Validation/certification of "Local Analysis Centers (LAC) operating following EPN guidelines"

Example: NMA that processes national network

The guidelines for 'LACs operating following EPN standards' will be available from the EPN CB.

The LAC should make its request for validation/certification the EUREF TWG and report to the EUREF TWG including:
- A full description of the LAC analysis strategy
- A comparison of its weekly SINEX solutions with EUREF combined solution for the common EPN stations covering a period of 3 months; all differences exceeding the noise level should be documented and explained
- Comparison of weekly ETRS89/ITRS coordinates of the LAC solutions and the EUREF combined solution for the common EPN stations, all differences exceeding the noise level should be documented and explained

Guidelines:
- Processed network should mandatory contain at least 3 active EPN stations of good quality. It is recommended to use more stations in order to guarantee the tie to the EPN in case of station outages.
- The LAC should apply the EPN Processing strategy (see EPN LAC Guidelines) and adapt this strategy when EPN LAC do (I am not sure how strict we should be)
    o Q: cut off?, a priori orbit information?
- Products from LAC:
    o Generate weekly free network SINEX files available to the EPN for validation
    o Generate weekly ITRS and ETRS89 coordinates in same reference as orbits used (Determine method to fix reference frame (constraints?))
    o Maintain publicly available site log files/coordinate time series, available through the web

The TWG will accept the LAC as 'Operating following EPN standards' for a period of 2 years. After this period, the LAC should be reconfirmed by the TWG(?).
EPN AC or EPN CB can keep track of the validated LAC's and the associated time frame. The list of validated LAC's will be maintained by the EPN CB including a link to the LAC web site with site logs and coordinate time series.