Dear Readers,

As we pass the mid-point to an incredibly challenging 2020, TIC Council would like to express its relief in seeing the efficient levels of damage limitation, which TIC members have introduced to ensure the industry adapts to the new structural shifts accelerated by the COVID-19 crisis. We wish you all the best of luck for the second half of the year.

This July, TIC Council marched on in providing members and key stakeholders with our tailored webinar series, covering a wide range of topics related to the TIC sector including cybersecurity, anti-counterfeiting, and medical devices. Most notably, on the 7th July, TIC Council hosted an engaging webinar with OC&C Strategy Consultants titled “Impact of COVID-19 Crisis on the TIC Sector: Not as bad as we feared? (except where it is)”. This webinar provided an updated assessment of the COVID-19 Crisis on the TIC market globally and included the findings of the survey conducted amongst the TIC Council membership.

Furthermore, on the 17th of July, the TIC Council’s China Regional Steering Committee welcomed Mr Chen, Ping, Director of the Jing’an Administration for Market Regulation, who provided opening remarks in which he expressed his desire for a deepened cooperation with the TIC sector. The Committee met to advance the multiple elements of cooperation between TIC Council members in China, whilst reviewing the progress of its various working groups.

In the meantime, we wish you a positive summer and look forward to working together with all the TIC Council members towards a strong representation of the industry worldwide.

Best regards,

Ms. Hanane Taidi
Director General, TIC Council
TIC Market Trends and Developments

Business Developments

- Applus+ in India has started to provide inspection services for solar power plant projects. Read more
- Applus+ has started to incorporate into its pathology reports the 3D modelling of the regasification plant in the Port of Sagunto, Valencia. Read more
- Baltic Control has been appointed by General Administration of Customs in the People’s Republic of China to inspect, supervise and certify their imports of waste materials exported from Denmark. Read more
- Bureau Veritas has launched Supply-R, a solution designed to meet companies’ new challenges relating to supplier network reliability and ensuring business continuity in all circumstances. Read more
- DEKRA has been recognized as an Authorized Laboratory by ioXt Alliance to perform testing services for Internet-of-Things cybersecurity market. Read more
- DEKRA has become an authorized third-party test Lab for Alexa Built-in devices. Read more
- Eurofins has published robust method to analyse SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater samples, providing early warning of potential COVID-19 outbreak at a given site. Read more
- Intertek Caleb Brett has expanded capability in Oil Condition Monitoring services to support clients in Asia and Europe. Read more
- Intertek has expanded personal protective equipment services and COVID-19 solutions with N95 Respirator Precertification Testing. Read more
- Intertek has launched functional safety design evaluation and certification program for industrial automated machinery and robotics. Read more
- Intertek has launched surface hygiene testing for the oil & gas market as part of the Intertek Protek Assurance programme. Read more
- KIWA will provide assessment and certification of Safe Tourism in Turkey. Read more
- KIWA has received renewed CSR management system certificate. Read more
- QIMA have provided an overview of the most relevant changes to compliance regulations worldwide. Read more
- Ravi Energi has been accredited by Quality Council of India to carry out Workplace Assessment for Safety and Hygiene. Read more
- Saybolt has opened an office in Ghent. Read more
- SGS has received approval from Belgium’s Federal Agency for Medicines and Health Products (FAMHP) and has initiated the first site to begin a new clinical trial of a potential treatment for patients with COVID-19 related respiratory failure. Read more
- SGS has recently opened its new state-of-the-art commercial geochemistry laboratory in Tarkwa, Ghana. Read more
- SVTï (Swiss Association for Technical Inspections) has held their 151st General Assembly on June 24th, 2020. Read more
- SZU has recently become a recognized inspection and certification body of the ENplus® wood pellet certification scheme. Read more
- TÜV Rheinland of North America has started to implement excellence centre program for product testing. Read more
TIC Market Trends and Developments

- TÜV Rheinland has received full membership of the Association of Professional Social Compliance Auditors (APSCA). Read more
- TÜV SÜD has started cooperating with DRIVESEC to provide cybersecurity solutions. Read more
- TÜV SÜD has published the complete guidelines for Hyperloop applications. Read more
- UL has released an end-to-end EMV (Europay, MasterCard and Visa) certification program to help ensure seamless acceptance of U.S. Bank Voyager Fleet Card chip-enabled fleet transactions. Read more
- UL has announced the relocation of the Poland office and laboratory, to a strategic new location in Warsaw beginning on August 10th, 2020. Read more

Mergers and Acquisitions

- TÜV AUSTRIA has taken over the renowned Dornbirn test and expert company Dipl.-Ing. Heinz Millner GmbH. Read more

Personnel Developments

- Bureau Veritas has announced the appointment of Béatrice Place Faget, effective August 3, 2020, as Executive Vice-President in charge of Group Legal Affairs and Internal Audit. Read more
- SGS has announced the appointment of Franck Picard PhD as Business Manager of SGS Life Sciences in France and Global Head of Bioanalysis. Read more
Accreditation and Standardisation News

Accreditation

IAF/ILAC

Following the 19th IAF-ILAC Joint General Assembly that took place on 29 October 2019 and its resolutions regarding the merger, they published:

- The Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee approved at the May JEC meeting;
- The tender document for the selection of a contractor to assist IAF and ILAC in the establishment of a single international accreditation organization.

Those interested in participating in the tender are invited to send a detailed proposal to secretary@iaf.nu and ilac@nata.com.au by 14 August 2020.

The 2021 Joint Mid-Term meetings will be held as a series of virtual meetings, supported by Say Something Communications (SSC). The 2021 Joint Annual Meetings in-person are scheduled in Montréal, Canada, from 28 October - 06 November 2021. The 2020 Joint Annual meetings are cancelled and Committees, Working Groups and Task Forces continue to be encouraged to complete their work virtually.

To assist members in scheduling of related activities, a list of ILAC and IAF meetings planned for the next several months is being compiled (for those instances where on-line meetings are planned in lieu of completing work e.g. via email or by other means) and will be provided in the coming weeks by the Secretariats.

IAF

The following materials have been published by IAF:

- IAF Overview Presentation, updated for June 2020 in accordance with the 2020-2025 IAF Strategic Plan, available here.
- IAF MLA Status - 23/06/2020, available here.
- A new question (#29) has been added to the list of COVID-19 FAQs.
- IAF Secretariat has sent out an e-mail detailing the process of nominations for a new Accreditation Body Member representative of the FOC, following Ms. Yuko Yoneoka's retirement. Nominations must be submitted to Secretary@iaf.nu, by 10 August 2020 COB.
- IAF has released a new issue of the IAF Outlook for April-June.

ILAC

- ILAC P10:07/2020 ILAC Policy on Metrological Traceability of Measurement Results was approved for publication and is now available here. This latest version of ILAC P10 has an implementation period of 12 months from the date of publication, i.e. July 2021.
- ILAC has informed that IAAC, the Inter American Accreditation Cooperation, has been recognized for the accreditation of proficiency testing providers and its recognition for the accreditation of calibration and testing laboratories, medical laboratories and inspection bodies has been continued.
- The ILAC Arrangement Council has endorsed the recommendation to recognise the APAC MRA for the accreditation of reference material producers (RMP) using ISO 17034, following the evaluation of APAC for this extension.
Accreditation and Standardisation News

Accreditation

EA

- The EA Report 2019 has been released. You can find it [here](#).
The following revised EA publications are available online:
  - EA-3/12 EA Policy for the Accreditation of Organic Production Certification in “Members’ Procedural Documents”: click [here](#).
  - EA-INF/07 National Accreditation Body Communication with National Regulators – Best Practice Guide in “Information and Promotional Documents”: click [here](#).

Standardisation

ISO CASCO

- ISO CASCO has informed of the appointment of convenors for CASCO WG56 and WG57.
- ISO CASCO has provided information on a clarification request on ISO IEC 17021-1.
- ISO CASCO has published the report of the CASCO CPC May meeting.
- Please note that the Committee Draft ballot for ISO/IEC 17030 Conformity assessment — General requirements for third-party marks of conformity is now open and until 2020-09-25. You may want to reach out to your national mirror committee to provide your input.
- The TMB Communiqué Issue No. 65 – June 2020 has been released.
- The ISO Central Secretariat has issued a letter that extends the measures for all meetings to be held virtually until 31 October 2020. Please also note this link to a document entitled ‘Criteria to guide decision making on the measures in response to the COVID-19 crisis’ and to the ISO Connect page.
- The systematic review consultation for ISO TS 17027:2014 – Conformity assessment – Vocabulary related to the competence of persons used for certification of persons is open until 2020-12-02.

CEN-CENELEC

- CEN-CENELEC have published their July newsletter with information on the CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards virtual meeting of 18-20 May 2020 (90th CEN/BT and 165th CLC/BT).
TIC Council Focus Topics

The Current State of the EU Affairs

Recovery Strategy: The European Council reached a political agreement on the EU Recovery Plan which required compromises to ensure the endorsement of all 27 Member States. The Communication has been sent to the European Parliament and to the Council who may formally it answer it through a Resolution or Conclusions, respectively. Debates on the Plan, which includes the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework, have started at the Parliament on July 23 and are set to continue throughout the week. The Parliament will have to approve the Plan as a whole, as well as national parliaments. MEPs have levied criticism on the financial viability of the Green Deal and the Digital Agenda.

European Commission economic forecast: The Summer 2020 Economic Forecast projects that the euro area economy will contract by 8.7% in 2020 and grow by 6.1% in 2021 due to the gradual pace of the lifting of lockdown measures and the great impact lockdown had on the economy. The contraction of the economy is assumed to be around 7.7%, with an increase from the Spring prevision of 0.3%. A failure to secure an agreement on the future trading relationship between the UK and the EU could also result in lower growth, particularly for the UK. More broadly, protectionist policies and an excessive turning away from global production chains could also negatively affect trade and the global economy.

Exit Strategy: the European Parliament published a briefing on the “COVID-19 Exit strategy”, underlining the importance of the adoption of proportionate measures in the return to the “new normal”. A COVID-19 vaccine is unlikely to be found before 12-18 months from now: in the meantime, social distancing measures shall be modulated on a temporal and regional basis and a temporary increase of ICU beds, medical devices, staff and facilities is recommended. An European dimension of healthcare could be developed in areas such as research and development for vaccines and treatments, establishment of common strategic stocks of medicines and medical products. As concerns the recovery plan, a trade-off between the alleviation of current hardships and the strain on future generations needs to be taken into account. The European Parliament has called for a Recovery and Transformation Fund (RTF) of €2 trillion to be financed with long-dated recovery bonds guaranteed by the EU budget.
The COVID-19 crisis’ full effects on the world economy are still to be completely understood by experts and stakeholders around the globe. What is certain, though, is that the pandemic has radically altered plans and policies across various nations in the span of just a couple of months. Until a few weeks ago, cities and states across the U.S. were adamant on banning single-use plastics like straws and takeout containers, while promoting the viability of reusable bags to combat pollution caused by the wide use of disposable plastics. The current crisis has changed the perspective of many key players, who are now advocating for a return – at least momentarily – to the single-use philosophy due to both the many safety and health concerns related to the repeated use of non-disposable bags and their increased costs compared to single-use bags. Thus, California Gov. Gavin Newsom has recently signed an executive order to suspend the 2016 plastic bag ban for 60 days after concerns related to the repeated handling of reusable bags by multiple people.

Furthermore, the widespread increase in the use of PPEs – masks and gloves especially – has led to a marked rise in plastic waste worldwide, and both environmentalists and NGOs are expressing fears that all these disposable products will soon make their way into the oceans. These plastics can create environmental health hazards even when they are disposed of in landfills and incinerators, as they have been proved to be made with chemicals that are carcinogenic or pose other health hazards, according to a research paper published in Science of the Total Environment in 2019.

In response to the numerous worries and concerns posed by these topics, the TIC sector supports a shift to a model of sustainability based on circular economy and supported by widespread use of robotics in order to help sorting out waste. The Polypropylene Recycling Coalition, a project of The Recycling Partnership, will, for instance, provide grants to materials recovery facilities (MRFs) for optical sorters, robots, conveyors, or other equipment or facility improvements needed to allow the sorting and recovery of PP scraps generated by U.S. families. This and other innovative projects are being closely monitored by the TIC sector in its search for continued innovation in the face of current global issues.

Other sources:
- ABCNews
- Vice
- Whyv
Upcoming Events

September
- 10 September: Circular Economy to the rescue - Center for European Policy Studies - online
- 9 September: International Conference on Sustainable Development - Rome
- 19 September: 9th ENISA-EC3 Workshop: CSIRTs and LE Cooperation - Brussels
- 22 September: Trust Services Forum - CA Day 2020 - Berlin
- 29 September: IoT driving Europe’s technology sovereignty and leadership - AIOTI - Berlin

October
- 5-9 October: DigiTranScope Autumn Institute 2020 - Florence
- 27-28 October: ICPHSO International Symposium - Brussels
- 14 October: World Standards Day 2020 - CEN and CENELEC
- 15 October: A Circular Economy supporting Europe’s Green Deal climate ambitions - Orgalim
- 22-23 October: Annual Privacy Forum (ENISA) - online
- 27 October: Artificial Intelligence in healthcare (stakeholder workshop) - CEN and CENELEC

November
- 3-4 November: European Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference
- 8-11 November: 14th world conference on injury prevention and safety promotion, WHO – Adelaide
TIC Council has published the position paper on connected devices. Read our recommendations for a regulatory framework that will enable the conformity assessment of connected devices.

On 7th July 2020, the TIC Council hosted a webinar with OC&C Strategy Consultants titled "Impact of COVID19 Crisis on the TIC Sector: Not as bad as we feared? (except where it is)". Check out the full webinar highlights here.

TIC Council has published its position in trade negotiations. Read what does TIC Council recommend in order to ensure that trade negotiations include comprehensive, high-standard and market-opening language for all industries here.

On 23rd July 2020, the TIC Council hosted a webinar addressing the challenges presented by cybersecurity of medical devices and the recommended best practices to address issues in the field. Check out the full webinar highlights here.