



Approval of Nominations for the Task Force on Commercial Standardization of Instrument Testing of Cotton (CSITC)

Background

An Expert Panel on CSITC was formed in December 2003 on the instruction of the 62nd Plenary Meeting in Poland. A consensus exists that instrument testing of cotton is superior to traditional hand classing. Instrument test results provide information to spinners that allow more efficient use of cotton, thereby enhancing demand. Instrument test results provide information to seed breeders, cotton producers and ginners, enabling the production of cotton with characteristics desired by the spinning industry. Instrument testing can also render the trading of cotton more efficient.

The objective of the CSITC is to facilitate widespread use of instrument testing systems at the producer level while upholding the standards and tolerances that maintain the integrity of high-quality testing. The Task Force is facilitating the adoption of instrument testing standards and procedures specified in the Universal Cotton Standards by all testing centers around the world, and to introduce the use of instrument testing language in the trading of cotton so that traditional descriptions of grade or type are replaced with instrument test values.

Turnover and Expansion of the CSITC

Fifteen members of the Expert Panel were originally nominated by the Secretariat and approved by the Standing Committee in December 2003. Attendance at each meeting of the CSITC by members or their alternates has been nearly 100%, and in addition more than eighty persons from the cotton industry have participated in meetings of the CSITC as observers. This is a gratifying indication that the work of the CSITC is of great importance to the industry.

After an expansion in 2006, the current roster of members of the CSITC is:

Andrew Macdonald (AMCON Consulting and former Director, Santista T  xtil SA of Brazil), serving as Chair of the CSITC

Zbigniew Roskwitalski (Executive Vice President, Director, Gdynia Cotton Association), serving as Rapporteur

Romano Bonadei (Chairman, Filati Filartex, Italy)

Axel Drieling (Testing Methods Department, Bremen Fibre Institute, Germany)

Darryl Earnest (Deputy Administrator, Cotton Program, USDA/AMS, USA)

Jean-Paul Gourlot (Director, CIRAD PERSYST LTC, France)

Urania Kechagia (Ex-Director, Cotton and Industrial Plants Institute, Greece)

James Knowlton (Chief, Standardization and Engineering Branch, Cotton Division, USDA AMS, USA)

Ibrahim Malloum (General Manager of Cotontchad and President of the African Cotton Association)

B.K. Mishra (Chairman cum Managing Director, Cotton Corporation of India, India)

Gregory Parle (Chair, Australian Cotton Classers Association, Australia)

P.D. Patodia (Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Prime Textiles, India)

Jo  o Luiz Ribas Pessa (Director, Abrapa, Brazil)

Jolly Sabune (Managing Director, Cotton Development Organization, Uganda)

Anton Schenek (Chair, ITMF International Committee on Cotton Testing Methods)

Manfred Schiefer (President, M. Schiefer Trading Company, USA)

Ralph Schulz   (ex-Executive Director, Australian Cotton Research & Development Corporation)

Hakim H. Umarkhojayev (General Director, SIFAT, Uzbekistan)

M.N. Vijayshankar (Chairman, ITMF International Committee on Cotton Testing Methods)

Peter Wakefield (President, Wakefield Inspection Services, USA)

Bruno Widmer (Global Business Manager, Fibres, Agricultural, SGS, Switzerland)

Alex Woo (Chairman, Central Textiles, Hong Kong)

Also, as discussions have proceeded, it has become apparent that the CSITC should be further expanded to officially include additional viewpoints. Accordingly, the Secretariat, acting upon a recommendation of the Task Force, is proposing that additional members be named officially to the CSITC and that the current roster of members be officially approved. The Secretariat has received communications from the CSITC and Argentina nominating representatives to the CSITC. The new appointees are:

Patricia Marino (Head of Commercialization and Director of the Center for Textile Research and Development of the Instituto Argentino de Tecnología Industrial (INTI), Argentina), having as alternate

Mariana Carfagnini (Coordinator of the Textile Physical-Mechanical Technical Unit of the Center for Textile Research and Development of the Instituto Argentino de Tecnología Industrial (INTI), Argentina)

Mona Qaud (Textile Technologist, Uster Technologies AG, Switzerland)

René van der Sluijs (Textile Technologist, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, Australia)

In its last meeting, CSITC member resolved to thank **Ibrahim Malloum, M. N. Vijayshankar, Manfred Schiefer** and **Alex Woo** for their services to the Task Force and understood that their other commitments precluded their continued membership of the CSITC.

Additional nominations to the CSITC will be welcome. Nominations should be sent to the Secretariat via members of the Task Force, Coordinating Agencies or Delegates to the Standing Committee. When received, any additional nominations will be distributed to the Standing Committee for approval.