

TNI PT Program Executive Committee Meeting Summary

August 7, 2017

1. Roll call and approval of minutes:

Chair, Maria Friedman, called the TNI PT Program Executive Committee (PTPEC) meeting to order on August 7, 2017, at 9am Eastern in Washington, DC. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 9 members present.

Maria confirmed that everyone received the meeting information she sent by email on August 6th.

The July meeting minutes will be reviewed during the next regular meeting.

2. Overview

Maria provided an overview of the PTPEC mission and activities over the last 6 months – see Attachment D.

Maria also reviewed PTPEC's activities on FoPT Tables and Old and New PTPEC business– see Attachment D.

3. Subcommittee Reports

Maria asked each of the subcommittees to report on their activities.

FoPT Table Format Subcommittee

Craig Huff: The subcommittee has added CAS numbers to the FoPT tables. This was completed last year. They are now reviewing the consistency between LAMS and the FoPT tables. All the comparison tables are now done except for WETT. They have issues in consistency in naming and some spelling issues.

Craig reviewed the Solid and Chemical Materials (SCM) FoPT table that the subcommittee prepared. The items shaded in blue are the differences between LAMS and the FoPT table. All CAS numbers are highlighted because CAS numbers are not included in LAMS. Craig asked whether the FoPT tables need to be changed or will LAMS make changes.

Maria thanked Craig and his committee for all the work to put the tables together and for the excellent review. The subcommittee included Craig, Nicole, Shawn Kassner, Andy Valkenberg and Stephen Arpie.

The PTPEC will begin discussion with the NELAP AC to understand how the tables are used and get input on where the changes should occur. The NELAP AC is planning to put this topic on their agenda in September.

Matt noted that there are also issues with all the different State deliverables.

Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee

Carl Kircher: The subcommittee will begin reviewing the Radiochemistry FoPT table at the end of the month. They will also be working on requesting data for the ARA for qualitative PCBs.

SOP Subcommittee

Gil Dichter: The subcommittee is reviewing SOP 4-101 – Acceptance Criteria SOP. Section 6 is very involved and they have split up the responsibility for different sections so that experts are looking at the sections that need more expertise. They expect to have a DRAFT version of the SOP by the winter meeting.

The PTPEC has talked about ways to streamline the process of how FoPT updates are done. It took almost 7 years to do the last major update. Recommendations from the PTPEC have been given to the SOP Subcommittee for incorporation into SOP 4-101.

Microbiology FoPT Subcommittee

Jennifer Best: The EPA statisticians have gotten through some of the data received from the PT Providers. She needs to go through it before she can give a more detailed report. She also reviewed the ARA that the subcommittee is working on.

4. Training

Matt Sica (PTPA – ANAB) and Shawn Kassner (PTPA – A2LA) provided training to all attendees on PTPA roles in the PT Program. Both presenters hoped that their presentations would make it clear what information they can and cannot provide. The presentations can be found in Attachments E and F.

Comments:

- Nicole noted that the new Standard builds in what PT Providers need to give to TNI. The PTPAs only monitor the data.

- A question came up about comparison of data between the PTPAs. Will the PTPAs work together?
- Another question was about preparatory methods. The ABs are pushing back because tracking this would cause huge changes to their databases. Nicole noted that everyone in TNI would have to be on board to make this change. Labs can report prep methods, but not everyone uses this option. For the most part, labs don't report this information.

5. PTPA Reports

The reports presented by ANAB and A2LA can be found in Attachments G and H.

Comments:

ANAB

The last PT Provider assessments were in Feb 2017, Sept 2017 and July 2017.

The only studies of concern were DW studies: TSS, TDS, Total Phosphorus (18.4% failure rate at low end of the FoPT range – they looked at data over 6 months and 1 year), Nitrite as N, and Ammonia as N.

A2LA

Shawn described the rules for reporting and discussed data challenges.

If failures were consistently one provider, he planned to do more research. No problems like this were found.

WPChem – Chloride, pH, Non-Filterable, TKN, Orthophosphate, Benzo(a)anthracene, Aroclor 1016, 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene

WSChem – Bromide, Fluoride, Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC), Turbidity, chromium VI, Copper, Bromoform, 1,1-Dichloroethene, 2,2-Dichloropropane, Isopropylbenzene

Nicole asked both PTPAs what should the PTPEC be looking at? Is there other data they should be requesting? The PTPAs don't think there is more to give than what they already provide.

ANAB would prefer to look at a year's worth of data instead of 6 months. They don't have as much data because the "n" is not always big enough.

Matt noted that when the data is reviewed, they need to understand whether it is really something that can be improved upon. Sometimes there are limitations they can do nothing about.

6. PT Database

William Daystrohm (TNI Staff – IT) provided a presentation to update attendees on the status of the PT Database – see Attachment I.

William walked through example screen shots of the database. It provides user management, ability to load PT data into a database and allows another person to retrieve anonymized information.

PT Providers should use the Standard Format to upload their data.

PTPAs need access to the TNI database also. They need to contact William. Everyone has signed confidentiality statements.

7. New Business.

- None

8. Action Items

The action items can be found in Attachment B. Updates are added as notes in the table.

9. Next Meeting

The next PTPEC teleconference will be August 24, 2017 at 1pm Eastern. Ilona will send out Webex notifications within 24 hours of the meeting time.

Action Items are included in Attachment B and Attachment C includes a listing of reminders.

Maria adjourned the meeting at noon Eastern.

Attachment A

Participants

TNI

Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee

Members	Rep	Affiliation	Contact Information
Maria Friedman (2020) Present	AB	California Water Board	949-307-0949 Maria.Friedman@waterboards.ca.gov
Ilona Taunton, Program Administrator Present		TNI	828-712-9242 tauntoni@msn.com
Eric Smith (2019) Absent	Lab	ALS Environmental	904-394-4415 eric.smith@alsglobal.com
Susan Jackson (2018) Present	AB	South Carolina DHEC	(803)896-0978 jacksosb@dhec.sc.gov
Nicole Cairns (2018) Present	Lab	NY State DOH	(518) 473-0323 nicole.cairns@health.ny.gov
Jennifer Duhon (2019*) Present	Other	Millipore Sigma	307-3897218 jennifer.duhon@sial.com
Matt Sica (2020) Present	AB	ANAB, ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board	msica@anab.org
Dixie Marlin (2018*) Absent	Other	Marlin Quality Management, LLC	513-309-3593 marlinquality@gmail.com
Gil Dichter (2018*) Present	Other	IDEXX Water	207-556-4687 gil-dichter@idexx.com
Patrick Garrity (2019*) Present	AB	Kentucky DEP	502-319-4040 patrick.garrity@ky.gov
Michella Karapondo (2019*) Absent	Other	USEPA	513-569-7141 karapondo.michella@epa.gov
Fred Anderson (2020*) Present	Other	Advanced Analytical Solutions, LLC	Fred@advancedqc.com
Jennifer Mullins (2020*) Present	Lab	Upper Occoquan Service Authority	jennifer.mullins@uosa.org
Scott Haas (2020*) Absent	FSMO	Environmental Testing, Inc.	405-401-7344 shaas@etilab.com

Attachment B

Action Items – TNI PT Executive Committee

	Action Item	Who	Date Added	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
257	Email to SOP Subcommittee regarding clarification on how limit updates due to issues should be addressed.	Maria		12/12/14	Maria prepared it, but is waiting for a chair for this subcommittee. 4/20/17: Ilona will look back in minutes to find the original issue and send to Maria.
295	Moved from Backburner: PTPA Evaluation Checklist needs to be updated prior to next round of evaluations. (Originally discussed 8/6/13)	Shawn Ilona		7/15/17	In Progress (will use 2009 TNI Standards and current SSAS Standards)
343	Notify PT Providers and PTPAs about delay of Volume 3 and 4 implementation.	Maria		TBD	Add 348 back in?
349	Review LAMS/FoPT Table Differences document. Provide comments by email and next meeting.	ALL	4/20/17	4/25/17	In Progress
352	Moved from Backburner (originally discussed 2/20/14) : When new limits are established for the FoPTs, what is considered to be a statistically significant change to the old rates? At what point is it appropriate to question new limits? This lends to the TSS discussion a few months ago.	All	2/20/14	TBD	


	Action Item	Who	Date Added	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
	Patrick commented that it would make sense to look at changes to pass/fail rates 6 months after new limits are effective. This possible addition to procedures should be evaluated when updating the limit acceptance SOP.				
353	Discuss possible procedural changes to how limits are updated. Maria talk to SOP Subcommittee. (Need to look at PT database implications.)	All		TBD	
358	Send request to SOP subcommittee to consider what happens when ARA's are rescinded. There is no formal process.	Maria	6-29-17	7/19/17	
359	Send DRAFT PTPA report format to Shawn and Matt.	Maria	6-29-17	7/5/17	Complete
360	Send SOP 4-102 to Policy Committee.	Ilona	6-29-17	7/19/17	Complete

Attachment C

Backburner / Reminders – TNI PT Executive Committee



	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments
7	Add the Field PT Subcommittee to the limit update SOP during its next update.	3/4/10	In Progress
11	Evaluate how labs are accredited for analytes that co-elute.	5-19-11	
13	Charter needs to be updated in November.	Ongoing 2017	
18	Shawn noted that PTPEC should have some specific measurements. This should be passed along to the PTP SOP Subcommittee. Nicole noted that we need to determine which items to measure.	6-29-17	

Attachment D - PTPEC Presentation



Agenda


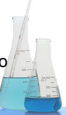
- Review of PTPEC Mission / Purpose
- Review of PTPEC Activities
- PTPA Presentations (Matt Sica and Shawn Kassner)
 - Responsibilities of the AB and the CAB (Matt)
 - PTPA Data Files & Review (Shawn)
 - ANAB – PT Program Update (Matt)
 - A2LA – PT Program Update (Shawn)
- PT Database Update (William Daystrom)
- Committee Business
- Acknowledgments
- Public Comments



Mission



The purpose of the Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee (PTPEC) is to establish and maintain certain elements of a national PT Program to support TNI's Accreditation Programs and other TNI activities. Those elements include:

- Fields of Proficiency Testing (FoPT), consisting of analytes, concentrations, matrices, and acceptance limits, that are appropriate for the scope of environmental monitoring performed in the United States
- A listing of PT Provider Accreditors (PTPAs) that are TNI recognized
- A listing of organizations that are accredited by TNI's recognized PTPAs as competent to provide PT samples to laboratories





PTPEC Meetings

- Conference calls the third Thursday of the month from 1:00-2:30 Eastern
- Face-to-Face with attendee participation at annual Environmental Measurement Symposium and Forum on Environmental Accreditation Conferences




Review of PTPEC Activities February – August 2017




PTPEC Activities

- PTPEC Charter Updated
 - Approved by PTPEC and TNI Board of Directors
- Response to Complaint Approved
 - Complainant had questioned TDS acceptance limits in NPW FoPT Table
 - PTPEC found insufficient technical grounds to adjust acceptance limits at this time
- SOPs Reviewed
 - Updated SOP 4-102 (Dispute Resolution Procedure)
 - Updated SOP 4-105 (PTPEC Voting Process)
 - Both SOPs approved by PTPEC and forwarded to TNI Policy Committee





Attachment D - PTPEC Presentation





PTPEC Activities

- Reviewed Internal Audit Checklist
 - Submitted to TNI for Review
- Established draft Standard Format for PTPA Reports to PTPEC





PTPEC Activities: FoPT Table Updates

- Non-Potable Water (NPW) FoPT Table
 - Removed 3,3-Dichlorobenzidine
 - Corrected TNI Analyte Code for non-Polar Extractable Material (TPH) from 1935 to 1853
 - Became effective 7-24-2017
- Drinking Water (DW) FoPT Table
 - Clarified that all analytes regulated under the US EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act must be spiked at non-zero Assigned Values with the exception of supplemental PTs
 - Added PT sample design criteria for Corrosivity
 - Corrected TNI Analyte Name for Cyanide (formerly Cyanide, Total) and corresponding Analyte Code from 1645 to 1635




PTPEC Activities: FoPT Table Updates

- Drinking Water (DW) FoPT Table, continued
 - Removed footnote regarding laboratory requirements to be accredited for Total Trihalomethanes or Total Haloacetic Acids
 - Added footnote requiring that Volatile Organic Compounds must contain all three Xylene isomers
 - Becomes effective 11-3-2017
- Lead in Paint FoPT Table
 - Archived; removed from TNI website
- Protozoa FoPT Table
 - In consultation with US EPA, no updates needed
 - Need to add footnote to Table to state the above



PTPEC Activities: FoPT Table Updates


- Solid and Chemical Materials (SCM) FoPT Table
 - Added cis- and trans-1,3-Dichloropropene in low- and medium-level concentration ranges
 - Corrected TNI Analyte Code for Cyanide, total from 1635 to 1645
 - Added Aroclors 1221, 1232, and 1248 to PCBs in Oil
 - Updated concentrations and acceptance criteria for numerous analytes as a result of routine FoPT review of the entire SCM FoPT Table
 - Became effective 7-24-2017



Committee Business


Subcommittee Reports

Old Business
New Business



PTPEC Activities: Subcommittees


- Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee
 - Will be reviewing Radiochemistry FoPT Table
 - Will be requesting data for ARA for qualitative PCBs
- Microbiology FoPT Subcommittee
 - PT data for MPN being reviewed by EPA statisticians to facilitate review of Analyte Request Application for MPN
- FoPT Table Format Subcommittee
 - Adding CAS numbers to FoPT Tables
 - Reviewing consistency between LAMS and FoPT Tables
- SOP Subcommittee
 - Reviewing SOP 4-101 (Recommendation and Calculation of Acceptance Limits) – will include preparing for 'next round' of FoPT updates



Attachment D - PTPEC Presentation




Old Business




Old Business

- 1) FoPT Table vs. LAMS analyte codes and names
- 2) TKN analyte code in NPW and SCM FoPT Tables
- 3) Protozoa FoPT Table -footnote re. review





New Business




New Business

- 1) Requests Received from Public
 - a) DW FoPT Table – Add footnote to say that Cyanide PT can be used for different forms of Cyanide (Free, Available, and Total)
 - b) NPW and SCM FoPT Tables – Clarify why there are different analyte codes for TPH/TRPH (1803 in SCM and 1803, 1853, 1860, and 1935 in NPW)



New Business

- 2) Combined SOP for PTPA and NEFAP AB Evaluation



Acknowledgments




Attachment D - PTPEC Presentation




2017 PTPEC Membership

- Maria Friedman, Chair – California ELAP
- Fred Anderson – Advanced Analytical Solutions, LLC
- Nicole Cairns – New York State DOH
- Gil Dichter – IDEXX Water
- Jennifer Duhon – MilliporeSigma
- Patrick Garrity – Kentucky DEP
- Scott Haas – Environmental Testing, Inc.
- Susan Jackson – South Carolina DHEC
- Michella Karapondo – US EPA
- Dixie Marlin – Marlin Quality Management, LLC
- Jennifer Mullins – Upper Occoquan Service Authority
- Matt Sica – ANAB, ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board
- Eric Smith – ALS Environmental




Subcommittee Chairs

- Chemistry FoPT: Dr. Carl Kircher
- FoPT Table Format: Craig Huff
- Microbiology FoPT: Jennifer Best
- SOP: Gil Dichter




TNI Support

- Program Administrator: Ilona Taunton
- IT Administrator: William Daystrom
- LAMS Administrator: Dan Hickman




Public Comments and Questions




Responsibilities of the AB and the CAB

Understanding AB & customer relationships




ISO/IEC 17011

- Specifies general requirements for:
 - Accreditation bodies
 - Conformity assessment bodies (CABs)
- Identifies Responsibilities and Obligation of each
 - Typically addressed in terms and conditions of application
 - Signed Application is a Contract
 - Contract Law prevails




Impartiality of AB

- Safeguard the objectivity and impartiality of its activities
- Policies and procedures:
 - non-discriminatory
 - administered in a non-discriminatory way
- Make its services accessible to all applicants whose requests for accreditation fall within the activities
- Ensure that each decision on accreditation is taken by competent person(s) or committee(s) different from those who carried out the assessment



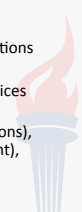
Impartiality of AB

- The accreditation body shall not offer or provide any service that affects its impartiality:
 - Conformity assessment services that CABs perform
 - Ex. AB shall not provide services such as a lab, RMP or PTP
 - Consultancy
 - Training is not consultancy (often misunderstood in accredited community)



Impartiality of AB


- Activities of its related bodies do not compromise:
 - Confidentiality, objectivity, and impartiality of its accreditations
 - Related bodies may:
 - Provide consultation or conformity assessment services (for which AB accredits)
 - Different management, personnel (making decisions), no possibility of influence (outcome of assessment), different names logos, symbols



Confidentiality

- Adequate arrangements to safeguard the confidentiality of the information obtained in the process of its accreditation activities at all levels of the accreditation body
- Shall not disclose confidential information about a particular CAB outside the accreditation body without written consent

Example: DOD ELAP



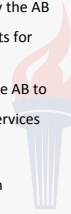
Liability and Financing

- Arrangements to cover liabilities arising from its activities
- Financial resource required for operation



Obligations of the CAB

- CAB shall commit to fulfill the requirements for accreditation set by the AB for the areas where accreditation is sought or granted
 - This includes agreement to adapt to changes in the requirements for accreditation
- CAB shall accommodate and cooperate as is necessary to enable the AB to verify fulfillment of requirements for accreditation
 - This applies to all premises where the conformity assessment services take place
- CAB shall provide access to information, documents and records as necessary for the assessment and maintenance of the accreditation



Obligations of the CAB

- CAB shall provide access to those documents that provide insight into the level of independence and impartiality of the CAB from its related bodies, where applicable
- CAB shall arrange the witnessing of CAB services when requested by the AB
- CAB shall claim accreditation only with respect to the scope for which it has been granted accreditation



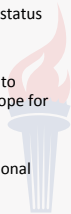
Obligations of the CAB

- CAB shall not use its accreditation in such a manner as to bring the AB into disrepute
- CAB shall pay fees as shall be determined by the AB
- AB shall require that it is informed by the accredited CAB, without delay, of significant changes relevant to its accreditation, in any aspect of its status or operation



Obligations of the AB

- AB shall make publicly available information about the current status of the accreditations that it has granted to CABs
- AB shall provide the CAB with information about suitable ways to obtain traceability of measurement results in relation to the scope for which accreditation is provided
- AB shall, where applicable, provide information about international arrangements in which it is involved



Obligations of the AB

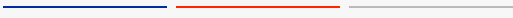
- AB shall give due notice of any changes to its requirements for accreditation
- It shall take account of views expressed by interested parties before deciding on the precise form and effective date of the changes
- Following a decision on, and publication of, the changed requirements, it shall verify that each accredited body carries out any necessary adjustments




Questions

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ANAB Accreditation Manager
RMP, PT & Medical Programs
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PTPA Data Files & Review

TNI August 2017
Shawn Kassner


PTPA Data Review Role

- Monitor that PTPs are following:
 - Following the FoPTs for the calculation of acceptance criteria and assigned values.
 - TNI Vol 3 for statistics and evaluation of laboratory results.
 - Their company SOPs that were reviewed and approved by their PTPA
 - ISO 17043 and ISO 13528 per their accreditation.




PTP Data Files

- The PTPs upload or provide individual study data to their PTPA database.
- The data provided for each PTPA is very similar.
- Data is received by study type/product #/lot
 - No analytes listed by themselves
 - No way to confuse between FoPT sections




What is checked?

- Study open and close dates
- Study acceptance limits
- Assigned values are within the FoPT concentration range.
- Assigned values span the concentration range over time.




What is checked?

- Verification, homogeneity, and stability (VHS) limits correct?
- VHS data are evaluated correctly?
- Are the samples?
 - Homogeneous prior to the study opening?
 - Stable throughout the study time frame?
- Each study must be provided within days of the final reports being issued.




Study Performance Checks

- Do the following match historical data
 - Study mean
 - Study standard deviation
 - Study failure rates
- With higher fail rates
 - Review study statistics for problems
 - N's, study mean and standard deviation
 - Are there indications to a poor sample, poor study performance, or something else?



Study Performance Checks


- Do we need to contact the PTP to answer questions about the data.
- Have we ever contacted the PTPs?
 - Yes! They have always been open to providing further data.
 - Extremely rare that issues lead to problems.



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Study Performance Frequency

- Periodic checks of the data are performed
 - Every study is reviewed for basic compliance
 - Each 6 mos the data are pulled for an overall review
 - Prior to each assessment the data are reviewed for each provider.
- Issues are typically handled during the assessments.



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What we do not receive...


- The data does not include:
 - Methods or technologies reported
 - Method or technology statistics
 - Number of laboratories using which technology
 - Study performance of each technology/ method
 - Any individual laboratory data



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Blinded FoPT Committee Info

- study type;
- study matrix;
- analyte name;
- analyte code;
- technology ID (optional);
- assigned value;
- study mean;
- number of laboratory participants;
- study standard deviation;
- opening date;
- concentration units;
- number of data points;
- number of laboratories that failed.




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Questions?





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Thanks!

ANAB TNI PTP Review AUGUST 2017



Who is ANAB?

- Non-governmental organization that provides accreditation services to public-sector and private-sector organizations
- Multilateral recognition arrangements signatory of the
 - International Accreditation Forum (IAF)
 - International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC)
- Jointly owned by ANSI and ASQ



ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board

LABORATORY-RELATED

- Laboratories
 - ISO/IEC 17025
- Inspection Bodies
 - ISO/IEC 17020
- RMP
 - ISO Guide 34
- PT Providers
 - ISO/IEC 17043
- Product Certifiers
 - ISO Guide 65 (w/ANSI)
- Government Programs:
 - DoD ELAP, EPA Energy Star, CPSC Toy Safety, NRC, NST IPV6, US Navy
- Training

FORENSIC


- Accreditation for ISO/IEC 17025 forensic test laboratories and ISO/IEC 17020 forensic agencies
- Academic Programs
- Training

MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

- Certification Bodies
 - ISO/IEC 17021
- Accreditation for Management System Certification Bodies:
 - ISO 9001 (QMS)
 - ISO 14001 (EMS)
 - TS 16949 (US Automotive) etc.
- Training


PT Provider Assessment Update

- Absolute Standards
 - Re-Assessment
 - Conducted February, 2017
- NSI Lab Solutions, Inc.
 - Surveillance Assessment
 - Scheduled September, 2017
- Sigma Aldrich RTC
 - Surveillance Assessment
 - Conducted July, 2017




Report of PTP Complaints to PTPA

- One Complaint (Deemed Not Valid)
 - Scoring Issue:
 - 4,4' DDD
 - Not spiked in sample by PTP
 - Lab Reported result above PTRL, not a "< value"
 - lowest cal std of lab at the PTRL
 - PTP assigned appropriately < PTRL



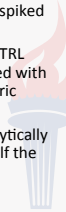
Report of PTP Complaints to PTPA

- Reviewed the complaint and collected objective evidence including but limited to:
 - Summarized study information
 - PTP correspondence
 - Copy of the final report
 - Other information



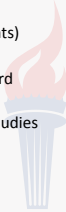
Relevant Clauses of EL V3

- EL V3 clause 6.3.5 requires the PTP to set assigned value for unspiked analytes shall to <PTRL.
- EL V3 clause 10.3.2 states; "If the Assigned Value is set to the PTRL with a less than sign (<) or set to "0", any numeric value reported with a less than sign (<), a reported value of "0" or a reported numeric value less than the PTRL shall be scored "Acceptable".
- EL V3 clause 7.1.1 requires, "All unspiked analytes shall be analytically verified to ensure that they are not present at or above one-half the PTRL."



Result of Complaint

- Lab agreed both parties complied with standard requirements
 - Lab with EL-V1M1, Section 5.2.1(a),(i) (reporting requirements)
 - PTP with those in previous slide
- Lab surmised DDT breakdown contribution > Lowest Cal standard
- TNI standard includes no commentary on organic breakdown components related to column performance while scoring PT studies at low end of FoPT range
- Lab stills feels aggrieved by outcome



Review of Analytes w/ Failure Rates of >10%

- Reviewed all analytes
 - DW, NPW, SCM
- Non-spiked analytes reviewed with no issues



FoPT Tables

- Effective tables found of TNI Website:
 - DW FoPT (01_03_2012)
 - NPW FoPT (04_01_2016)
 - SCM FoPT (04_01_2016)
- No additional considerations due to FoPT changes



Data Selection Criteria (agreed by PTPAs)

- Analytes had to have more than one failure in 6 month period
 - One or multiple PTPs
 - Number of participants >30
 - N<10 treated as outlier in dataset review



Data Analysis

- 4025 datasets reviewed
- 376 (study type/analyte) combos >10% Failure before criteria applied
- 5 (study type/analyte) combos after criteria
- Then Reviewed
 - Median % Failure
 - May give a better idea of a 'typical' value
 - Think median income
 - Not skewed as much by large or small values
 - Range of % Failures



Data Considerations

- Six Months of Data Limiting
 - Very little significance
- Frequency of Studies
 - 2 out of 3 ANAB accredited PTPs
 - Quarterly studies
- To adopt consistent approach PTPAs agreed on N>30
 - Most quarterly studies OK
 - Many short studies data does not meet criteria



WPCHEM Total Suspended Solids (TSS)

Analyte ID	Analyte Test	N	% Fail	MEDIAN % FAIL	MIN % FAIL	MAX % FAIL
1960	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	106	12.3	5.3	0.0	12.3
1960	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	35	21.4	% fail	% fail	% fail
1960	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	35	5.7	94.7	100.0	87.8
1960	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	97	5.2	% pass	% pass	% pass
1960	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	106	2.8			
1960	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	46	2.2			
1960	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	37	5.4			
1960	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	29	0.0			

- Comments
- 1) 0 of 8 studies n=20
 - 2) 2 studies met threshold for review.
 - 3) 2 providers



WPCHEM Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)

Analyte ID	Analyte Test	N	% Fail	FAIL	MIN % FAIL	MAX % FAIL
1905	Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	41	12.2	8.9	4.0	19.4
1955	Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	18	11.1	% fail	% fail	% fail
1955	Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	45	8.9	91.1	96.0	80.6
1955	Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	32	4.5	% pass	% pass	% pass
1955	Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	31	10.6			
1955	Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	25	4.0			
1999	Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	13	0.0			

- Comments
- 1) 2 of 7 studies n=20
 - 2) 3 studies had a >10% failure rate.
 - 3) 2 studies met threshold for review.
 - 4) 2 providers



WPCHEM Total Phosphorus

Analyte ID	Analyte Test	N	% Fail	FAIL	MIN % FAIL	MAX % FAIL
1910	Total Phosphorus	49	14.4	1.5	0.0	18.4
1910	Total Phosphorus	78	14.1	% fail	% fail	% fail
1910	Total Phosphorus	31	12.9	88.5	100.0	81.6
1910	Total Phosphorus	26	11.5	% pass	% pass	% pass
1910	Total Phosphorus	30	7.1			
1910	Total Phosphorus	27	0.0			
1910	Total Phosphorus	24	0.0			

- Comments
- 1) 0 of 7 studies n=20
 - 2) 4 studies met threshold for review.
 - 3) 2 providers
 - 4) 18.4% Failure Rate low end of FoPT range



WPCHEM Total Phosphorus (Full Year)

Full Year	Full Year MIN	Full Year MAX
MEDIAN % FAIL	% FAIL	% FAIL
0	0	18.4
% fail	% fail	% fail
91	100	81.6
% pass	% pass	% pass

- Comments
- 1) 0 of 12 studies n=20
 - 2) 4 studies met threshold for review.
 - 3) 2 providers
 - 4) 3 studies removed N<10
 - 5) 18.4% Failure Rate low end of FoPT range



WPCHEM Nitrite as N

Analyte ID	Analyte Test	N	% Fail	FAIL	MIN % FAIL	MAX % FAIL
1940	Nitrite as N	14	14.7	6.5	0.0	14.7
1940	Nitrite as N	49	10.2	% fail	% fail	% fail
1940	Nitrite as N	21	9.5	95.5	100.0	85.3
1940	Nitrite as N	15	6.7	% pass	% pass	% pass
1940	Nitrite as N	47	6.4			
1940	Nitrite as N	20	0.0			
1940	Nitrite as N	15	0.0			
1940	Nitrite as N	16	0.0			
1990	Nitrite as N	7	0.0			
1990	Nitrite as N	3	0.0			

- Comments
- 1) 3 of 8 studies n=20
 - 2) 2 studies met threshold for review.
 - 3) 2 providers
 - 4) 2 studies removed N<10




WPCHEM Ammonia as N

Analyte ID	Analyte Test	N	% Fail	MEDIAN %		
				FAIL	MIN % FAIL	MAX % FAIL
1515	Ammonia as N 20	15.6	8.5	3.0	19.5	
1515	Ammonia as N 32	15.6	% fail	% fail	% fail	
1515	Ammonia as N 94	8.5	91.5	97.0	80.5	
1515	Ammonia as N 32	6.2	% pass	% pass	% pass	
1515	Ammonia as N 75	5.3				
1515	Ammonia as N 33	3.0				
1515	Ammonia as N 11	9.1				
1515	Ammonia as N 7	5.3				


Comments:


- 1) 1 of 7 studies No20
- 2) 2 studies met threshold for review
- 3) Provider
- 4) 1 study removed No10
- 5) Will monitor FTP next study



Questions?

Matthew Sica
 Accreditation Manager, RMP, PT & Medical
 ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB)
 Direct: 414-501-5356 | Main: 414-501-5494
msica@anab.org
www.anab.org






A2LA PTPA Update Report

TNI August 2017
Shawn Kassner

PT Provider Status

- ERA – Renewed 3/29/17, Valid through 9/30/18
- Phenova – Renewed 5/30/17, Valid through 9/30/18
- New York State Department of Health Wadsworth Center – Renewed 3/20/17, Valid through 11/30/18
- Advanced Analytical – Renewed 8/29/16, Valid through 1/31/18
- No complaints for any provider.




American Association for Laboratory Accreditation



> 10% Fail Analytes


Criteria to Determine

- Data was reviewed for the following criteria
 - N > 30
 - Multiple providers with the same analyte > 10% fail
- Why apply the criteria?
 - Statistically valid
 - Ensures the analyte is not provider specific




Data Challenges

- All PTPs have small data sets across analytes/studies types
- All small data sets with high failure rates due to few laboratory failures
 - Multiple methods reported same data pt
- No issues with
 - Acceptance criteria problems
 - PTP samples



Data Review Steps

- FR >10% Analytes One PTP
 - The analyte history was reviewed across PTPs.
 - Study summary statistics
 - VHS data were examined
 - PTPs were contacted as necessary.
- All instances where studies that had low n's were data related.



Solid/Haz Waste

Study Type	FoPT Group	Analyte Name	n	% Fail Rate
SOLIDS	Misc. Analytes	Cyanide	74	13.5%
SOLIDS	Misc. Analytes	Cyanide	59	11.9%

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Non-Potable Water - Inorganics

Study Type	FoPT Group	Analyte Name	n	% Fail Rate
WPICHEM	Minerals	Chloride	71	16.9%
WPICHEM	Minerals	Chloride	43	16.3%
WPICHEM	Minerals	Chloride	31	12.9%
WPICHEM	Misc. Analytes	pH	431	10.2%
WPICHEM	Misc. Analytes	pH	206	11.7%
WPICHEM	Misc. Analytes	pH	67	10.4%
WPICHEM	Misc. Analytes	Non-Filterable	94	10.6%
WPICHEM	Misc. Analytes	Non-Filterable	45	11.1%

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Non-Potable Water-Inorganics

Study Type	FoPT Group	Analyte Name	n	% Fail Rate
WPICHEM	Nutrients	Total Kjeldahl-	53	20.8%
WPICHEM	Nutrients	Total Kjeldahl-	57	10.5%
WPICHEM	Nutrients	Total Kjeldahl-	98	11.2%
WPICHEM	Nutrients	Orthophosphate as P	107	15.0%
WPICHEM	Nutrients	Orthophosphate as P	187	10.7%
WPICHEM	Nutrients	Orthophosphate as P	46	15.2%

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Non-Potable Water-Organics

Study Type	FoPT Group	Analyte Name	n	% Fail Rate
WPICHEM	Low Level PAHs	Benzo(a)anthracene	45	11.1%
WPICHEM	Low Level PAHs	Benzo(a)anthracene	50	12.0%
WPICHEM	PCBs in Water	Aroclor 1016	91	11.0%
WPICHEM	PCBs in Water	Aroclor 1016	53	13.2%
WPICHEM	Volatile Aromatics	1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	39	10.3%
WPICHEM	Volatile Aromatics	1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	54	13.0%

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Potable Water-Inorganics

Study Type	FoPT Group	Analyte Name	n	% Fail Rate
WSCHEM	IDBP	Bromide	65	13.8%
WSCHEM	IDBP	Bromide	34	17.6%
WSCHEM	Minerals	Fluoride	180	11.7%
WSCHEM	Minerals	Fluoride	62	16.1%
WSCHEM	Minerals	Fluoride	107	12.1%
WSCHEM	Minerals	Fluoride	87	11.5%

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Potable Water-Inorganics

Study Type	FoPT Group	Analyte Name	n	% Fail Rate
WSCHEM	Misc. Analytes	Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC)	42	11.9%
WSCHEM	Misc. Analytes	Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC)	30	26.7%
WSCHEM	Misc. Analytes	Turbidity	161	12.4%
WSCHEM	Misc. Analytes	Turbidity	49	12.2%
WSCHEM	Misc. Analytes	Turbidity	85	10.6%

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Potable Water-Metals

Study Type	FoPT Group	Analyte Name	n	% Fail Rate
WSCHEM	Trace Metals	Chromium VI	31	29.0%
WSCHEM	Trace Metals	Chromium VI	33	18.2%
WSCHEM	Trace Metals	Copper	192	13.0%
WSCHEM	Trace Metals	Copper	89	10.1%

Potable Water-Reg VOAs

Study Type	FoPT Group	Analyte Name	n	% Fail Rate
WSCHEM	VOCs	Bromoform	75	13.3%
WSCHEM	VOCs	Bromoform	48	25.0%
WSCHEM	VOCs	Bromoform	31	19.4%
WSCHEM	VOCs	1,1-Dichloroethene	56	14.3%
WSCHEM	VOCs	1,1-Dichloroethene	34	11.8%
WSCHEM	VOCs	1,1-Dichloroethene	47	19.1%
WSCHEM	VOCs	1,1-Dichloroethene	30	16.7%

Potable Water-Unreg VOAs

Study Type	FoPT Group	Analyte Name	n	% Fail Rate
WSCHEM	VOCs	2,2-Dichloropropane	41	24.4%
WSCHEM	VOCs	2,2-Dichloropropane	37	18.9%
WSCHEM	VOCs	Isopropylbenzene	44	11.4%
WSCHEM	VOCs	Isopropylbenzene	36	13.9%

Thank You!

- Our customers, the A2LA accredited proficiency testing providers
- Our assessors and the PTEC and PTEC that support us in the continuous improvement of our accreditation program



Thanks!

Shawn Kassner
skassner@neptuneinc.org

Attachment I - Database Presentation

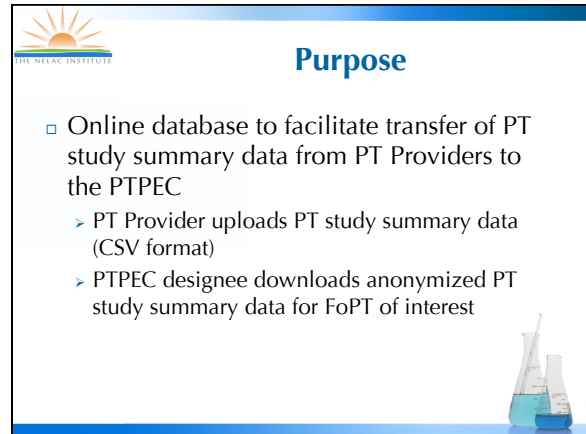


THE NELAC INSTITUTE

PT Summary Database Status Report

Presented by:
William Daystrom
TNI IT Administrator

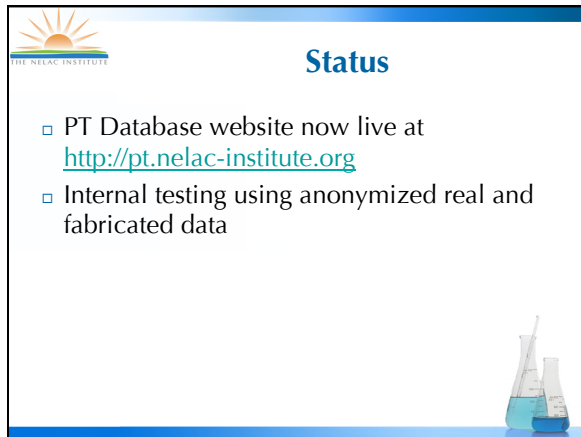

Washington,
DC
August 7, 2017



THE NELAC INSTITUTE

Purpose


- Online database to facilitate transfer of PT study summary data from PT Providers to the PTPEC
 - PT Provider uploads PT study summary data (CSV format)
 - PTPEC designee downloads anonymized PT study summary data for FoPT of interest



THE NELAC INSTITUTE


Status

- PT Database website now live at <http://pt.nelac-institute.org>
- Internal testing using anonymized real and fabricated data



THE NELAC INSTITUTE

TOUR!



PT Database Home Page

WELCOME TO THE NELAC INSTITUTE'S PT PROGRAM FIELDS OF PROFICIENCY TESTING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

This is a central repository for information regarding the fields of proficiency testing approved for use by the TNI PT Program Executive Committee.

FoPT Tables in Excel format are available from the links to the left. Links to TNI's database of Methods, Analytes, Methods, and Technologies are also provided courtesy of the Laboratory Accreditation Management System.

Access to anonymized PT statistical data is restricted to individuals designated by the TNI PT Program Executive Committee.

PT Providers should consult the [EOD Specification Document \(PDF\)](#) for information about how to submit data to this website.

Please use the "contact" option at top right to be directed to a form on which you can ask questions about database use, the data, or to offer suggestions for making the application more useful.

- PT PROVIDERS
 - PT Providers
 - User Admin
 - Upload Data
- PT DATA
 - EOD
 - PT Studies
- FOPT TABLES
 - Drinking Water
 - Non-Hazardous Water
 - Solid & Chem Materials
 - Subchemical
 - Whole Effluent Toxicity
 - Pesticides
- TNI CODES
 - Analytes
 - Methods
 - Methods
 - Techniques
- TNI LINKS
 - Home Page
 - Request Method Code
 - Request Analyte Code

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LAMS Home Page

WELCOME TO THE NELAC INSTITUTE'S NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

THE LAMS is a central repository for information regarding the accreditation status of environmental laboratories.

A few TNI Accreditation Bodies are still in the process of migrating accreditation data to the database. If you find that P/Cs for your lab are missing, you should contact your AB for an update.

To begin, click the Search button below. On the next page, you will be able to choose from a variety of ways to locate laboratories.

PROGRAMS

- Accreditation Bodies
- AB Admin
- Lab

TNI CODES

- Analytes
- Methods
- Methods
- Techniques
- Reports
- Updates

NEW TO LAMS?

- Read the LAMS User Manual (click to download as PDF)

TNI WEBSITE LINKS

- Home Page
- Request Method Code
- Request Analyte Code

Please use the "contact" option at top right to be directed to a form on which you can ask questions about database use, the data, or to offer suggestions for making the application more useful.

Disclaimer: All information obtained through THE LAMS is accurate to the best of our knowledge. The quality and accuracy of the data is the responsibility of the appropriate accreditation body.

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Attachment I - Database Presentation

PT Database Home Page

Fields of Proficiency Testing Management System

WELCOME TO THE NELAC INSTITUTE'S PT PROGRAM FIELDS OF PROFICIENCY TESTING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

This is a central repository for information regarding the fields of proficiency testing approved for use by the TNI PT Program Executive Committee.

FOPT Tables in Excel format are available from the links to the left. Links to TNI Database of Methods, Analytes, Matrices, and Technologies are also provided courtesy of the Laboratory Accreditation Management System.

Access to anonymized PT statistical data is restricted to individuals designated by the TNI PT Program Executive Committee.

PT Providers should consult the E2Q Specification Document (PDF) for information about how to submit data to this website.

Please use the "contact" option at top-right to be directed to a firm on which you can ask questions about database use, the data, or to offer suggestions for making the application more useful.

PT PROVIDERS

- PT Providers
- User Admin
- Upload Data

PT DATA

- Export
- PT Studies

FOPT TABLES

- Drinking Water
- Non-Potable Water
- Solid & Chem Materials
- Radiochemical
- Whole Effluent Toxicity
- Protocols

TNI CODES

- Analytes
- Methods
- Matrices
- Technologies

TNI LINKS

- Home Page
- Request Method Code
- Request Application Code

PT Providers

Fields of Proficiency Testing Management System

ACCREDITED PT PROVIDERS

Code	Name
TNPTP16	Absolute Standards, Inc.
TNPTP19	Advanced Analytical Solutions, LLC
TNPTP21	Environmental Resource Associates, Inc.
TNPTP31	NYS DOH Wadsworth Center
TNPTP36	NSI Solutions, Inc.
TNPTP41	MilliporeSigma
TNPTP46	Phenova
TNPTP99	ACME

PT PROVIDERS

- PT Providers
- User Admin
- Upload Data

PT DATA

- Export
- PT Studies

FOPT TABLES

- Drinking Water
- Non-Potable Water
- Solid & Chem Materials
- Radiochemical
- Whole Effluent Toxicity
- Protocols

PT Provider User Administration

Fields of Proficiency Testing Management System

PT PROVIDER

Location Details

Name: ACME Phone: 888-401-1992

Street 1: 123 ACME Blvd Fax:

Street 2: Email:

City: Longville Website: http://www.acme-corp.com

State: California

Zip: 90001

P.O. Box:

P.O. Box City:

Employee

Type: JTPP Technical Staff

First Name: [text] Last Name: [text]

Last Name: [text] Email: [text]

Phone: [text] Date: [text]

First Name: [text] Last Name: [text]

Last Name: [text] Email: [text]

Phone: [text] Date: [text]

Add Employee Save

PT Summary Data Upload

Fields of Proficiency Testing Management System

UPLOAD DATA

ACME

Standard Format Special Format

PT PROVIDERS

- PT Providers
- User Admin
- Upload Data

PT DATA

- Export
- PT Studies

FOPT TABLES

- Drinking Water
- Non-Potable Water
- Solid & Chem Materials
- Radiochemical
- Whole Effluent Toxicity
- Protocols

You have selected a Standard Format upload. Consult the E2Q Specification Document (PDF) for more information.

PTP Upload CSV Example.csv Remove

Select File

Process File

Cancel

PT Study Data - Import File

Study Number	Opening Date	Study Matrix	Study Analyte Code	Analyte Name	Units	Assigned Value	Study Mean	Standard Deviation	Lab Participants	Data Points	Failures
123ABC	6/1/2016	DW	2830	Gross Alpha	pCi/L	27.1	20.8	4.79	13	13	2
123ABC	1/1/2017	DW	2840	Gross Beta	pCi/L	50.2	42.3	2.57	11	11	2
123ABC	1/1/2017	DW	2855	COBAL160	pCi/L	109	112	4.98	4	4	0
123ABC	1/1/2015	DW	2855	BARIU133	pCi/L	88	83.1	5.5	4	4	0
123ABC	1/1/2017	DW	2855	CESIUM134	pCi/L	64	60	4.62	4	4	0
123ABC	1/1/2017	DW	2855	CESIUM137	pCi/L	103	106	5.09	4	4	0
123ABC	6/1/2016	DW	2855	ZINC69	pCi/L	210	221	13	4	4	0
123ABC	1/1/2015	DW	2965	Radium-226	pCi/L	17.8	15.8	2.73	8	8	2
123ABC	1/1/2015	DW	2970	Radium-228	pCi/L	13.2	11.6	3.12	7	7	2
123ABC	6/1/2016	DW	2995	Strontium-89	pCi/L	24.8	28.7	5.19	2	2	1
124ABC	1/1/2016	S	1000	Aluminum	mg/kg	14500	14465	0.153	28	28	2
124ABC	1/1/2016	S	1005	Antimony	mg/kg	200	214	0.4495	35	35	3
124ABC	1/1/2016	S	1010	Arsenic	mg/kg	190	185.5	0.9952	34	34	3
124ABC	1/1/2016	S	1015	Barium	mg/kg	625	620.5	0.0766	31	31	2
124ABC	1/1/2016	S	1020	Beryllium	mg/kg	120	126	0.0853	32	32	1
124ABC	1/1/2016	S	1025	Boron	mg/kg	100	115.45	0.1221	26	26	3
124ABC	1/1/2016	S	1030	Cadmium	mg/kg	150	169	0.0828	32	32	0
124ABC	1/1/2016	S	1035	Calcium	mg/kg	12550	12520	0.0799	29	29	0
124ABC	1/1/2016	S	1040	Chromium	mg/kg	190	189	0.0919	33	33	5
124ABC	1/1/2016	S	1045	Chromium VI	mg/kg	160	170	0.1568	24	24	3
124ABC	1/1/2016	S	1050	Cobalt	mg/kg	130	127.5	0.083	32	32	4

PT Summary Data Upload

Fields of Proficiency Testing Management System

UPLOAD DATA

ACME

Standard Format Special Format

PT PROVIDERS

- PT Providers
- User Admin
- Upload Data

PT DATA

- Export
- PT Studies

FOPT TABLES

- Drinking Water
- Non-Potable Water
- Solid & Chem Materials
- Radiochemical
- Whole Effluent Toxicity
- Protocols

You have selected a Standard Format upload. Consult the E2Q Specification Document (PDF) for more information.

34 rows found during upload.

Errors found during upload:

- Line 5: Duplicate study data previously uploaded
- Line 33: Duplicate study data previously uploaded
- Line 35: Duplicate study data previously uploaded
- Line 39: Duplicate study data previously uploaded

Attachment I - Database Presentation

PT Study Data

TNI Proficiency Testing Program
Fields of Proficiency Testing Management System

Matrix: Drinking Water Date Range: All

PT PROVIDERS	Analyte Code	LAMS Analyte	PTP Analyte	N
PT Providers				
User Admin				
Upload Data				
PT DATA				
Export				
PT Studies				
FOPT TABLES				
Drinking Water				
Non-Potable Water				
Solid & Chem Materials				
Radiochemical				
Whole Effluent Toxicity				
Protozoa				
TNI CODES				

PT Study Data

TNI Proficiency Testing Program
Fields of Proficiency Testing Management System

Matrix: **Matrix** Filters Date Range: **Date Range**

Selector

PT PROVIDERS	Analyte Code	LAMS Analyte	PTP Analyte	N
PT Providers				
User Admin				
Upload Data				
PT DATA				
Export				
PT Studies				
FOPT TABLES				
Drinking Water				
Non-Potable Water				
Solid & Chem Materials				
Radiochemical				
Whole Effluent Toxicity				
Protozoa				
TNI CODES				

Export data

PT Study Data

TNI Proficiency Testing Program
Fields of Proficiency Testing Management System

Matrix: Solids and Chem... Date Range: All

PT PROVIDERS	Analyte Code	LAMS Analyte	PTP Analyte	N
PT Providers				
User Admin				
Upload Data				
PT DATA				
Export				
PT Studies				
FOPT TABLES				
Drinking Water				
Non-Potable Water				
Solid & Chem Materials				
Radiochemical				
Whole Effluent Toxicity				
Protozoa				
TNI CODES				

PT Study Data – Analyte Selection

TNI Proficiency Testing Program
Fields of Proficiency Testing Management System

Matrix: Drinking Water Date Range: All

PT PROVIDERS	Analyte Code	LAMS Analyte	PTP Analyte	N
PT Providers				
User Admin				
Upload Data				
PT DATA				
Export				
PT Studies				
FOPT TABLES				
Drinking Water				
Non-Potable Water				
Solid & Chem Materials				
Radiochemical				
Whole Effluent Toxicity				
Protozoa				
TNI CODES				

PT Study Data – Export File

Year	Matrix	AnalyteCode	LAMSAnalyte	PTPAnalyte	Units	AssignedValue	Mean	StDev	Participants	DataPoints	Failures
2016	DW	2830	Gross alpha	Gross Alpha	pc/L	27.1	20.8	4.79	13	13	2
2017	DW	2840	Gross beta	Gross Beta	pc/L	50.2	42.5	2.57	11	11	2
2015	DW	2855	Gross gamma	BARUM133	pc/L	88	85.1	5.5	4	4	0
2017	DW	2855	Gross gamma	CESIUM134	pc/L	64	60	4.02	4	4	0
2017	DW	2855	Gross gamma	CESIUM137	pc/L	103	100	5.09	4	4	0
2017	DW	2855	Gross gamma	COBAL70	pc/L	109	112	4.96	4	4	0
2016	DW	2855	Gross gamma	ZINC65	pc/L	210	221	13	4	4	0
2015	DW	2965	Radium-226	Radium-226	pc/L	17.8	15.8	2.78	8	8	2
2015	DW	2970	Radium-228	Radium-228	pc/L	13.2	11.6	3.12	7	7	2
2016	DW	2995	Strontium-89	Strontium-89	pc/L	24.8	28.7	5.19	2	2	1

PT Study Data – Export

TNI Proficiency Testing Program
Fields of Proficiency Testing Management System

Matrix: Drinking Water Date Range: All


Study Period: 2 Years

Export Data


Attachment I - Database Presentation

 **What Could Go Wrong?**



 **What's Next?**

- Outreach to PT Provider contacts to introduce them to the PT Database and establish their admin accounts
- PT Providers to receive import file spec
- Start!



 **Thank you**

