

<p style="text-align: center;">EURACHEM - CZ <i>Report from National Organization - Czech Republic 2010</i></p>

The national EURACHEM organization in the Czech Republic – EURACHEM-CZ – was established in September 1992, as an independent organization. It now represents about 90 members – laboratories from academe, universities, industry and private sector and individual members.

EURACHEM-CZ has hosted twice – in the years 1996 and 2004 – EURACHEM General Assembly, which took place in Prague. In 2004, the annual EURACHEM meeting was accompanied by workshop “Teaching Quality and Metrology in Chemistry”. Meetings of the Executive Committee also took place in Prague.

In May 2010, at the General Assembly in Copenhagen, Prof. Miloslav Suchanek was appointed as the Chair and Dr. Ivan Koruna as the Treasurer and the Secretary for the period 2010-2012.

Much of the effort of EURACHEM-CZ is focused on promoting education and training for analytical chemists through seminars, workshops, and courses and by publication of guidance documents on QA issues.

EURACHEM-CZ organizes at minimum one monothematic full day seminar per year. The most common topics include sampling, uncertainty, validation, and instrument qualification. Topics are presented by leading Czech experts in the field coming from EURACHEM-CZ, academe and universities, the Czech accreditation body and also from leading laboratories. The number of participants in these seminars is usually more than 70.

EURACHEM-CZ is a publisher of the series QUALIMETRICS, monographs currently comprising of 16 volumes. These publications give to analytical laboratories a basic guidance on QA issues. About half of the volumes are the translations of EURACHEM/CITAC Guides into the Czech language:

- *Accreditation for Chemical Laboratories* (1993), translated 1994
- *Accreditation for Microbiological Laboratories* (1996), translated 1996
- *Quantifying Uncertainty in Analytical Measurement*, 1st Edition (1995), translated 1996
- *The Fitness for Purpose of Analytical Methods: A Laboratory Guide to Method Validation and Related Topics* (1998), translated 1999
- *Quantifying Uncertainty in Analytical Measurement*, 2nd Edition (2000), translated 2001
- *Guide to Quality in Analytical Chemistry* (2002), translated 2003
- *Traceability in Chemical Measurement*, translated 2004
- *Use of Uncertainty Information in Compliance Assessment* (2007), translated 2008
- *Measurement Uncertainty Arising from Sampling* (2007), translated 2008

The other individual volumes written by Czech experts cover these topics: *Sampling, Metrology in Chemistry, Validation, Frequently Asked Questions by Quality Managers, Uncertainty Estimation in Chemical and Microbiological Measurements, Use of CRMs in Chemical Analysis, Basic Statistics for Analytical Chemistry Laboratories.*

EURACHEM-CZ has to date issued 46 issues of the EURACHEM-CZ Newsletter. Each issue contains about 8 pages of text. They serve as a tool for disseminating information to EURACHEM-CZ members on the developments, affecting the quality of analytical measurement both on an international and national scale. They include references to working groups' activities, seminars and courses in preparation. Every issue includes a pilot article dealing with a topic from analytical QA/QC, chemical metrology or accreditation, written by an expert in the field. Contents and short Czech abstracts of articles of the current Accreditation and Quality Assurance issues are also included in each EURACHEM-CZ Newsletter to provide information to all members.

A couple years ago we started to publish *Methodical Leaflets*. The leaflets deal with practical topics such as uncertainty evaluation, sampling, PT or explanation of basic terminology. The one or two page long leaflets in the Czech language are published on organisation's web page with a possibility to download them at no cost.

EURACHEM-CZ homepage at www.eurachem.cz has been available since 1997 and is freely accessible to all members of the analytical community. The pages contain eight sections comprising of the current and archive issues of the EURACHEM-CZ Newsletter, useful links, list of publications, discussion forum and other information about EURACHEM-CZ.

EURACHEM-CZ has developed a good bilateral cooperation with the Czech Institute of Accreditation (national accreditation body), the Czech Metrology Institute, and with the Czech branch of EUROLAB. In the year 2002, EURACHEM-CZ initiated a cooperation analogous to EEEE with these organisations. In the cooperation 4E-CZ there are involved: the EUROLAB-CZ, the Czech Accreditation Institute, the Czech Metrology Institute and EURACHEM-CZ. The aim of the cooperation is to find problems of common interest, to harmonize opinion about their solution and transfer the suggested solutions to the governmental bodies or to other Czech institutions.

EURACHEM-CZ with the SEKK Company, who provides clinical laboratories in the Czech Republic with complex services in the field of EQA and GLP, prepared a CD-ROM, *Metrological Terminology in Clinical and Analytical Laboratory*. This CD-ROM was distributed to several hundred laboratories and is also available on our web.

David Milde
Olomouc, October 2010