST), and will provide a long-anticipated means of improving proficiency testing and validating sample preparation methods. For more information contact Tom Oatts, leader of the BeO/Digestion Working Group, at oattstj@y12.doe.gov.

Information for BHSC Spring Meeting

The preliminary agenda for the BHSC Spring Meeting is now available (see separate document). We have a full technical program, including presentations on genetics and toxicology, statistics, and analytical advances. There will also be roundtables on beryllium oxide, surface sampling, and data reporting. With this meeting we are again trying out audio conferencing for those not able to attend in person (the call-in number will be provided on the final agenda). The level of phone participation for this meeting will determine whether we offer this feature for future meetings.

If you plan to attend the spring meeting, please send an email to Mike Brisson at mike.brisson@srs.gov. Please indicate whether you plan to attend in person or participate by phone. To ensure that we have the right number of phone lines available, it would be very helpful to indicate what portion(s) of the meeting (Wed AM, Wed PM, Thu AM, Thu PM) you plan to join by phone.

The closest city to the meeting location is Edgewood, Maryland. Edgewood is about xx miles north of Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI) and about 70 miles south of Philadelphia Airport.

Edgewood has the following hotels available: Hampton Inn, Holiday Inn Express, Days Inn, Sleep Inn, and Best Western. These are near Maryland Route 24, which is the entry road for visitor access to Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG). Dining options are relatively limited in Edgewood, but there are more options in nearby Bel Air (about six miles from Edgewood on MD 24). Details on entering APG will be provided by Geoff Braybrooke, our host, prior to the meeting.

Update on BHSC Web Site

Progress has been delayed on returning the BHSC web site to its earlier address at www.sandia.gov/BHSC, and updating it to include features such as a calendar of events,



BHSC white papers, and subcommittee pages. We still anticipate that the updates will be completed prior to the April BHSC meeting.

Update on White Papers in Progress

- The Sampling and Analysis Subcommittee (SAS) white paper on wall deposits is being revised and will be reviewed at the April BHSC meeting. For more information, contact Melecita Archuleta at 505-845-9051 or melarch@sandia.gov.

The following has not changed since the last newsletter:

- The Data Reporting Task Force is revising its white paper on guidelines for *optional* use of uncensored data in *limited* instances as a means of reducing sampling and analytical costs for scoping studies or other situations that do not require the use of accredited data (which cannot be uncensored). The sampling applications matrix that was part of the original DRTF white paper will now become a separate white paper under the Sampling Working Group. Both of these are expected to be presented at the April BHSC meeting.
- The Validation Working Group is working on a white paper that provides a review and summary of available guides and protocols for validation of analytical methods. For more information, contact Amy Ekechukwu at 803-725-1236 or amy.ekechukwu@srl.doe.gov.
- The Research Needs Subcommittee white paper on dermal sampling has recently completed a three-week BHSC review. Comments are now being reviewed by the Subcommittee. For more information, contact Mike McCawley at 304-292-1856 or mccawley.mike@comcast.net.
- The SAS has also begun work on a white paper on interferences in measuring beryllium by ICP emission spectroscopy. The white paper will focus on what people should look for from their labs to be sure the labs are correcting properly for the interferences. This white paper should be presented at the November BHSC meeting.

March Conference Call Schedule (all times Eastern)

(Reminder: In the U.S. and Canada, Daylight Savings Time will begin on March 9.)

- Mar 6, noon, Be by Fluorescence Working Group (Anoop Agrawal, aagrawal@qwest.net)
- Mar 11, noon, Sampling and Analysis Subcommittee (Melecita Archuleta, melarch@sandia.gov)
- Mar 11, 3 PM, Symposium Subcommittee (Amy Ekechukwu, amy.ekechukwu@srl.doe.gov)
- Mar 12, noon, Data Reporting Task Force (open to DRTF members only)
- Mar 12, 2 PM, Validation Working Group (Amy Ekechukwu, amy.ekechukwu@srl.doe.gov)
- Mar 13, 10 AM, ICP-MS working group, Mike Brisson, mike.brisson@srs.gov
- Mar 13, 3 PM, Research Needs/CBD Prevention Subcommittees, Mike McCawley (mccawley.mike@comcast.net) and Steve Jahn (steven.jahn@srs.gov)
- Mar 18, noon, BeO/Digestion working group, Tom Oatts, oattstj@y12.doe.gov



Mar 19, noon, BHSC Board, Mike Brisson, mike.brisson@srs.gov
Mar 19, 3 PM, Technical Practices Subcommittee, David Weitzman,
david.weitzman@hq.doe.gov
Mar 20, noon, Accreditation working group, Diana Decker, ddecker@lanl.gov
Mar 25, noon, Sampling working group, Geoff Braybrooke,
geoffrey.braybrooke@apg.amedd.army.mil
Mar 25, 3 PM, Symposium Subcommittee (Amy Ekechukwu, amy.ekechukwu@srnl.doe.gov)

Future BHSC Meetings

April 15-17, 2008, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD
 April 15: Board and JOWOG
 April 16-17: Main BHSC meeting
November 17-20, 2008, Albuquerque, NM
 Nov 17 AM: Board and JOWOG
 Nov 17 PM: Surface Sampling Tutorial
 Nov 18-19: Third International Symposium on Beryllium Particulates and Their
 Detection
 Nov 20: Main BHSC meeting
March 31-April 2, 2009, Savannah River Site, Aiken, SC
 Mar 31: Board and JOWOG
 Apr 1-2: Main BHSC meeting
Fall 2009: DOE North Las Vegas office complex (dates TBD)
Spring 2010, U. K. Atomic Weapons Establishment Aldermaston, Reading, U.K.