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Final Interim Standard for Standards for Relationship Testing Laboratories, 9th edition

Summary

The AABB Board of Directors and the Standards Program Committee have reviewed and approved the following interim standard for the 9th edition of *Standards for Relationship Testing Laboratories*.

Interim Standards

6.3.4 An AABB accredited laboratory shall use AABB trademarks, including logos, or make claims about AABB accreditation only in reference to activities for which it is accredited by AABB.

6.3.4.1 The facility shall distinguish between AABB accredited and non-accredited activities with respect to all claims in promotional, marketing, and educational materials in which the AABB trademarks are used.

Definition

Claims: With respect to these *RT Standards*, the direct or indirect implication that a facility or a service offered by that facility is accredited. Claims may appear in any information made available by the facility to potential clients or others, such as Web sites, educational or promotional materials, final reports, or other communication vehicles, including information given verbally to prospective clients.

Background

The Relationship Testing Standards Program Unit (RT SPU) believes it appropriate to strengthen requirements for the use of the AABB logo by accredited facilities that offer non-accredited services. In addition, the RT SPU included a definition for the term "Claims" was included as well.

Rationale

During the 30-day comment period, the RT SPU received many comments to the interim standard. On the basis of comments received, the RT SPU did not make changes to standards 6.3.4 and 6.3.4.1, nor was the definition of the term "Claims" edited.

**Available
Soon!**

**10th Edition Standards
for Relationship
Testing Laboratories**

*The effective date January 1,
2011.*

In Combination with :

**10th Edition of
Guidance for
Standards for
Relationship Testing
Laboratories**

*The Guidance to the Standards
for Relationship Testing
Laboratories is contained on a
compact disc included in the
back of this edition of RT
Standards.*

****Copies will soon be
available for purchase.
Visit the AABB
Bookstore at
www.aabb.org**



**AABB
ANNUAL MEETING
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October 22-25, 2011

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MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Session: Relationship Testing SIG I

**Held: Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011
10:30 am – 12:00 pm**

Director/Moderator: Mary Mount, MT(ASCP)

Speakers: Robert Bever, PhD; Anthony Carter, PhD; Lloyd Osborne, PhD

Intended Audience: Physicians, Scientists, Technologists, Nurses, Managers/Supervisors

Event Description: This program will highlight forensic applications being used in human identification and the population admixture of unknown crime-scene samples.

Event Level: Intermediate

Session: Relationship Testing SIG II:

**Held: Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011
2:00 pm – 5:30 pm**

Director/Moderator: Mary Mount, MT(ASCP)

Speakers: Michael Baird, PhD; Marcia Garcia; Donna Housley, PhD; Sara Katsanis, MS; George Maha, JD, PhD, MT(ASCP)

Intended Audience: Physicians, Scientists, Technologists, Nurses, Managers/Supervisors

Event Description: This session covers administrative actions affecting relationship testing laboratories as well as other topics of interest. It will include a discussion of changes made in the *10th Edition of the Standards for Relationship Testing Laboratories*, a review of the 2010 Annual Report, a review of the three previous CAP PAR/PARF surveys and a review of the nonconformance issued since the 2010 AABB Annual Meeting. The speakers will explain existing QA practices, privacy protections and sample retention policies to protect individuals required to have or opting for nonmedical genetic testing. This session will also look at the probability of paternity for incest cases.

Event Level: Intermediate

GREAT RESOURCES

IF YOU MISSED THE MEETING IN 2010 YOU CAN STILL ORDER HANDOUTS OR STREAMING AUDIO WITH POWERPOINT SLIDES OF ALL THE SESSIONS HELD DURING THE 2007 ANNUAL MEETING BY VISITING**

**THE
AABB LIVE
LEARNING
CENTER
JUST CLICK:**

<http://www.softconference.com/aabb/>

****CONTENT FROM 2002- 2010 SESSIONS ARE STILL AVAILABLE**

The AABB Relationship Testing Annual Report Summary

**To obtain a FREE copy
JUST CLICK:**

http://www.aabb.org/Content/Accreditation/Parentage_Testing_Accreditation_Program/ptpr og.htm

- ✚ Standards for Relationship Testing Laboratories Update for 10th Edition.

The 10th Edition of Standards for Relationship Testing Laboratories will be available at the Annual AABB Meeting in San Diego in October 2011. The publication will again contain a CD of the Guidance for Standards for Relationship Testing Laboratories, 10th Edition as well as a cross walk to identify the changes from the previous edition. A portion of the Relationship Testing SIGs at the Annual Meeting will be devoted to addressing the changes in the 10th Edition of Relationship Testing Standards.

- ✚ You can obtain a list of Accredited Relationship Testing Laboratories at the following link:
http://www.aabb.org/Content/Accreditation/Parentage_Testing_Accreditation_Program/AABB_Accredited_Parentage_Testing_Laboratories/aboutptlabs.htm
- ✚ The AABB Career Link is a good way to bring together great job opportunities and great candidates. To find out more information visit the following link:
http://www.aabb.org/Content/Professional_Development/CareerLink/careerlink.htm

Misleading Claims of Accreditation and Logo Misuse

With the explosion of advertising on the internet, there has been increasing misuse of AABB's trademarked logos and misleading claims of AABB accreditation. We are renewing our efforts to stop such practices and are actively searching out these organizations so that we can address this problem on a more global scale. These efforts benefit accredited laboratories by preserving the strong value of AABB accreditation and by ensuring that customer attention is focused on laboratories that actually are accredited. Our facilities work hard to achieve and maintain accreditation and deserve the maximum benefit of that accreditation. Increased vigilance will also benefit laboratories' customers by ensuring that they get the accredited-laboratory test that they have paid for. You can aid these efforts by bringing to our attention instances of logo misuse or misleading statements regarding accreditation. Please advise AABB's

Accreditation Department (accreditation@aabb.org) by providing the offending Web site and briefly describing the issue. It would be particularly helpful if you copy and email the actual link from your browser's address bar, as some offending organizations maintain multiple Web sites. The AABB Trademark Usage Guideline can found on the AABB Web site under About the AABB/Governance and Policies.

2010-2011 RTAPU Members

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Lloyd Osborne, PhD
Michael L. Baird, PhD
George Maha, JD, PhD

Board Representative:
Donna Regan, BS, MT(ASCP)

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Dara Hofman, Esq
Board Representative:
Thomas Lane, MD

WANTED

RTAPU or RTSPU Member

Are you currently an assessor? Would you like to be involved in planning for sessions at the AABB Annual Meeting? Would you like to review corrective action plans for process non-conformances? Would you like to be involved in the newsletter? If these issues are of interest to you, the **Relationship Testing Accreditation Program Unit** would like to have you as a member.

Are you currently an AABB Member? Would you like to be involved in creating and revising the Relationship Testing Standards? Would you like to review the requests for variance from the Standards? Would you like to be involved in creating and revising the Guidance for the Standards? If these issues are of interest to you, the **Relationship Testing Standards Program Unit** would like to have you as a member.

Please contact Nikki Bass at the AABB National Office at nikkib@aabb.org.

Articles

Do you have an interesting case or question you would like to share through this newsletter? Or is there a topic or issue you would like us to write about? Email us at nikkib@aabb.org

VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THIS PUBLICATION DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT OFFICIAL AABB POLICY AND SHOULD NOT BE RELIED ON FOR LEGAL ADVICE.