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Tech Talk

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New e-Newsletter

As a registered member of the CSCT you are now looking at a new initiative of your CSCT Board of Directors. This new e-newsletter is proposed for electronic delivery to you three times each year to provide updates on society activities and initiatives, highlight opportunities for professional development and present some quick tech tips.

The CSCT is the professional society representing laboratory technicians and technologists in Canada. The Board of the CSCT works year-round to enhance the professional lives of the Society membership, and is constantly looking for new ways to increase the value of the Society to its members. This e-letter is one of the ways we seek to do this.

Who are your CSCT Board of Directors? We are a small but dedicated group. The directors represent chemical professionals from across the country from Saint John, N.B. to Burnaby, B.C. The membership of the Board includes industry, government and academic representatives. A complete listing and brief description of the Board members is found at www.chem-tech.ca under About — CSCT..

In the coming year we will be exploring the nature and value of this e-letter, and welcome your feedback. The full value of the newsletter will be realized when input from members help to direct the content.

The proposed timing of the three issues each year would be January, June and November.

I hope you will find this tool both interesting and useful. I look forward to member feedback!

CSCT and the CIC

The Chemical Institute of Canada (CIC) is composed of three constituent societies. The Canadian Society for Chemistry (CSC), the Canadian Society for Chemical Engineering (CSChE), and the Canadian Society for Chemical Technology (CSCT). The presidents of all three Societies sit on the CIC Bboard The CIC advances the principles and practices of all chemical scientists, technologists and engineers for the betterment of society.

The CIC lobbies the Canadian government on issues of research funding, leadership and regulatory affairs. It is the national voice for chemical sciences and engineering and takes a position on important issues. It works to advance the public's understanding and appreciation of the chemical sciences, engineering and technology.

BRIEFS

- *2010 cCT recipients: Lena Nielson, Sylvie Hansuld and Jeff McGinnis*
- *Congratulations to Carleton University's accreditation of their Environmental Science Program*
- *For those who haven't yet done so, renew your CSCT membership online at www.cheminst.ca for 2011*

FUTURE TOPICS

- ***CTAB updates***
- ***Professional Development Courses***
- ***CSCT Awards***
- ***Profiles***

2011 International Year of Chemistry

The United Nations has proclaimed 2011 to be the International Year of Chemistry (IYC), a worldwide celebration of chemistry and its contributions to the well-being of humankind. The theme is "Chemistry — our life, our future,"

The CIC and its Societies are taking the lead for Canada on a range of interactive, entertaining and educational activities for all ages at the local, regional and national level.

Companies and colleges are encouraged to participate in the celebration. Visit www.iyc2011.ca .

IYC National Activities include:

- Science Rendezvous
- National Chemistry Week
- Milestones of Canadian Chemistry
- Canadian Chemistry Olympiad
- YouTube Contest
- Canada Post Stamp
- Partnerships with Developing Countries
- Lecture Tour by Joe Schwarcz
- Global Water Experiment

International Year of CHEMISTRY 2011

How to Get Involved

The CSCT Board is always looking for ways to get its members involved in the Society.

- Participate on the Board of Directors to have a say in the future of the Society.
- Become a member of the CSCT team who carries out accreditation site visits of chemical technology programs at Canadian colleges.
- Attend CSCT professional development courses or better yet, if you see a need for a new course, work with us to develop a new course.
- Get involved with your Local Section.
- Share your experiences with your peers in ACCN.
- Tell us what types of information you are interested in so we can provide it in this newsletter..

CONTACT US

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Tech Tip

Getting Peak Areas Right

Manual adjustment of tick marks and baseline placement means that operator bias is introduced and all peaks will need individual optimization. Selection of proper automatic integration parameters can provide acceptable peak integration, free from operator bias.

Setting the Peak Width or Width to between ½ to 2 times the actual reported peak widths will usually give the best measurement of area. If one setting cannot work for all peaks, the Peak Width setting should be time programmed to keep it in an acceptable range.

The threshold, S/N or slope sensitivity should be set to the lowest value that will detect any real peak (including unidentified impurities) and reject all true baseline noise. This must often be chosen by trial and error, but some software packages can monitor baseline noise and automatically select a setting.