

WHAT'S NEW AT Q

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An ISO/IEC 17025 Accredited Laboratory

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



You will notice below in this newsletter, an article introducing Shelley Barsan as the Customer Service Representative at Q Laboratories, Inc. We believe providing service to our clients to be a primary responsibility of what we do here at Q Laboratories. Of course scientific excellence is important and we take our technical capabilities very seriously. But

we never lose sight of the fact that being responsive to our clients' needs is what has allowed us to be successful. We have been fortunate to have positive sales growth each of the past 5 years and have increased the size of our staff by 15% over the last 18 months. This consistent success is only possible if we remain focused on customer service. I know in my personal experience, customer service seems to be a lost art, whether it be the airlines or my local bank. But Q Laboratories, Inc. has a steadfast commitment to our customers and we continually look for ways to improve the services we provide and we do so in the manner in which we provide them.

David G. Goins

David G. Goins, President

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

Chapter 1116 of the USP/NF entitled, "Microbiological Evaluation of Clean Rooms and Other Controlled Environments," addresses processes for maintaining and assessing the environment where products are manufactured, handled and stored, or as stated in the chapter, "the establishment, maintenance, and control of the microbiological quality of controlled environments." The chapter continues, "Microbial monitoring programs for controlled environments should assess the effectiveness of cleaning and sanitization practices by and of personnel that could have an impact on the bioburden of the controlled environment... routine microbial monitoring should provide sufficient information to ascertain that the controlled environment is operating within an adequate state of control."

MEET THE Q LABORATORIES' STAFF

The friendly voice you most likely hear when you call Q Laboratories, Inc. is Customer Service Representative, Shelley Barsan. Shelley's job is to get you to the right staff member to answer your question(s) or provide you with the services you need as quickly and efficiently as possible. She can provide you with the necessary forms you need or get you set up as a new client. If you require sampling materials or need your samples picked up, Shelley can take care of that for you. Shelley is a major part of our unending commitment to customer service excellence at Q Laboratories, Inc.



DIETARY SUPPLEMENT LEGISLATION

This past summer, Senate bill S. 1310, "The Dietary Supplement Labeling Act of 2011," was introduced to the US Senate by the bill's sponsors, Senators Richard Durbin of Illinois and Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut. The introduction of the bill states that S. 1310 is, "a bill to improve the safety of dietary supplements by amending the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require manufacturers of dietary supplements to register dietary supplement products with the Food and Drug Administration and to amend labeling requirements with respect to dietary supplements." The bill would require all firms engaged in manufacturing, processing, packing, or holding dietary supplements for consumption in the United States to be registered with the FDA. Each registered facility should include in the registration information, a description of each dietary supplement product manufactured by such facility; a list of all ingredients in each such dietary supplement product; and a copy of the label and labeling for each such product. Dietary Supplement companies must re-submit a registration within 30 days if they, manufacture a dietary supplement product that the facility previously did not manufacture and for which the facility did not submit the information required; reformulate a dietary supplement product for which the facility previously submitted the information; or no longer manufacture a dietary supplement for which the facility previously submitted the information required.

The bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to, compile a list of dietary supplement ingredients and proprietary blends of ingredients that the Secretary determines could cause potentially serious adverse events, drug interactions, contraindications, or potential risks to subgroups such as children and pregnant or breastfeeding women. And subsequently to, "enter into a contract with the Institute of Medicine (IOM) under which the IOM shall evaluate dietary supplement ingredients and proprietary blends of ingredients, including those on the list compiled by the Secretary under subsection (a), and scientific literature on dietary supplement ingredients and, not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Dietary Supplement Labeling Act of 2011, submit to the Secretary a report evaluating the safety of dietary supplement ingredients and proprietary blends of ingredients the IOM determines could cause potentially serious adverse events, drug interactions, contraindications, or potential risks to subgroups such as children and pregnant or breastfeeding women. Then within 24 months of receiving the IOM report, HHS must establish mandatory warning label requirements for dietary supplement ingredients that the Secretary determines to cause potentially serious adverse events, drug interactions, contraindications, or potential risks to subgroups and identify proprietary blends of ingredients for which, because of potentially serious adverse events, drug interactions, contraindications, or potential risks to subgroups such as children and pregnant or breastfeeding women, the weight per serving of the ingredient in the proprietary blend shall be provided on the label.

The bill was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions for consideration.

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