



INFORMATION

Training of technical experts (Monopoly Project 2009 P3)

Theme: Pattern recognition

Date: 22-25 January 2013

This is information about the coming training seminar with the aim to train technical expert in the area of ISO/IEC 17025. Suitable experts are to be sought in the areas of pattern recognition including marks, handwriting and firearms. Please note that applicants from ENFSI-member organisations will be prioritised when selecting appropriate candidates for the training. However, experts that are associate members within the Expert Working Groups of Marks, Firearms and Handwriting (coming from non-ENFSI member organisations) and other relevant experts within the field of pattern recognition e.g. blood pattern recognition are also welcome to apply¹. This is of course also considering that the candidates have relevant competence.

The reason you are requested to consider the coming invitation is because of the project that has been set up with the aim to train 80 technical experts within different forensic areas as a joint activity between ENFSI and European co-operation for Accreditation (EA). The lack of technical assessors at present is a problem for the accreditation bodies and the organisations applying for accreditation.

This is an opportunity for you to contribute to the pool of European technical experts that are needed in order to be able to accredit the forensic laboratories in Europe.

Before applying please consider that there is an expectation that the expert will be available for a minimum of 10 days per year to undertake assessment work. This could be either through a contract with the institute directly or in the personal time of the expert agreed with the institute. The expert would be expected to have access to email, laptop (for use at assessments) and hold a copy of relevant accreditation standard (ISO/IEC 17025).

The United Kingdom Accreditation Services (UKAS) will provide the training of the technical experts in the area of ISO/IEC 17025. UKAS is a well-recognised accreditation body worldwide. For more information about UKAS, please visit the website www.ukas.com. The training of technical experts is regulated in ILAC G3:08/2012. UKAS fulfils the requirements in this guide.

On completion of the training the expert will need to be contracted by any accreditation body wishing to use them, at which time, their expertise and competence should be verified in line with the accreditation bodies own requirements. Any ongoing assessment of this competence will then need to be undertaken by the accreditation body in line with their own monitoring regime. To graduate from a technical expert to technical assessor an accreditation body will need to assess the experts' ability to perform this role.

¹ There are some detailed formal restrictions about participants due to the EU requirements. Contact Christina Bertler Edlund if you have questions.



The benefits for the institute:

- To have staff trained in the requirements for the accreditation
- Implementation of an international best practice
- Demonstration of commitment to the development quality standards in Europe
- Recognition of the institutes technical status
- Benchmarking against peers in Europe
- Increased readiness for assessment by the national accreditation body

The benefits for the forensic community in Europe:

- To assist in meeting the requirements of the European framework decision 2009/905/JHA.
- To assist the ENFSI members in meeting the requirements for accreditation by the end of 2012 and having all frequently methods/procedures accredited
- Assisting harmonising quality across Europe
- Better level of future discussions in the ENFSI Expert Working Groups
- Recognition and confidence in exchange of data across borders

Costs and reimbursement

The training course will have a fee for 1000 EURO per participant. The project has a budget to reimburse the travel cost up to 400 EUROS and provide Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA), at present 276 EURO per full day. The DSA should cover e.g. hotel cost and food.

Timeline

The invitation letter, application form and competence matrix will be sent out to the ENFSI member representatives and relevant Expert Working Group (EWG) chairpersons and EWG QCLG-representative for distribution within each EWG, respectively. Birgitta Roseen Pettersson (project secretary) will send the invitation and different forms on behalf of the project team in due time before the training seminar. The application form and other relevant information will be published on www.enfsi.eu. If you have any administrative question please contact Birgitta at birgitta.roseen-pettersson@skl.polisen.se

Venue

The training will take place at UKAS premises in Feltham, close to Heathrow, UK.

If you require further information, please contact Christina Bertler Edlund, Project Leader, at christina.bertler@skl.polisen.se

Sincerely

Christina Bertler Edlund