



# *National Association for Proficiency Testing*

A Non-Profit Organization Dedicated to Excellence in Metrology & Test Measurement

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## February 2005 Newsletter

### **NAPT Regional ILC/PTs**

As an ongoing service provided by NAPT, we continue to gather information from interested members in regards to Regional ILC Sites. Regionals are an excellent opportunity to participate in ILC/PTs which, by most Accrediting Bodies, are required. For some, this may be the only opportunity during your membership year to meet these requirements. If your company has an interest in participating in regional ILC/PTs (see listed at the bottom of this announcement), please contact NAPT at your earliest convenience. Once NAPT is made aware of our members needs, we can proceed with posting new regional locations on our website ([www.proficiency.org](http://www.proficiency.org)) and making the necessary arrangements.

At this time we have Regionals scheduled for the 2005 calendar year for the following locations:

April 25-28	Minneapolis, MN	Martin Calibration (see tests available below)
May	Grand Rapids, MI	Site identified – details being finalized
June	Huntersville, NC	Duke Power
August/Sept	San Antonio, TX	Southwest Research
October	Louisville, KY	Johnson Control

If you would like to participate in the scheduled sites shown above, please contact us.

There is a strong interest in the North East area as well as Canada, Missouri, Ohio, Florida, Arizona, and California. As possible participants are identified we will develop regional ILCs to meet their needs.

Before a regional ILC/PT is confirmed, two requirements need to be met; a host site, and a minimum number of participants. There are many benefits for participants who offer their facility as a regional site. The Host can participate in the ILC/PTs offered at that regional at no charge (this includes as many technicians as the host would like), providing NAPT's minimum requirements are met. We work with the host to select the date, and with it being at their facility, there is no expense for travel which can be a sizable savings. If you have an interest in hosting a regional, please contact us to discuss the details.

### **NAPT Training Products**

In addition to ILC/PT participation, NAPT also offers Training and Consulting. These services can prove to be invaluable to the proficiency and competence of your technical staff. NAPT has trained accreditation assessors on staff to assist you with your accreditation problems.

The training courses below will be customized specifically around your needs. Laboratories and supervisors who are new to calibration will benefit from each of these courses. Accredited laboratories will also greatly benefit by understanding the industry requirements and the value they bring. The staff of NAPT discusses



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calibration and accreditation issues and concerns with technicians, supervisors and engineers every day and fully understands what the issues are. Each of these courses is intended to provide direction, assistance, and real measurable value.

## **ILC/PT Related**

- On-site facilitation of Intra-laboratory PT  
This training is directly coupled to specific ILC/PTs completed on-site. NAPT will provide direction in determining meaningful measurements and follow through with data analysis. This will be beneficial for laboratories performing tests and calibrations where artifacts are not readily available.
- Interpretation of PT results for meaningful corrective action.  
Improvement opportunities can come from participation even when results are satisfactory. This course is intending to focus on recent results, digging deeper into process capability and uncertainty analysis.
- Uncertainty Analysis with focus on measurements made  
Most uncertainty courses do not allow direct correlation to the actual test and calibrations being performed. This course is intended to focus on the reported uncertainty, compare the measurement results in light of the uncertainty reported by peers in industry. The primary benefit will be a better understanding of each contributor of measurement error and how improvements can be made.

## **Accreditation Related**

- Satisfying the requirement for Internal Audit  
Many laboratories, especially smaller labs, have difficulty completing an effective, unbiased internal audit. This course is specifically designed to alleviate this concern. The results of this training will include a review of the Quality System with records to satisfy ISO 17025 requirements. NAPT can also perform internal audits for those organizations with limited capabilities. NAPT has, on staff, assessors who have performed numerous audits for the accreditation bodies to ISO 17025 to assist your organization.
- Quality System Requirements to support ISO 17025 Accreditation  
This evolving course has been in place since our initial offerings. Emphasis is placed on effective Metrology laboratory management, including calibration procedures, interval management, accuracy ratios and uncertainty analysis. This course has been beneficial for managers who have been caught up in the ground swell of balancing technical requirements with efficiency.



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## **2005 NAPT ILC/PTs in Development**

Below is a list of ILC/PTs that NAPT is developing for the 2005 calendar year. While most of these are already well underway, we are prioritizing them according to the needs of our participants. If you have an interest in the following ILCs we would appreciate detailed information from you regarding your needs in the particular tests. You can relay this information to NAPT via our website as well as e-mail.

NAPT-ACOUSTIC-101 - Calibrators	NAPT-GAGE-105 - Gage Block Set
NAPT-TORQ-203 - Torque Wrench Set	NAPT-RTD-201 - RTD Simulator
NAPT-DUROMETER-101 - Durometer	NAPT-THTP-103 - Thread Set Gage
NAPT-DMM-102 - 6 1/2 Digit Digital Multi Meter	NAPT-ATNR-101 - Attenuator
NAPT-THMD-104 - Thread Plugs Major Diameter	NAPT-PRC-220 - Process Calibrators
NAPT-ARES-202 - Standard Air Resistor	NAPT-OSC-110 - Oscilloscope
NAPT-RWHT-100 - Hardness Test Blocks	NAPT-MASSFLOW-101 - Massflow
NAPT-TORQTRANS-302 - Torque Transducer	NAPT-VIBRATION-101 - Vibration
NAPT-TORQARM-101 - Torque Arm	NAPT-AIRFLOW-101 - Airflow
NAPT-VACUUM-101 - Vacuum	

## **New ILC/PT's Now available**

NAPT-CMM-112 - Dimensional Inspection	NAPT-E-M-6998 - Frequency
NAPT-CAPAS-301 - Capacitors	NAPT-E-S-732B - 10 Volt Reference
NAPT-INSP-201 - Article Inspection	

## **Last Chance to save on NAPT Membership Renewal**

In previous Newsletters and announcements we have shared with you the fee increase NAPT's Board of Directors is implementing. NAPT's new price schedule goes into affect the first of March. If you would like to take advantage of locking into our current price schedule by participating in a 2, 3, or 4 year Multi-Year Membership, we will need to hear from you by the end of this month. Please contact NAPT by calling 763-525-1488, e-mailing [napt@proficiency.org](mailto:napt@proficiency.org), or via our website [www.proficiency.org](http://www.proficiency.org). If you plan on using an ILC provider to assist you with fulfilling your accreditation requirements, you don't want to miss this opportunity to not only save but enrolled in programs that bring real value to your measurement process.



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## **NAPT ILC/PTs offered at Martin Calibration April 25-28, 2005**

NAPT-SCALE-302/303 – Analytical Balances	NAPT-RRHT-100 - Hardness Tester
NAPT-SCALE-402 - Benchmark scale	NAPT-HGTG-200 - Height Gage
NAPT-RGSP-100 - Granite Surface Plate	NAPT-ROC-100 - Optical Comparator
NAPT-CMM-112 - Calibration of CMM	NAPT-TORQSEN - Torque Sensor

*Check NAPT's Website at [www.proficiency.org](http://www.proficiency.org) for  
ILC/PT updates and Regional postings as well as to review our  
Monthly Newsletters !!!*

NEW LOCATION:  
8100 Wayzata Boulevard  
St.Louis Park, MN 55426  
NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER:  
*(763)525-1488*

Please note that our fax number has remained the same:  
*(305)425-5728*

Please forward this information to all necessary persons in your organization.

Respectively submitted on behalf of the NAPT Staff