

## OPENING OF THE NEW LABORATORY OF DOPING CONTROL SAN ISIDRO RACECOURSE

On Saturday, October 13th, on the day of the running of GP Jockey Club (G1), San Isidro racecourse gave a major step forward towards the certification as one of IFHA's reference laboratories, when it opened the facilities of the new laboratory of doping analysis.



As an institution that constitutes the driving force towards regional excellence, OSAF has supported the work made by San Isidro racecourse to become the first South American laboratory to count with IFHA's recognition as reference laboratory, with the highest quality standards and results.

The Analytic Department of San Isidro Racecourse carries out the doping control tests on samples of official races from its own track and also arriving from other racecourses, reaching a total amount of 5,000 samples being tested annually.

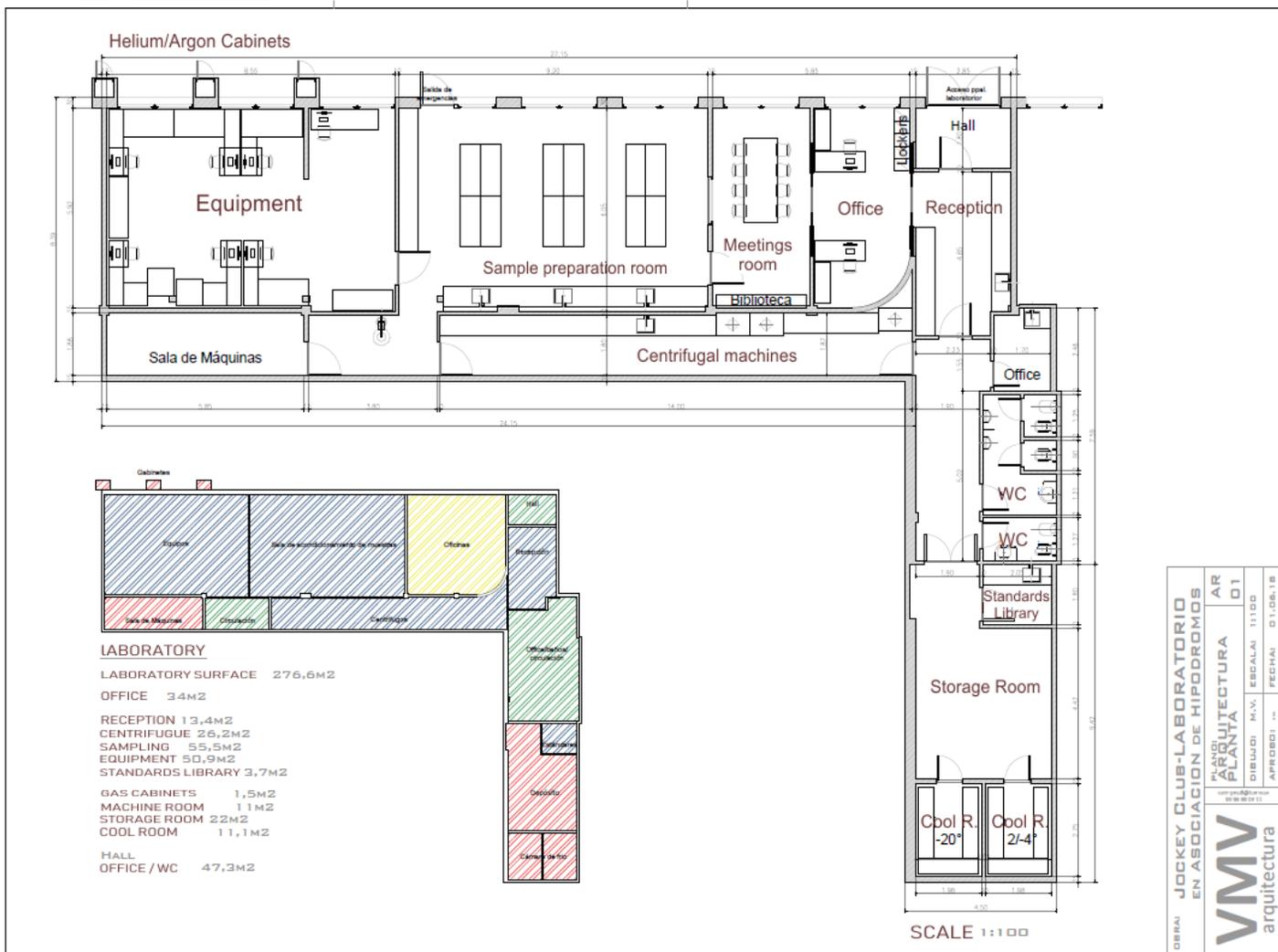
The Department complies with the Norm ISO 9001:2015 certification, and the laboratory also counts with IRAM 301:2005 certification (trials accredited by IRAM every 3 years since 2009) and is also certified by the Argentine Accreditation Organ (Organismo Argentino de Acreditación (OAA) complying with Norm ISO/IEC 17025: 2005 since 2011.

Currently, this is the only doping control laboratory in Argentina which to count with these accreditations.

The technical staff is member of the Association of Official Racing Chemists (AORC), and since 2011 takes part in its annual Proficiency Test Program, designed to verify the detection capability of laboratories of doping control in

in horses. In 2018, San Isidro laboratory took part in AORC Proficiency Test once again, screening urine samples and for the first time also testing for substances in plasma, obtaining satisfactory results and never having had a false positive.

The new facilities of the Analytical Department have a total Surface of 277m<sup>2</sup>, three times as much as the previous premises. The new building has areas for the entry of samples, processing and storage areas, equipment, staff's offices, meeting room and library.



PLAN OF THE NEW LABORATORY, SAN ISIDRO RACECOURSE

During the last year, new equipment has been incorporated, with a greater sensibility to test plasma samples, and the new laboratory counts with advanced technology equipment which is intended to boost the analysis capability in order to achieve the goal of testing 15,000 samples per year.

The road towards this new stage has required for San Isidro racecourse (Argentine Jockey Club) a major investment in equipment: on October 27th 2016 a high performance liquid chromatograph (HPLC) with mass-mass detection (LCMSMS) made up by a Nexera Chromatographer, Shimadzu and a 5500 QTrap detector, AB Sciex, which permitted a significant increase in the detection of substances, mainly to achieve the highest standards in the screening of blood and plasma samples.

In a second stage, in 2017 – and following the advice of the late Chief of Laboratory at LCH (France) Dr. Yves Bonnaire, two new equipments were purchased: a Gas-Mass Chromatograph GCMS-Qp2020 aimed at the

detection of non-steroid anti-inflammatory substances (NSAIs), and an ICP equipment (Inductively Coupled Plasma), ICPE-9820 Shimadzu, which will allow the detection and screening for metals such as Arsenic, Cobalt, Lithium and Lead.

Thus, the department counts with twice as much equipment for liquid and gas mass chromatography (LCMSMS and GCMS) and all the investment made contributes to a significant increase in detection sensibility.

On November, the training of San Isidro's technical staff will resume, with another trip to the laboratory in Paris.

Besides performing post-race doping control, San Isidro racecourse has been the first track in all South America to perform pre-race doping control – under IFHA and OSAF's recommendation - in Group 1 races, starting on the meeting of GP Carlos Pellegrini (G1) in December 2016 up to nowadays.

Argentine Jockey Club Chairman Dr Miguel Crotto Sojo and Dr. Fernando José Peña (who was Chairman of OSAF Technical Advisory Council until 2007, and present member of San Isidro racecourse Racing Commission) addressed the audience in the Opening Ceremony. They summarized the important achievements made by San Isidro laboratory during the last years in which the policy against doping has been a trending topic, and strengthened the commitment to work towards the highest international standards, outlined the great labor carried out by all the actors involved in this process, both the Jockey Club Authorities and Staff, as well as OSAF Chairman Mr. Carlo Rossi and Advisor in International Affairs Mr. Horacio Espósito.

Mr. Peña concluded his speech with an acknowledgement to IFHA's advisors. "I want to dedicate all the effort we have made to Dr. Ronald Devolz, a long-time personal friend from the IFHA, who is constantly stimulating and demanding for us to continue our evolution, and most specially to late Dr. Yves Bonnaire, who was a great leader in the battle against doping, and helped us a great deal, and unfortunately passed away early this year. We would have liked for him to be here today, and witness our accomplishment, that we have honored our words."



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