

June 2018 Quarterly Update on NCIMS Tech Committee Subgroup on AMIs

The NCIMS Technical Engineering Review Committee subgroup on AMI's continues to hold conference calls monthly to work on fundamental issues.

A total of 4 conference call have taken place since April update – on 4/16, 5/7, 6/4 and 6/18.

Subjects being discussed at this time:

- Defining abnormal milk diversion versus voluntary milk diversion
 - Uses
 - Washes
 - Parity with conventional systems
- Keeping a record of diversions on AMIs – not currently being done on conventional systems
- When to wash – what constitutes a need for a full wash
- Do we need to set a standard for air flow (positive air) parameters?
- AMI requirements should not be MORE stringent than conventional system requirements.
- A survey was sent to the group requesting their thoughts on the subgroup's goals and success.

Results compiled:

- The need for Appendix Q, the subgroup's results and the 3-A Standard on AMIs to all be in alignment
- That the group needs to keep in mind we are not trying to write requirements allowing compliance for AMIs that are already in use
- That the AMIs requirements in Europe will not be the same for the AMI requirements in the U.S.
- Group will continue to meet on an accelerated basis to complete Appendix Q rewrite or integration prior to 2019 Conference.

From 6/18 conference call, it was decided that the group may consider an effort to reinsert all the references from Appendix Q back into Section 7 of the PMO. A draft will be drawn up and recirculated prior to the next conference call. Members will decide if this is the better solution to integrating AMI requirements but still maintain that the units should be regarded under the same set of regulations as conventional milking systems. This may also alleviate any perceptions that the AMI's need a separate set of regulations, and help to maintain consistency.

Notes respectfully admitted by Helen Piotter – Vice Chair