Welcome to the CLU-IN Internet Seminar

QA in Electronic Environmental Data Management

Delivered: October 20, 2011, 10:30 AM - 4:00 PM, EDT (14:30-20:00 GMT)

Presenters:

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Visit the Clean Up Information Network online at www.cluin.org

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Although I'm sure that some of you have these rules memorized from previous CLU-IN events, let's run through them quickly for our new participants.

Please mute your phone lines during the seminar to minimize disruption and background noise. If you do not have a mute button, press *6 to mute #6 to unmute your lines at anytime. Also, please do NOT put this call on hold as this may bring delightful, but unwanted background music over the lines and interupt the seminar.

You should note that throughout the seminar, we will ask for your feedback. You do not need to wait for Q&A breaks to ask questions or provide comments. To submit comments/ questions and report technical problems, please use the ? Icon at the top of your screen. You can move forward/backward in the slides by using the single arrow buttons (left moves back 1 slide, right moves advances 1 slide). The double arrowed buttons will take you to 1st and last slides respectively. You may also advance to any slide using the numbered links that appear on the left side of your screen. The button with a house icon will take you back to main seminar page which displays our agenda, speaker information, links to the slides and additional resources. Lastly, the button with a computer disc can be used to download and save today's presentation materials.

With that, please move to slide 3.

Quality Assurance in Electronic Environmental Data Management Intro

- Dawn Banks-Waller, Quality Staff, Office of Environmental Information, US EPA
- George Brilis, EPA/ORD National Exposure Research Laboratory (NERL)
- Roseanne Sakamoto, Quality Assurance Region 9 EPA

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Intermission

You've joined EPA Region 6's webinar on Quality Assurance in Electronic Environmental Data Management

We will continue on this schedule shortly.

Eastern (EDT)		
10:30 am	**Intro**	
	Part I:	**Data Standards at EPA** **Dawn Banks Waller** **Quality Staff, Office of Environmental Information, US EPA**
11:30 am	**Part II:**	**Quality and Legal Considerations in the Development and Use of an Information Management System in EPA** **George Brilis** **US EPA Office of Research and Development** **National Exposure Research Laboratory**
2:00 pm	**Part III:**	**Method for Screening Data Quality in Electronic Data Systems** **Roseanne Sakamoto** **Region 9, US EPA**

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DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in this technical presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the US EPA, unless stated otherwise.

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What are the products of the Agency that are *information?*

EVERYTHING!!!

information is ubiquitous

IT IS ALL INFORMATION

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How much information is enough?

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Purpose of Presentation

- SHARE AND OBTAIN FEEDBACK ON THE FOLLOWING:

- Part I. Data Standards at EPA for **storing** data and your role by Dawn Banks-Waller.

- Part II. Quality and Legal Considerations in the Development and Use of an Information Management System in EPA identifying important quality assurance features when developing data **management** systems for EPA (collection, distribution and content over lifecycle of media program retention requirements) by George Brilis
  - Note hard copies should be maintained even if stored electronically, until the integrity of the data is assured (i.e., not corrupted by outdated software or intrusion).

- Part III. Method for Screening Data Quality in Electronic Data Management Systems. Propose "core" QC field and laboratory elements for **screening** data quality in EDS like systems in a transparent, quantitative manner by Roseanne Sakamoto

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INFORMATION QUALITY ASSURANCE

- INFORMATION CONTENT
  - The noun, the "what" of the information including the format it is in and the processes that led us to having good content.
- INFORMATION COLLECTION/ACCESS
  - The verb, how information is collected, accessed and shared, secured, moved, updated, interacted with (to make new information) and the processes to ensure interaction can occur.

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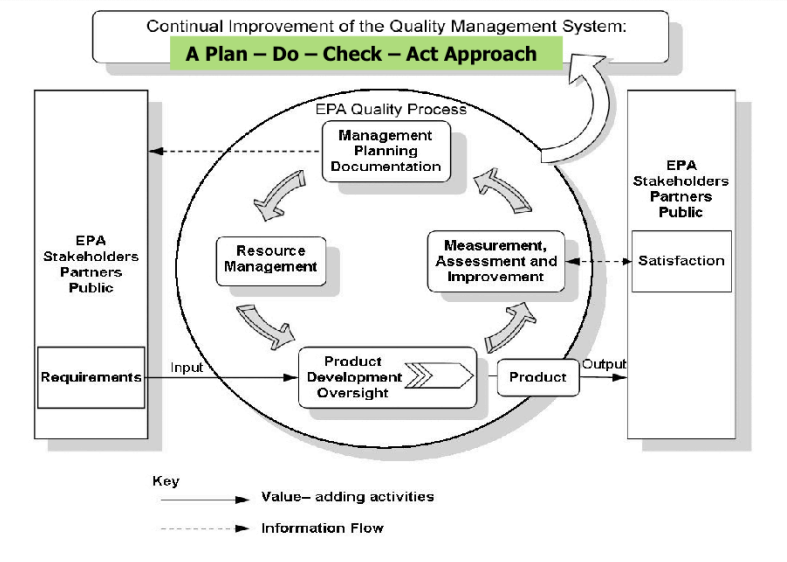
Why is QA involved in Data Management?



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Isn't *quality* free!!!!!!

The cost of quality

QUALITY = features + freedom from defects

More features = cost more $$$$$$$

More defects = will cost more $$$$$

therefore, reducing defects can save $$$$$$$$

because it costs $$$$$ to fix mistakes, rework, re-inspect

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Part 1: Data Standards at EPA

What are EPA Data Standards?

- Documented agreements on representations, formats, and definitions of common data
  - (http://www.epa.gov/datastandards) under the Find a Standard tab; EPA Approved Standards subtab
- Implemented per business rules that are maintained in separate guidance documentation
- Developed collaboratively and in consensus with Exchange Network partners and EPA Organizations
- Only developed when no similar international, national, or federal standard exists
  - NIEM is a national standard that should be used when appropriate

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Why You Must Use Standards

- National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (NTTAA)
- OMB Circular A-119 Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Standards
- OMB Circular A-130 Management of Federal Information Resources
- EPA Data Standards Policy
- EPA Enterprise Architecture Policy
- EPA Central Data Exchange (CDX)
- Exchange Network
- IT Contract Requirement

Benefits of EPA Data Standards

- Support business needs
  - **Environmental business processes** (Common fields and definitions for information related to permitting, sampling, etc.)
  - **Environmental analysis** (Enables data to be compared over time by location, toxic chemicals involved, facility, etc.)
  - **Environmental data exchange** (common structures and definitions to enable accurate and efficient transfer of data between organizations)
  - **Environmental reporting** (ability to aggregate or present data to decision makers that is based on common, well-understood meanings)
- Works within and across business areas

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Benefits of EPA Data Standards

- Benefits as applicable to any standard
  - Developed by subject matter experts coming to common consensus on how to solve business problems – so represents the "**best**" solution
  - Harder to develop, but **cheaper** in the long term because you can use the same code, the same presentation/publishing mechanisms to provide access to information
  - Enable transparency and understanding – use of standards promotes common, **clear meanings** for data that is often reused
  - Enable **access** – the same well understood terms, codes, and data structures can be used for data retrieval
  - Encourages and enables **reuse** of data and software for multiple purposes
  - Mappings to standards **allow comparisons** even when data isn't standardized – solves "environmental interest" problem
  - **Consistent** results during data retrieval

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How EPA Data Standards are Developed

- Proposal
- Action Team Charter Developed/Approved
- Action Team Launched
- Draft Approved for Technical Review
- Resolution of Comments
- Draft Approved for Public Review
- Resolution of Comments
- Draft Adopted
- Periodic Review
- Revision as Needed

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Implementation

- Data Standards Web Site for EPA allows developers and individuals across federal and other standards communities to find information (and collaborate) about standards and related services
- Training course
  - On-line modules on Web site (http://www.epa.gov/datastandards) under the Training tab; On-line Training subtab

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EPA Data Standard Implementation Rules

- Data Standards implementation depends on the context; frequently there is no “right” way.
- What is in a standard – data elements, blocks and tags
  - Terms and meaning
  - Structure and Format
  - Possible code sets

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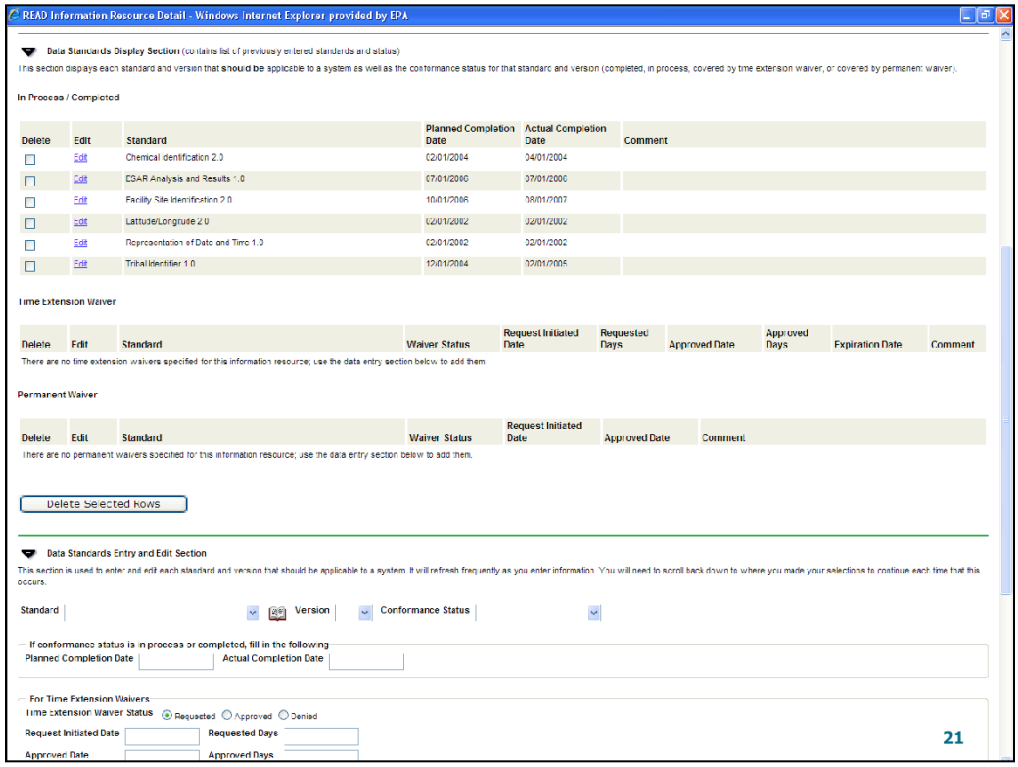
Implementation Assessments

- Program Office self assessments
  - READ "Report Card" for each EPA system completed by system owners and approved by IMO or IRM branch chiefs (report available by office or by standard)
- DSB or contractor conformance reviews for individual systems (expensive and fairly rare)


READ Information Resource Detail - Windows Internet Explorer provided by EPA
Data Standards Display Section (contains list of previously entered standards and status)
This section displays each standard and version that should be applicable to a system as well as the conformance status for that standard and version (completed, in process, covered by time extension waiver, or covered by permanent waiver).
In Process / Completed
Delete
Edit
Standard
Planned Completion Date
Actual Completion Date
Comment
Edit
Chemical Identification 2.0
02/01/2004
04/01/2004
Edit
ESAR Analysis and Results 1.0
07/01/2000
07/01/2000
Edit
Facility Site Identification 2.0
10/01/2006
08/01/2007
Edit
Latitude/Longitude 2.0
02/01/2002
02/01/2002
Edit
Representation of Date and Time 1.0
02/01/2002
02/01/2002
Edit
Tribal Identifier 1.0
12/01/2004
02/01/2005
Time Extension Waiver
Delete
Edit
Standard
Waiver Status
Request Initiated Date
Requested Days
Approved Date
Approved Days
Expiration Date
Comment
There are no time extension waivers specified for this information resource; use the data entry section below to add them
Permanent Waiver
Delete
Edit
Standard
Waiver Status
Request Initiated Date
Approved Date
Comment
There are no permanent waivers specified for this information resource; use the data entry section below to add them.
Delete Selected Rows
Data Standards Entry and Edit Section
This section is used to enter and edit each standard and version that should be applicable to a system. It will refresh frequently as you enter information. You will need to scroll back down to where you made your selections to continue each time that this occurs.
Standard
Version
Conformance Status
If conformance status is in process or completed, fill in the following
Planned Completion Date
Actual Completion Date
For Time Extension Waivers
Time Extension Waiver Status
Requested
Approved
Denied
Request Initiated Date
Requested Days
Approved Date
Approved Days
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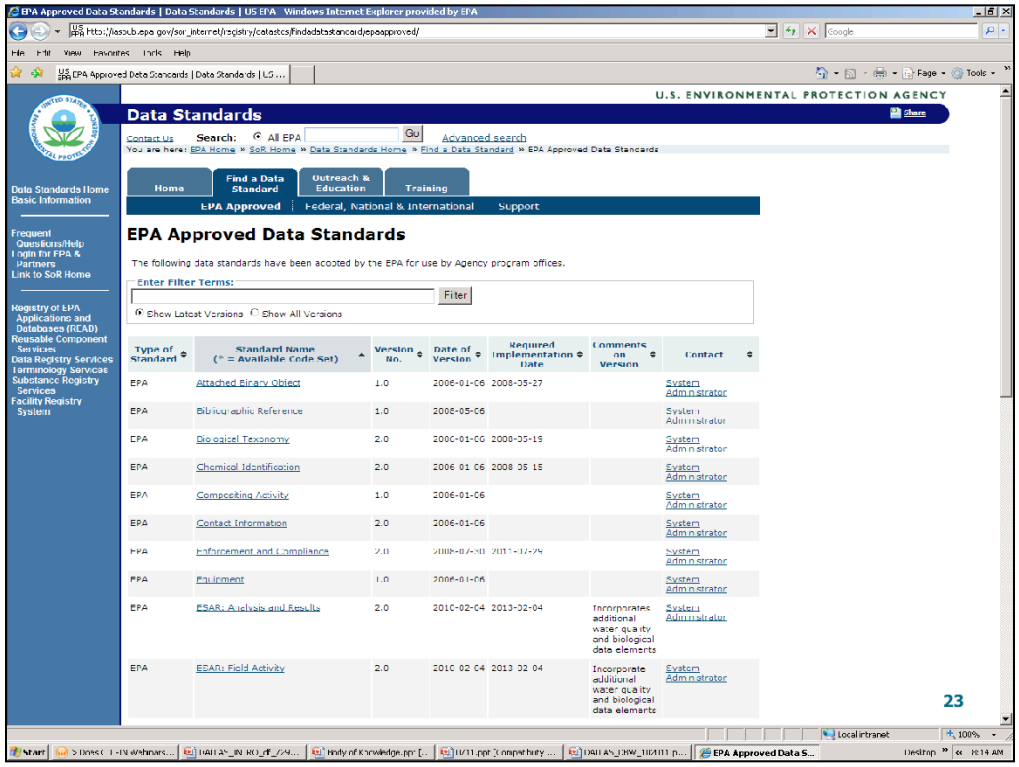
Current Approved EPA Standards

- Attached Binary Object
- Facility Identification
- Institutional Control
- Latitude/Longitude
- Measure
- Method
- Permitting Information
- Quality Assurance and Quality Control
- Representation of Date and Time
- Sample Handling
- SIC/NAICS
- Tribal Identifier
- Well Information

- **Bibliographic Reference**
- **Biological Taxonomy**
- **Chemical Identification**
- **Compositing Activity**
- **Contact Information**
- **Enforcement and Compliance**
- **Equipment**
- **ESAR: Analysis and Results**
- **ESAR: Field Activity**
- **ESAR: Monitoring Location**
- **ESAR: Overview**
- **ESAR: Project**


EPA Approved Data Standards | Data Standards | US EPA Windows Internet Explorer provided by EPA
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Data Standards
Contact Us
Search:
All EPA
Go
Advanced search
You are here: EPA Home » SoR Home » Data Standards Home » Find a Data Standard » EPA Approved Data Standards
Home
Find a Data Standard
Outreach & Education
Training
EPA Approved
Federal, National & International
Support
Data Standards Home
Basic Information
Frequent Questions/Help
Login for EPA & Partners
Link to SoR Home
Registry of EPA Applications and Databases (READ)
Reusable Component Services
Data Registry Services
Terminology Services
Substance Registry Services
Facility Registry System
EPA Approved Data Standards
The following data standards have been accepted by the EPA for use by Agency program offices.
Enter Filter Terms:
Filter
Show Latest Versions
Show All Versions
Type of Standard
Standard Name (* = Available Code Set)
Version No.
Date of Version
Required Implementation Date
Comments on Version
Contact
EPA
Attached Binary Object
1.0
2006-01-06
2008-05-27
System Administrator
EPA
Bibliographic Reference
1.0
2006-05-06
System Administrator
EPA
Biological Taxonomy
2.0
2006-01-06
2008-05-15
System Administrator
EPA
Chemical Identification
2.0
2006 01 06
2008 05 15
System Administrator
EPA
Competing Activity
1.0
2006-01-06
System Administrator
EPA
Contact Information
2.0
2006-01-06
System Administrator
EPA
Enforcement and Compliance
System Administrator
EPA
Equipment
1.0
2006-01-06
System Administrator
EPA
EPAR: Analysis and Results
2.0
2010-02-04
2013-02-04
Incorporates additional water quality and biological data elements
System Administrator
EPA
EPAR: Field Activity
2.0
2010 02 04
2013 02 04
Incorporate additional water quality and biological data elements
System Administrator
23

Some important EDS Related to Field and Laboratory QC

EPA	ESAR: Analysis and Results	2.0	2010-02-04	2013-02-04	Incorporates additional water quality and biological data elements	System Administrator
EPA	ESAR: Field Activity	2.0	2010-02-04	2013-02-04	Incorporate additional water quality and biological data elements	System Administrator
EPA	ESAR: Monitoring Location	2.0	2010-02-04	2013-02-04	Incorporates additional water quality and biological data elements	System Administrator
EPA	ESAR: Overview	1.0	2006-01-06			System Administrator
EPA	ESAR: Project	2.0	2010-02-04	2013-02-04	Incorporates additional water quality and biological data elements	System Administrator

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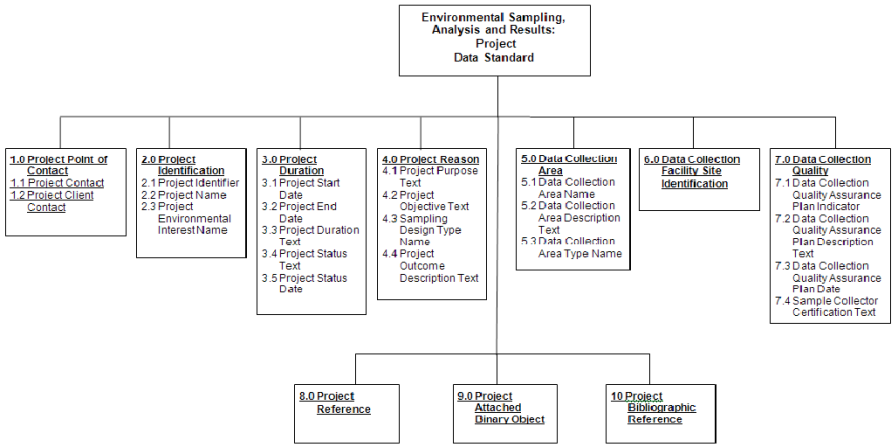
ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING, ANALYSIS and RESULTS: PROJECT
Standard No.: EX000002.2
February 4, 2010

Appendix A
Environmental Sampling, Analysis, and Results: Project Data Structure Diagram



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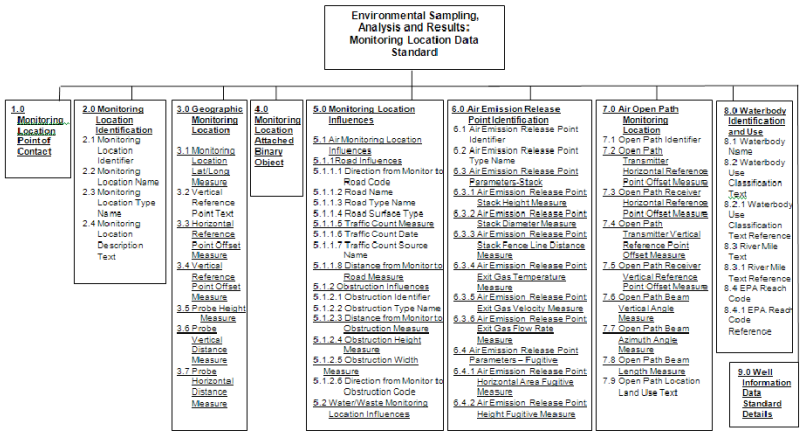
ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING, ANALYSIS AND RESULTS: MONITORING LOCATION DATA STANDARD
Standard No.: EX000003.2
February 4, 2010

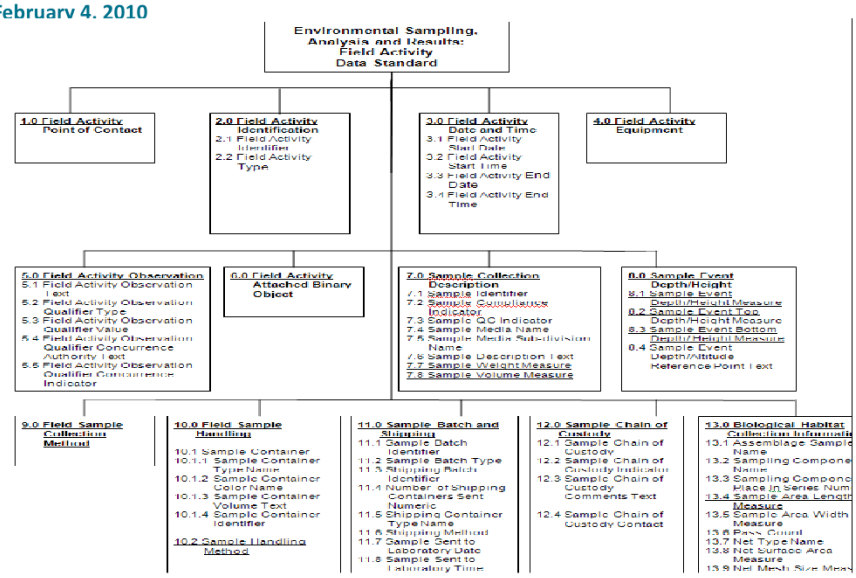
Appendix A
Environmental Sampling, Analysis and Results: Monitoring Location Structure Diagram



ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING ANALYSIS AND RESULTS: FIELD ACTIVITY

Standard No.: EX000004.2

February 4, 2010



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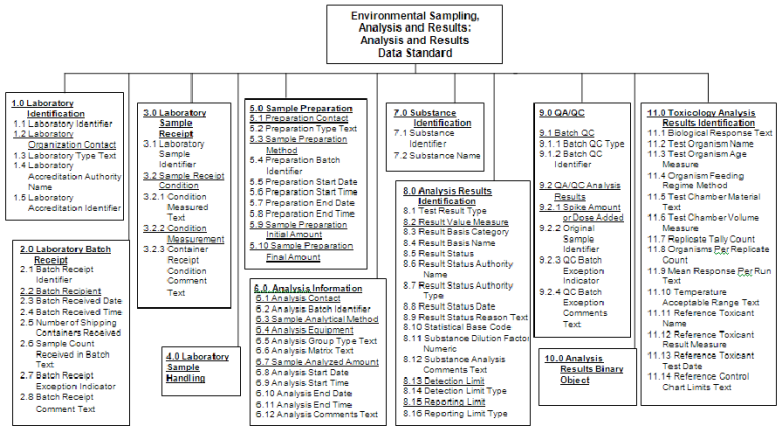
ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING, ANALYSIS AND RESULTS: ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

Standard No.: EX000005.2

February 4, 2010



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Your Role in the Process

- Assistance needed from program managers to encourage documentation of system level business rules related to specific standards.
- Support to assure that “program office” standards have data standard stewards with subject matter and data management expertise over the long term
- Support to get accurate conformance and waiver reporting information into READ
- Overall promotion of EPA data standards and the data standards program

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For Additional Information Contact

John Harman – Chief, Data Standard Branch
Harman.John@epa.gov 202- 566 -0748

Lauren Gordon – Data Standards Branch
Gordon.Lauren@epa.gov 202-566-0613

Intermission

You've joined EPA Region 6's webinar on Quality Assurance in Electronic Environmental Data Management

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2:00 pm	Part III:	Method for Screening Data Quality in Electronic Data Systems Roseanne Sakamoto Region 9, US EPA

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Part II. Quality and Legal Considerations in the Development and use of an Information Management System in EPA.

George M. Brilis
QA Scientist
EPA/ORD/NERL/ESD

Presented to the
21st Annual Quality Assurance Conference
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Dallas, TX
October 20, 2011

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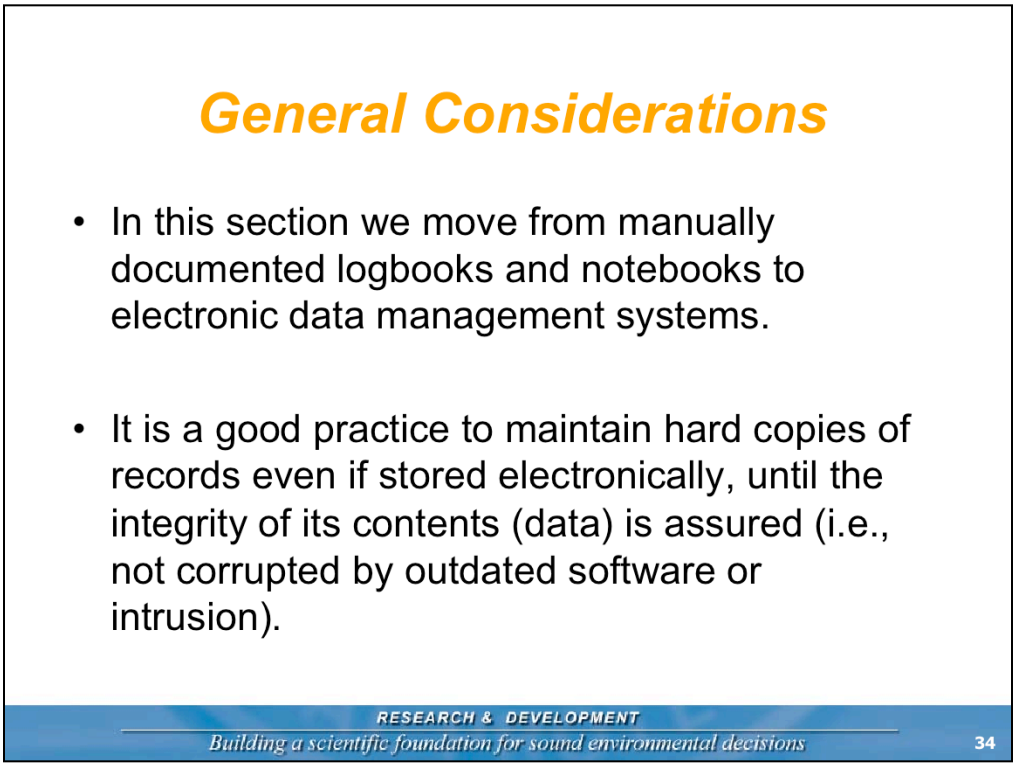
- *Mention of trade names or commercial products do not constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.*
- The opinions expressed in this technical presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the US EPA, unless stated otherwise.



Records include all books, papers, maps, photographs, machine-readable materials, or other documentary materials, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made or received by an agency of the United States Government under Federal law or in connection with the transaction of public business and preserved or appropriate for preservation by that agency or its legitimate successor as evidence of the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations, or other activities of the Government or because of the informational value of the data in them (44 U.S.C. 3301).

Documentary materials is a collective term for records and nonrecord materials that refers to all media on which information is recorded, regardless of the nature of the medium or the method or circumstances of recording. http://www.archives.gov/midatlantic/agencies/records-mgmt/definitions.html

In ISO – a Document can be changed. A Records, once completed, can not be changed.

Primary Concerns of an Information Management System

- Confidentiality - the element that limits information access and disclosure to authorized users.
- Integrity – the element of trustworthiness, includes the concept that the validity of the data has not been compromised.
- Availability – the element that represents the requirement that ensures accessibility.

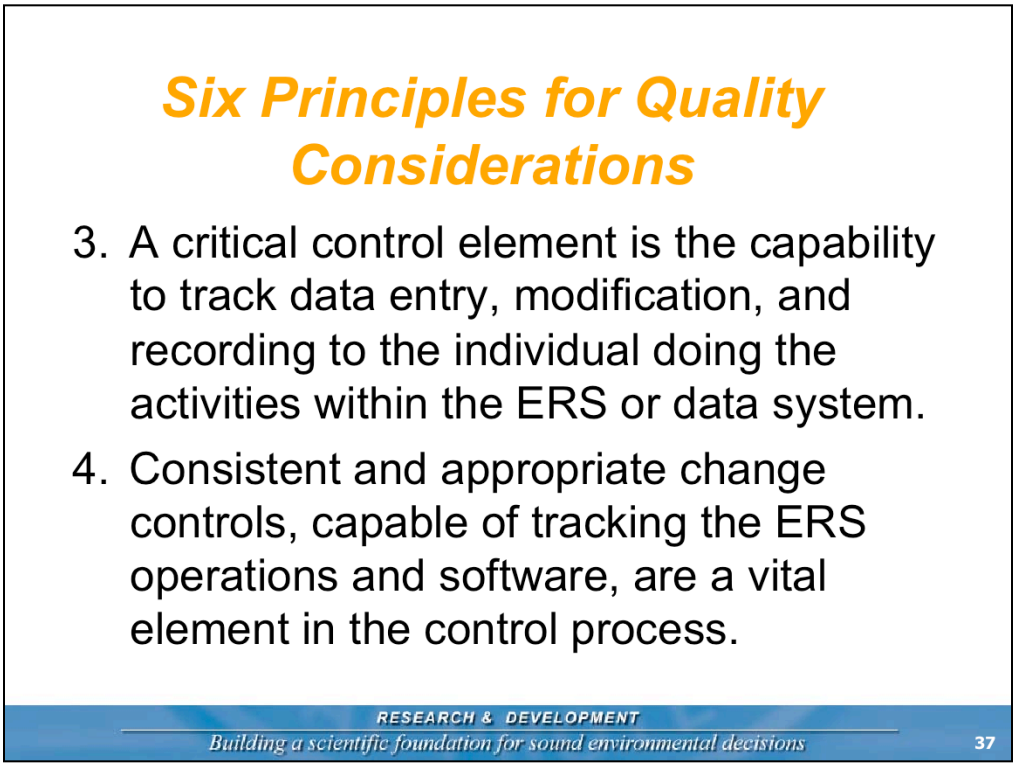
Six Principles for Quality Considerations

1. Laboratory Management must provide a method of assuring the integrity of all data and records.

2. The formulas and decision algorithms employed by the Electronic Recordkeeping System (ERS) must be accurate and appropriate.

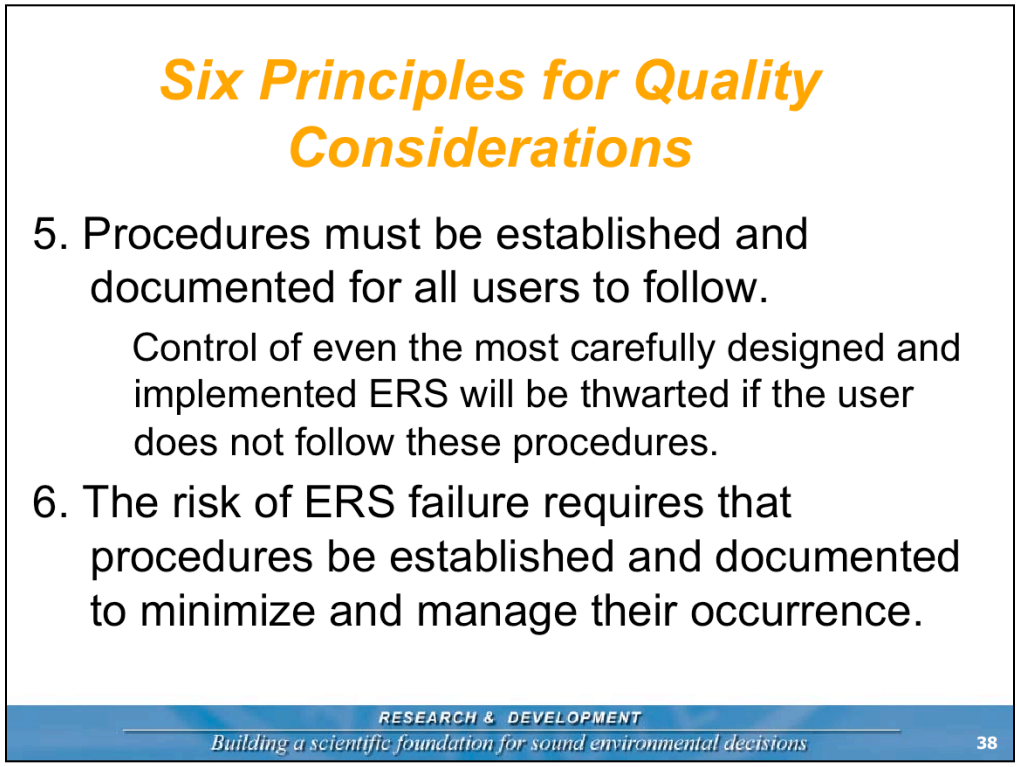
1. Communication, transfer, manipulation, and the storage/recall processes all offer potential for data corruption. The demonstration of control necessitates the collection of evidence to prove that the system provides demonstrable protection against data corruption.

2. Users cannot assume that the test or decision criteria are correct; those formulas must be inspected and calculations verified.



3. This capability utilizes a password system or equivalent authentication techniques to identify the time, date, and person or persons entering, modifying, or recording data.

4. All changes must follow carefully planned procedures, be properly documented, and when appropriate include change control, acceptance testing, and validation processes.



5. This principle implies the development of clear directions and SOPs, the training of all users, and the availability of appropriate user support documentation. Ideally the technology system itself is designed to enforce the procedures and prevent any users from circumventing the Standard Operating Procedures.

6. Where appropriate, redundant systems must be installed and periodic archival quality recordkeeping system backups (not simply IT system backup copies) must be made at a frequency consistent with the consequences of the loss of information resulting from a failure. The principle of control must extend to planning for reasonable unusual events and system stresses, such as a vendor's failure to continue the product line and provide an errorless and lossless migration to replacement systems. Archival quality record collection backups are much more comprehensive and product-independent backups that allow the archival record collections to be reconstructed, accessed, and retrieved by record users in the future.

Legal Considerations

- *Always* contact the EPA Office of General Counsel if the review of items results in a strong cause for concern!

Legal Protection of Databases

- Ensure that any contracts dealing with the creation or licensing of databases adequately cover the new rights where other intellectual property rights may have overlooked them.
- Ensure that you know what rights subsist (or will subsist) in your databases and those that are being created. Consider getting expert help to audit existing databases and contracts or agreements governing their creation and disposition.

Legal Protection of Databases

- Avoid situations where the ownership of any copyright and database right is held by different people.
- Regularly update any new databases in order to maximize the term of protection available, but keep good records of the work which is undertaken, any financial or other investment in the database and the date(s) on which it is carried out.
- Use notices or disclaimers regarding the intended use and/or application of the database.

Extramural Agreements

- A database may be heterogeneous in nature. That is, it may contain data generated by the owner and data generated from another source – possible even by subscription. In these instances, one does not own the entire database. Therefore, one may not be able to freely distribute the entire database. The alternative may be to license the use of the database.

Whether one is the licensee or the licensor, the following items should be considered:

What is being licensed? To avoid later disputes, the parties must be as specific as possible.

Whether license rights, including the rights of production, distribution, manufacture and sale and the right to transfer license to a third party are permitted.
In what projects, products, or publications can one be permitted to use the licensed material?

What rights are being granted?

Is the license exclusive or non-exclusive?

Will the owner get credit, and if so, how will this be shown?

What intellectual property rights are retained by the licensor?

What is the license fee: a single one time fee, an annual fee, or royalty?

What is the duration of the license, and can it be renewed?

What warranties are being given for the use of the product by the licensor?

What are the liabilities of the licensor?

What remedies are available if the products and services are not warranted?

What obligations are there as to confidentiality of proprietary information?

Check if licensors have excluded liabilities for any indirect, incidental, special or consequential damages.

Ensure that there is a statement as to whether the agreement is subject to export control laws, regulations and requirements – depending on jurisdiction.

Under miscellaneous provisions check if there are any provisions in the agreement that may be severable and whether the invalidity or enforceability of one of the provisions affects any other.

Ensure that the relationship between the parties in the license is that between independent contractors.
Check is all claims and disputes relating to the agreement are subject to final and binding arbitration, and under what jurisdiction.

The agreement should conclude by stating that it contains the entire agreement of the parties and that it supersedes all prior oral or written understandings or agreements between the parties with respect to the subject matter. Services of notices, contract offers, and postal address etc must be shown here as well.

Subcontracting

- A prime contractor may find another contractor to perform a part of the work. Ensuring that the subcontractor complies with EPA policies is a responsibility of the prime contractor.
- When most prime contracts are written, the right of the EPA QA Professional to directly communicate with the subcontractor may not be explicitly addressed in the contract. Consequently, EPA must rely on the prime contractor to check and report on the subcontractors' performance

Subcontracting

- The author of this paper believes that it is in the best interest of the public if, in all prime contracts, the following phrase (or appropriate derivative) is included:

  "The US EPA reserves the right to directly communicate with and perform assessments of any subcontractors that may be attached to this contract subsequent to award. In addition, the EPA may assess the performance of the subcontractor onsite; "at will" and without prior notification to the prime contractor or subcontractor."

Legal Considerations

- *Always* contact the EPA Office of General Counsel if the review of items results in a strong cause for concern!

References

- National Archives and Records Administration http://www.archives.gov/midatlantic/agencies/records-mgmt/definitions.html
- *Documents and Records Management: Understanding the Differences and Embracing Integration,* White Paper , Priscilla Emery, e-Nterprise Advisors, September 2003. http://www.docu-man.co.uk/ecm365files/documentandrecordsmanagement.pdf
- *Good Automated Laboratory Practices (GALP),* EPA 1995, Office of Information Resources Management, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Research Triangle Park, North Carolina: Scientific Systems Staff, 166 pgs [Out-of-Print]

References

- *Implementing and Auditing Electronic Recordkeeping Systems Used In Scientific Research and Development*, Brilis G.M., Lyon, J.G., Worthington, J.C., Lysakowski, R Quality Assurance: Good Practice, Regulation, and Law, Vol. 11, No.1, 2004.
- *Electronic Records: What to Look and Ask For (with Glossary),* L.J. Marco, K. M. Connoly, The Practical Litigator, American Law Institute, American Bar Association, March 2004, pgs 39-46
- *The Ethics of Electronic Discovery,* S.C. Bennett, The Practical Litigator, American Law Institute, American Bar Association, March 2006, pgs 45-57
- *Preservation of Electronic Records of Third-Party Contractors*, M.J. Daley, The Practical Litigator, American Law Institute, American Bar Association, January 2007, pgs 29-36

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- *Managing Electronic Data Transfer in Environmental Cleanups,* G.M. Brilis, J.G. Lyon, R.S. Lunetta, J.W. Worthington, The Practical Litigator, American Law Institute, American Bar Association, September 2004, pgs 37-44.
- *Document Retention and Electronic Discovery,* B.E. Jameson, The Practical Litigator, American Law Institute, American Bar Association, September 2004, pgs 37-44.
- *Discovery of Databases in Litigation*, D.H. Junke, The Practical Litigator, American Law Institute, American Bar Association, November 2003, pgs 7-14

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Part III

Method for Screening Data Quality in Electronic Data Systems

Roseanne Sakamoto,
Quality Assurance Office, Region 9
October 2011

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Purpose of Presentation

- **Propose "core" field and laboratory QC** elements electronic data management systems to screen for data quality in a transparent, quantitative manner
- **Making sense of chemical analytical data** and its quality using electronic data management systems and trend charts, whether collected for Superfund, RCRA, Water or Air
- **Propose how one might review existing data collected by others**

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Using Electronic Data Systems to Transparently Summarize Data Quality Information

: – GROUNDWATER SAMPLING
VALIDATION OF LABORATORY RESULTS

ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY
LABORATORY REPORT # 07010104 - REPORT DATED JANUARY 11, 2007

LEVEL 4 – FULL QC DELIVERABLES EVALUATION FOR VOCs AND PERCHLORATE

INTRODUCTION

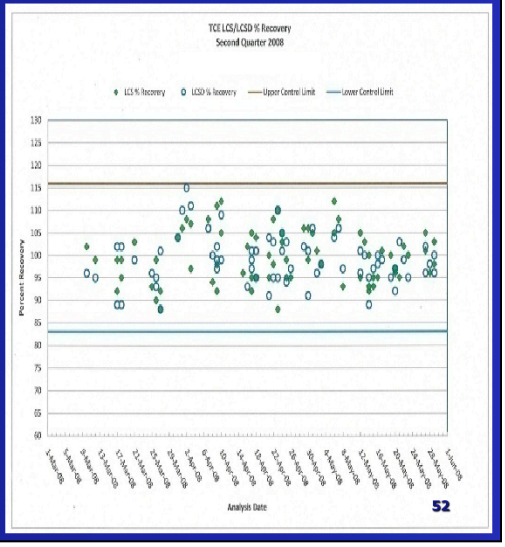
collected seven groundwater samples and one quality control sample on January 4, 2007. The samples were hand delivered to Environmental Laboratory located in on January 4, 2007. Analyses for perchlorate were subcontracted to Laboratory located in Sacramento, California. The sample identifications and requested analyses are listed below.

ARCADIS Sample ID	Lab ID	Matrix	Analyses Requested / Comments
COG-10-01042007	07010104-01 A,D	Groundwater	VOCs and Perchlorate
33A-INF-01042007	07010104-02 A,D	Groundwater	VOCs and Perchlorate
33A-EFF-01042007	07010104-03 D	Groundwater	VOCs
33A-201-01042007	07010104-04 D	Groundwater	VOCs
3A-202-01042007	07010104-05 D	Groundwater	VOCs
33A-101-01042007	07010104-06 D	Groundwater	VOCs
33A-102-01042007	07010104-07 D	Groundwater	VOCs
TB001-01042007	07010104-08 D	Water Quality	VOCs / Trip Blank

Samples were submitted for analysis of organic and inorganic compounds, as listed below:

- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) – EPA Method 8260B
- Perchlorate – EPA 314.0 (Subcontracted to Sacramento)

Quality Control for the water sample is evaluated in the following checklist tables and comments. A summary of data quality for the samples analyzed is provided in the final page of this validation report.



DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in this technical presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the US EPA, unless stated otherwise (e.g., requirement, regulatory citation).

Mention of any trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement or recommendations for use.

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Environmental Data Standards (EDS) for Sampling, Analysis and Results

- Project, February 4, 2010
- Quality Assurance and Quality Control Data Standards, February 4, 2010
- Field Activity Data Standard, February 4, 2010
- Analysis and Results, February 4, 2010

54

Environmental Data Standards (EDS) Project

- Verify Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) Implementation
- Evaluate
  - Field Sampling QC results and criteria
  - Laboratory Analytical QC results and criteria
    - Performance Evaluation Samples

55

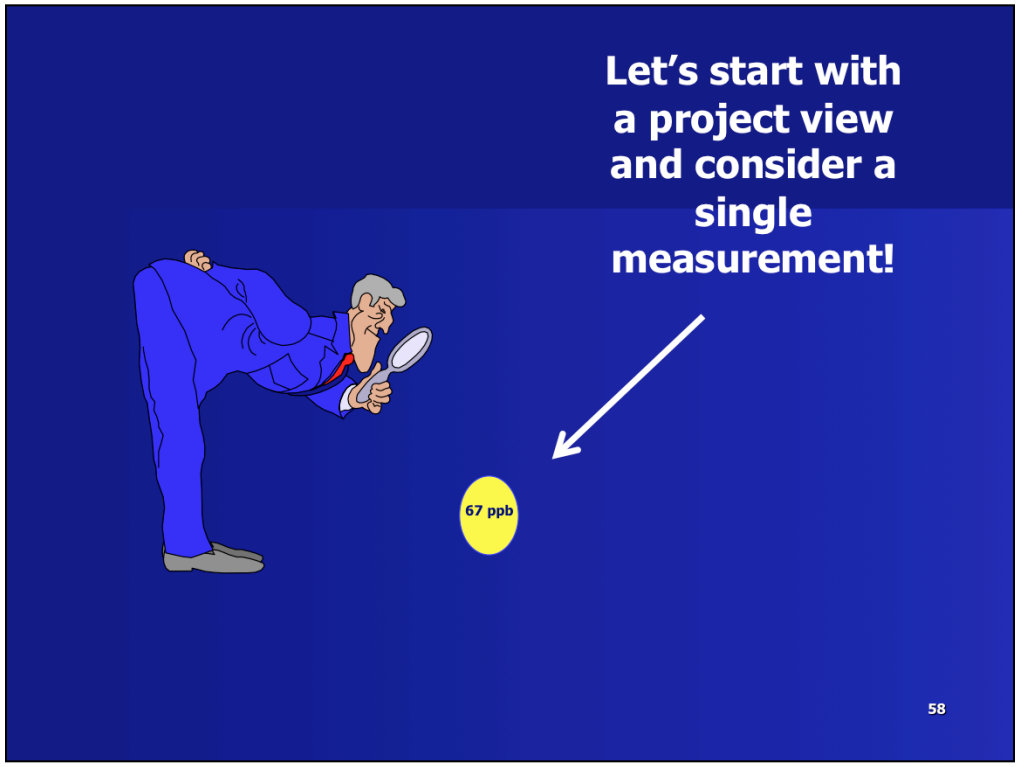
EDS Results

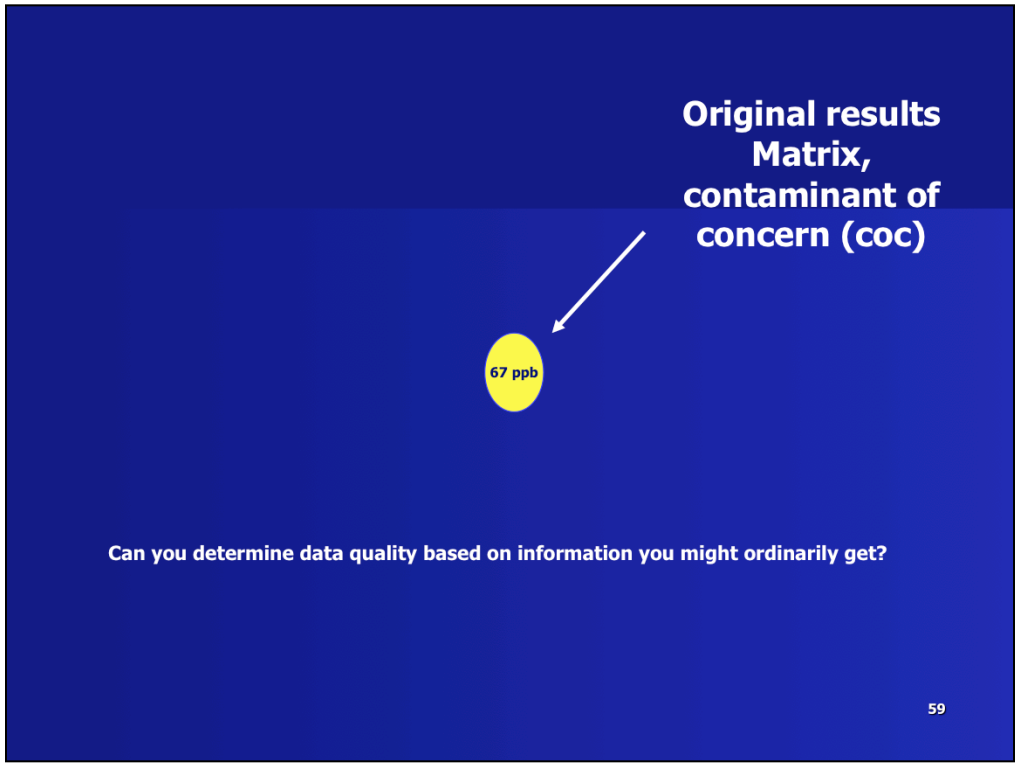
Project Name: X		Benzene
Soil	8260	Detection Limit 10 ppb
Date	Time Analyzed	Results (ppb)
01/01/2011	12:01 pm	67
02/01/2011	10:00 am	ND
03/01/2011	09:00 am	85
04/01/2011	01:00 pm	45
05/01/2011	09:18 am	ND
06/01/2011	09:00 am	65
07/01/2011	01:15 pm	ND
08/01/2011	03:37 pm	88
09/01/2011	11:07 am	78
10/01/2011	08:15 am	76
11/01/2011	02:10 pm	66
12/01/2011	10:29 am	60

Environmental Data Standards

- Now that we have the information, what is the value of it to you?
- How do you know the quality of the information?

57

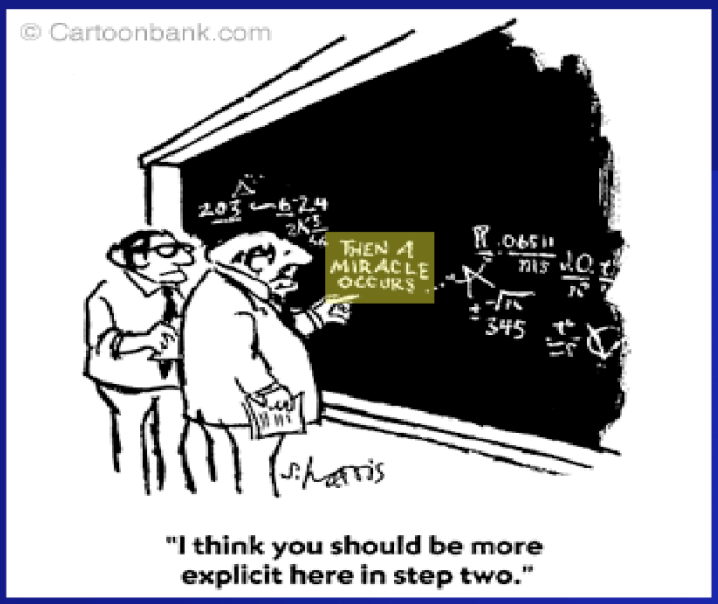

Let's start with a project view and consider a single measurement!
67 ppb
58


Original results
Matrix,
contaminant of
concern (coc)
67 ppb
Can you determine data quality based on information you might ordinarily get?
59

Where does the quality of the measurement come from?

The processes

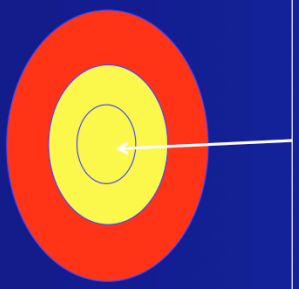
60



Are there metrics for determining quality?

61

Proposal of Core QC Information for Determining Data Quality



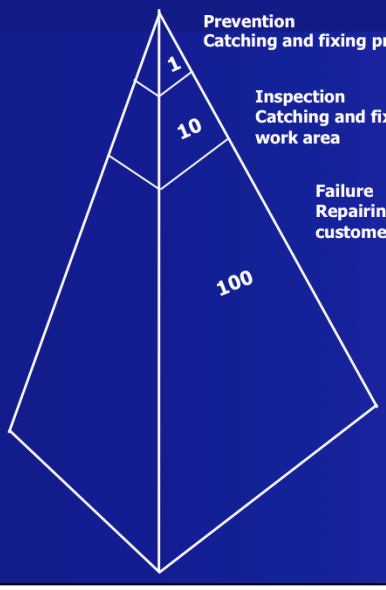
Core: original data, matrix and contaminant of concern

<u>Field</u>
Sample collection method
Field QC (calibration, precision and bias limits)
Representative of population being sampled
Sample preservation
Chain of Custody (Usually contains "Location")
- Sample location (lat/long/altitude)
- Time, date of collection

62

The 1-10-100 Rule

It makes a difference when a problem is fixed. The 1-10-100 rule shows that if a problem is not anticipated or fixed in your work area when it occurs, it will only become more costly to fix later in terms of both time and money.

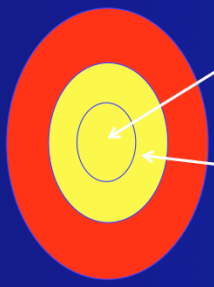


Prevention
Catching and fixing problems in your work area

Inspection
Catching and fixing problems internally, but after they have left the work area

Failure
Repairing the damage of problems caught by external customers

63



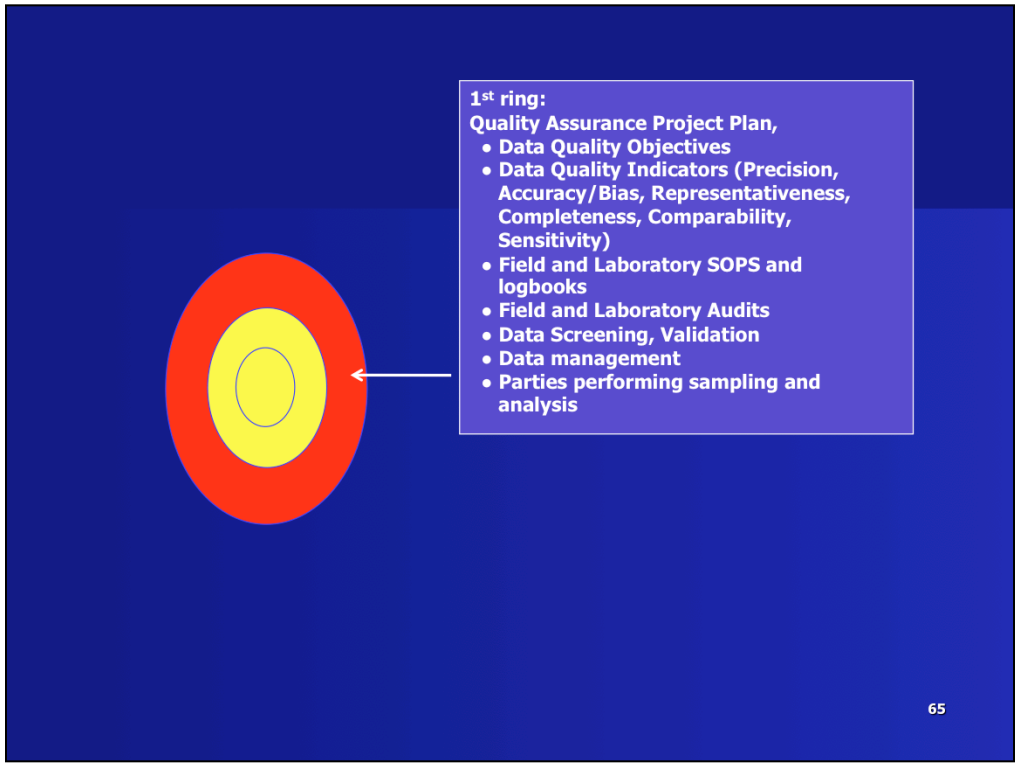
Core: original data, matrix, contaminant of concern and

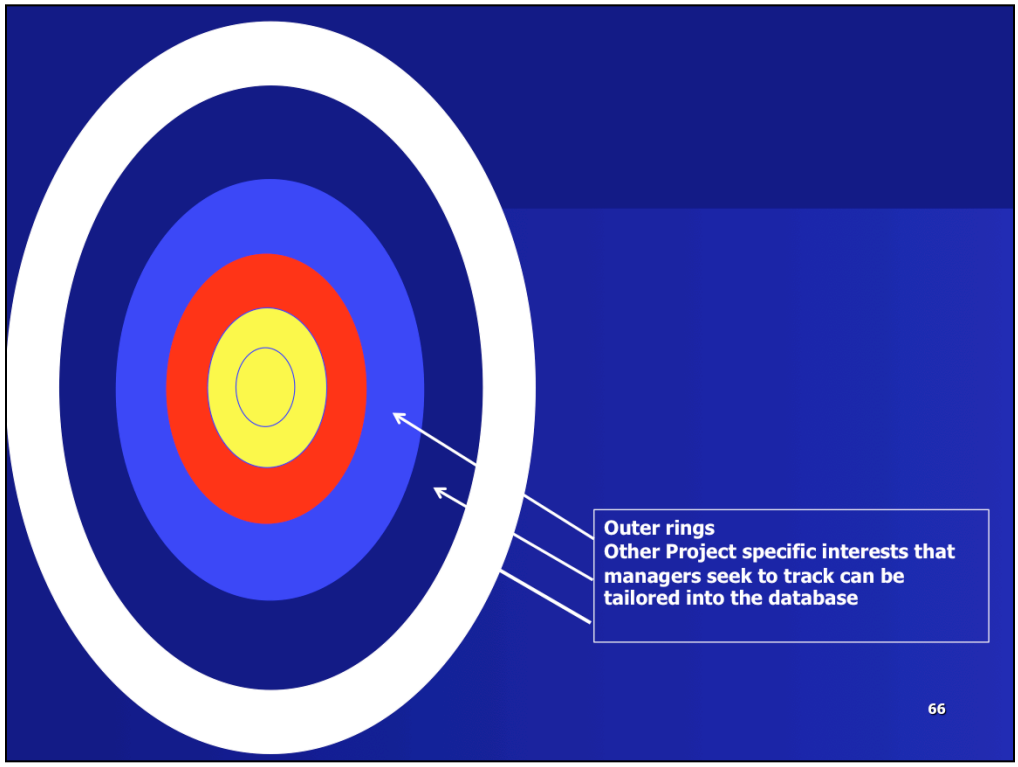
Field
Sample collection method
Field QC (calibration, precision and bias limits)
Representative of population being sampled
Sample preservation
Chain of Custody (Usually contains "Location")
- Sample location (lat/long/altitude)
- Time, date of collection

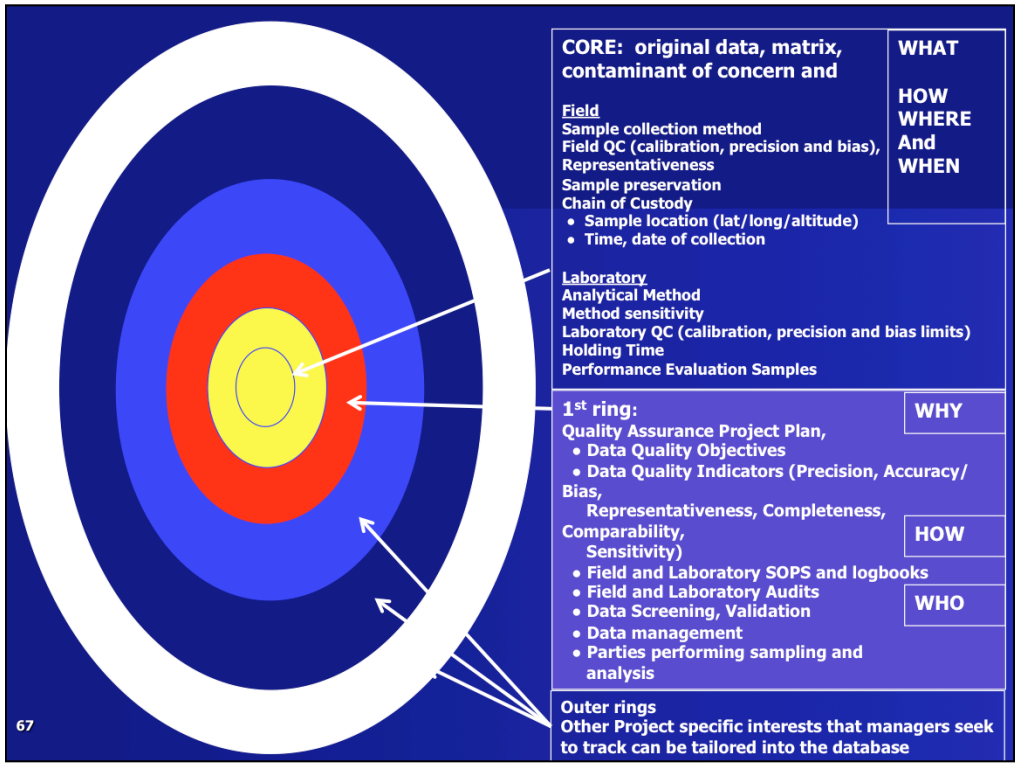
Laboratory
Analytical Method
Method sensitivity
Laboratory QC (calibration, precision and bias limits)
Holding Time
Performance Evaluation Samples

These data and the "quality metadata" represent quality that is "intrinsic" to the data that is central to the work.

64


1st ring:
Quality Assurance Project Plan,
• Data Quality Objectives
• Data Quality Indicators (Precision, Accuracy/Bias, Representativeness, Completeness, Comparability, Sensitivity)
• Field and Laboratory SOPS and logbooks
• Field and Laboratory Audits
• Data Screening, Validation
• Data management
• Parties performing sampling and analysis
65


Outer rings
Other Project specific interests that managers seek to track can be tailored into the database
66


CORE: original data, matrix, contaminant of concern and
WHAT
HOW
WHERE
And
WHEN
Field
Sample collection method
Field QC (calibration, precision and bias),
Representativeness
Sample preservation
Chain of Custody
• Sample location (lat/long/altitude)
• Time, date of collection
Laboratory
Analytical Method
Method sensitivity
Laboratory QC (calibration, precision and bias limits)
Holding Time
Performance Evaluation Samples
1st ring:
WHY
Quality Assurance Project Plan,
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Sensitivity)
HOW
• Field and Laboratory SOPS and logbooks
• Field and Laboratory Audits
• Data Screening, Validation
WHO
• Data management
• Parties performing sampling and analysis
Outer rings
Other Project specific interests that managers seek to track can be tailored into the database
67

Proposed Core Laboratory QC Info

- Analytical results, matrix, contaminant of concern
  - Method
  - Sensitivity (ppm, ppb, ppt)
  - Laboratory QC (calibration, precision and bias limits)
  - Holding times met
  - Performance evaluation samples

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What Happens at the Laboratory?
Batch of Samples

Samples sent to the lab

QC Samples Lab Generates

LCS MS MSD Blank

- I/O Calibration – bias/accuracy
- I/O Continuing Calibration - precision
- I/O Lab Control Sample (LCS) – bias/accuracy
- I/O Matrix Spike (MS) – bias/accuracy and matrix effects/interference
- I/O Matrix Spike Duplicate (MSD) – Precision
- O Surrogate Spike – Method Bias/Accuracy and Extraction Efficiency
- I/O Blank - contamination
- I/O Duplicates - Precision

Legend I = inorganic; O = organic

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Common QC Already Performed by Laboratories

	Laboratory	Method	Sensitivity (MDL/PQL)	Lab Reagent Blank (LRB)	Lab Fortified blank (LFB)	Matrix Spike/	ICV	CCV	QC Criteria	Trend Charts	Min Frequency	Batch Definition	Corrective Action	PE sample
WW	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SW-846	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			
CLP	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X			X
DW	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X
EDS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X

WW wastewater
SW846 –solid waste (RCRA)
CLP contract laboratory program

DW drinking water
EDS Environmental Data Standards

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Determining Data Quality

Types of Measurements on QC Samples

- ACCURACY/BIAS

$$\text{Percent Recovery} = \frac{\text{Amount Recovered (Results)}}{\text{Amount Spiked (True Value)}} \times 100$$

Measures how close you are to the "True Value;" the closer the number, the better.

- PRECISION

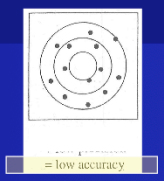
$$\text{Relative Percent Difference (RPD)} = \frac{|\text{Dup 1* – Dup 2*}|}{[(\text{Dup 1*} + \text{Dup 2*})/2]} \times 100$$

*Dup = results from lab duplicates
Smaller RPDs the better, results reproducible
Larger RPDs, the more unpredictable is the resulting data

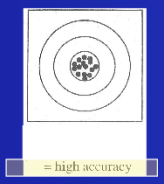
71

Example Accuracy/Bias Calculations

$$\frac{20 \text{ ug/l}}{30 \text{ ug/l}} \times 100 = 67\%$$



$$\frac{31 \text{ ug/l}}{30 \text{ ug/l}} \times 100 = 103\%$$



ACCURACY/BIAS ASSOCIATED WITH SPIKED SAMPLES

Measures how close you are to the "True Value." The closer the results to the true value, the better (i.e., recovery of 100%).

72

Results of Accuracy/Bias Calculations

Project Name		
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02/01/2011	10:00 am	103
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08/01/2011	03:37 pm	88
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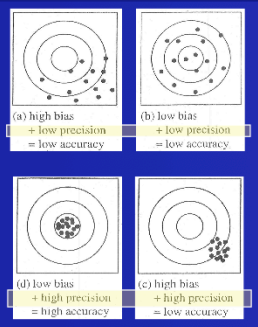
10/01/2011	08:15 am	76
11/01/2011	02:10 pm	66
12/01/2011	10:29 am	60

73

Example Precision Calculations

$$\frac{|20 - 50|}{[(20 + 50)/2]} \times 100 = 86 \text{ RPD}$$

$$\frac{|49 - 50|}{[(49 + 50)/2]} \times 100 = 2 \text{ RPD}$$



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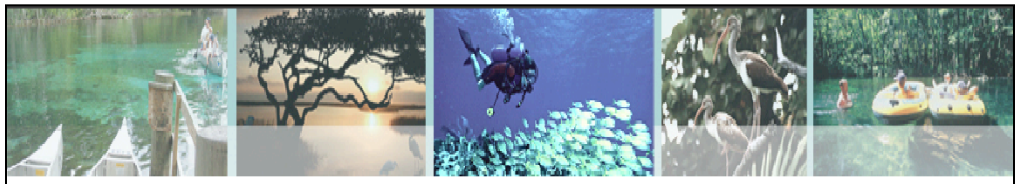
74



Questions

Intermission
You've joined EPA Region 6's webinar on Quality Assurance in Electronic Environmental Data Management

We will continue on this schedule shortly.

Eastern (EDT)		
10:30 am	Intro	
	Part I:	Data Standards at EPA Dawn Banks Waller Quality Staff, Office of Environmental Information, US EPA
11:30 am	Part II:	Quality and Legal Considerations in the Development and Use of an Information Management System in EPA George Brilis US EPA Office of Research and Development National Exposure Research Laboratory
2:00 pm	Part III:	Method for Screening Data Quality in Electronic Data Systems Roseanne Sakamoto Region 9, US EPA

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Making Sense of Analytical Data Using Trend Charts

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Traditional Validation Report (5-100 pages)

[– GROUNDWATER SAMPLING
VALIDATION OF LABORATORY RESULTS

ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY
LABORATORY REPORT # 07010104 - REPORT DATED JANUARY 11, 2007

LEVEL 4 – FULL QC DELIVERABLES EVALUATION FOR VOCs AND PERCHLORATE

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3A-202-01042007	07010104-05 D	Groundwater	VOCs
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Samples were submitted for analysis of organic and inorganic compounds, as listed below:

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33A-102-01042007	07010104-07 D	Groundwater	VOCs
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Another Method for reviewing data
Trichloroethene Initial Calibration Relative Response Factor Data

case	sdg	LABID	FRACTION	CLIENTSAMPLEID	MATRIXID	CLIENTANALYSISID	CASREGISTRYNUMBER	ANALYTENAME	adate	PercentRSD
		STLV	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	27-Jul-10	5.2
		MITKEM	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	4-Aug-09	5
		SHEALY	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	27-Dec-10	4.3
		ENVSYS	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	20-Jun-08	6.3
		LIBRTY	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	8-Nov-07	7.3
		MITKEM	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	13-Oct-06	10.5
		SHEALY	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	17-Nov-06	4.7
		MITKEM	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	12-Jun-07	3.3
		ENVSYS	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	28-Dec-06	15.2
		SHEALY	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	25-Sep-06	2.9
		MITKEM	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	21-Oct-06	2.1
		KAP	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	20-Jun-06	2.5
		DATAC	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	16-May-06	14.69673
		KAP	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	5-Oct-06	7.3
		DATAC	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	12-Jun-06	7.988618

80

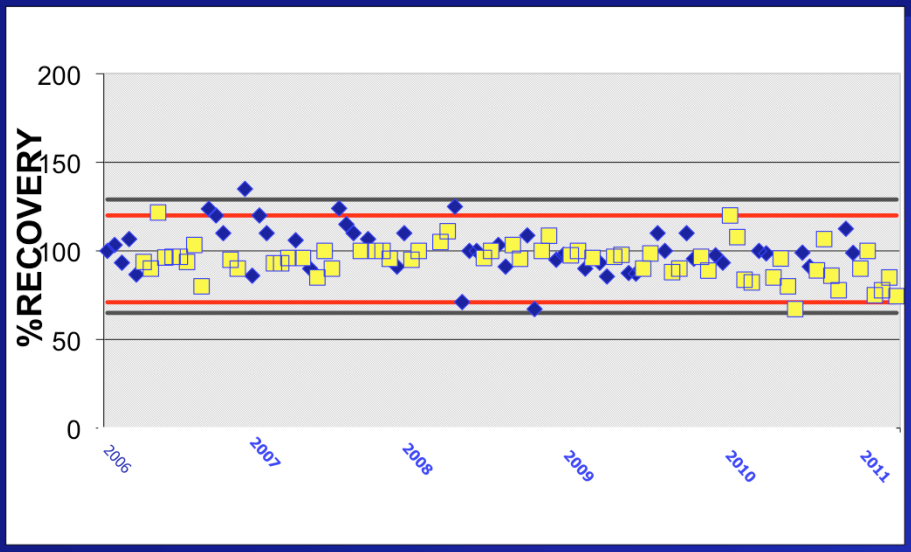
Trend Charts convey a thousand words . . .

What are they?

- Plots to present laboratory and other QC results for specific compounds of concern (COC) over time.
- They are a tool for monitoring and minimizing excursions from acceptance or control criteria either above (>) or below (<) a single line or resting within two lines.
- These lines are based on laboratory and field precision and accuracy/bias criteria established in a QAPP.

81

Performance Evaluation Sample Results over 5 years for two laboratories (see some trending for both)



82

Example Accuracy/Bias Calculations

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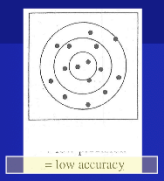
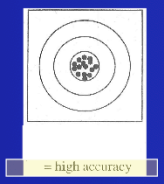


$$\frac{31\ ug/l}{30\ ug/l} \times 100 = 103\%$$



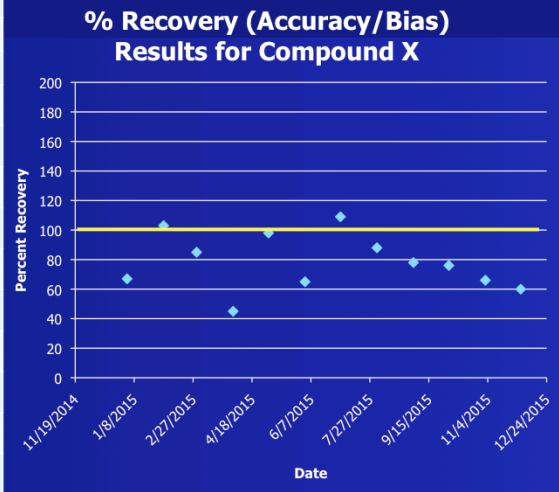
ACCURACY/BIAS ASSOCIATED WITH SPIKED SAMPLES

Measures how close you are to the "True Value." The closer the results to the true value, the better (i.e., recovery of 100%).

83

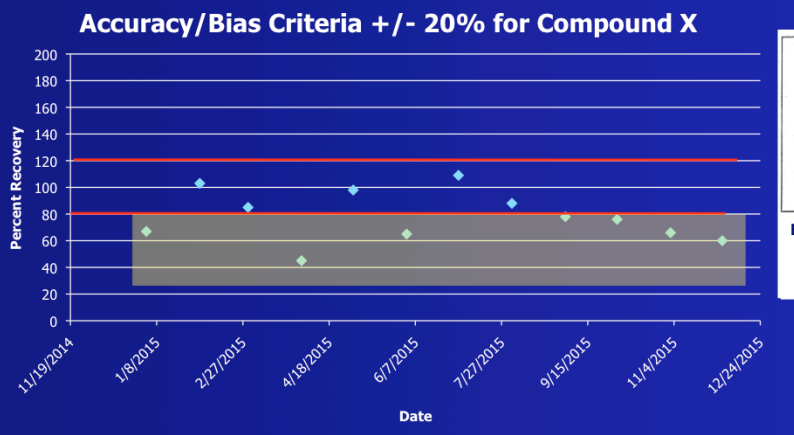
Plotting QC Results From Laboratory 1

Laboratory	Project Name
Soil	8260
Benzene	
Date	Results (ppm)
01/01/2011	67
02/01/2011	103
03/01/2011	85
04/01/2011	45
05/01/2011	98
06/01/2011	65
07/01/2011	109
08/01/2011	88
09/01/2011	78
10/01/2011	76
11/01/2011	66
12/01/2011	60



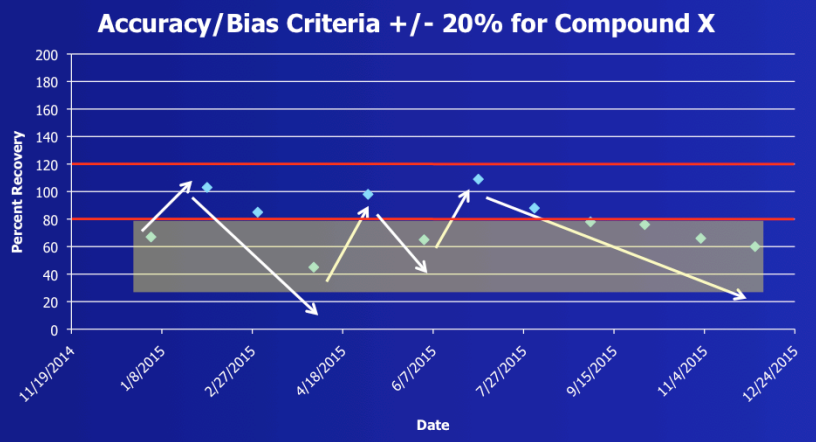
84

Method Upper and Lower Control Limits (Acceptance criteria)



85

Screening Recovery Results



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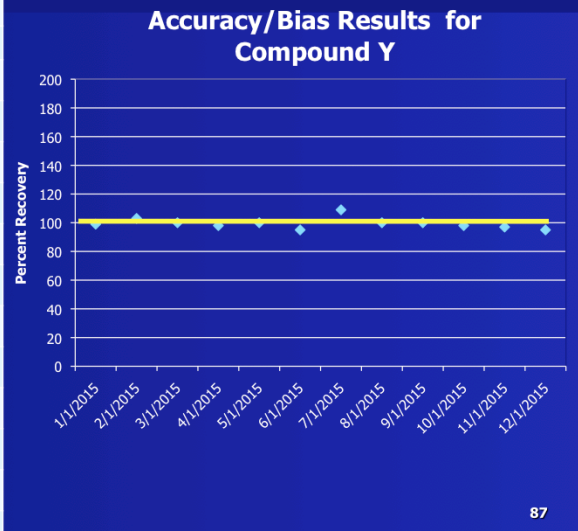
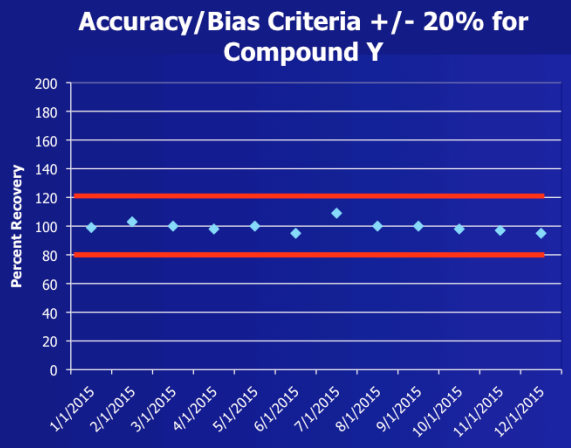
Plotting QC Results From Laboratory 2

Laboratory	Project Name
Soil	8260
Benzene	
Date	Results (ppm)
01/01/2011	99
02/01/2011	103
03/01/2011	100
04/01/2011	98
05/01/2011	100
06/01/2011	95
07/01/2011	109
08/01/2011	100
09/01/2011	100
10/01/2011	98
11/01/2011	97
12/01/2011	95



87

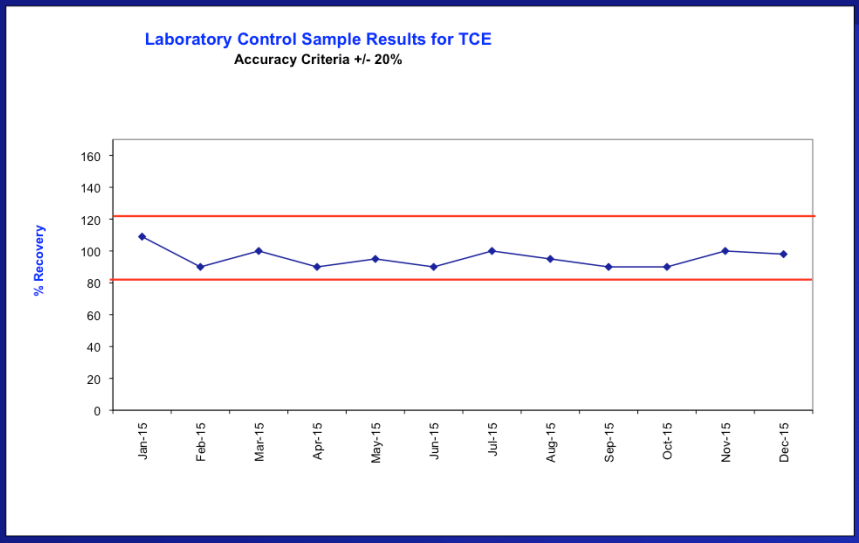
Plotting QC Results From Laboratory 2



(d) low bias
+ high precision
= high accuracy

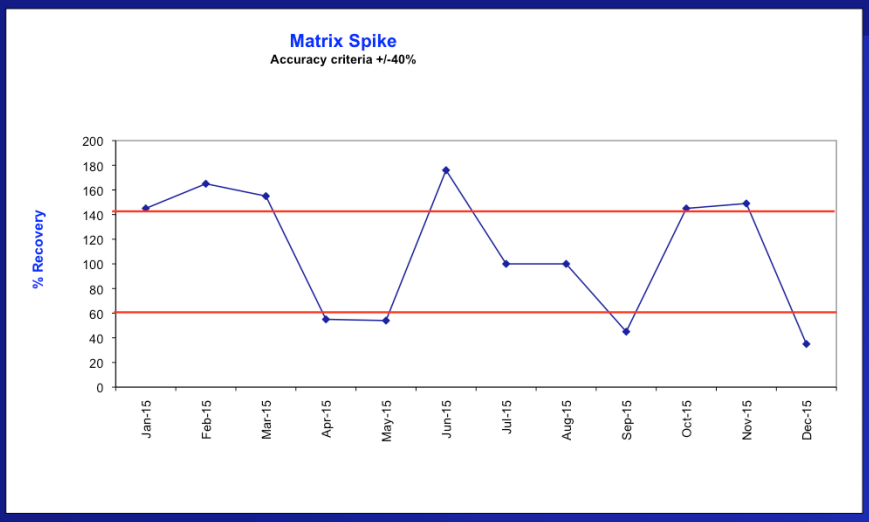
88

EXAMPLE 1 – QC Results for Trichloroethene
Laboratory Control Sample Accuracy Criteria +/- 20%



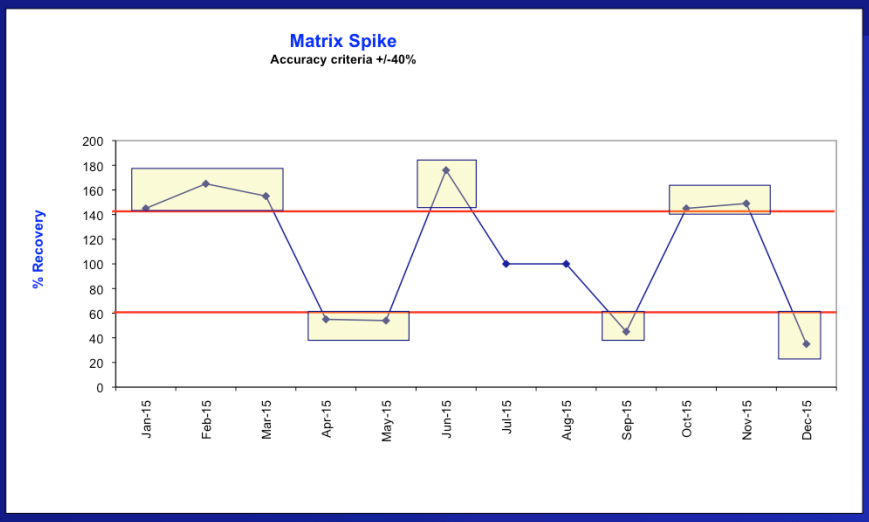
89

EXAMPLE 1 – QC Results for Trichloroethene
Matrix Spike, Accuracy Criteria +/- 40%



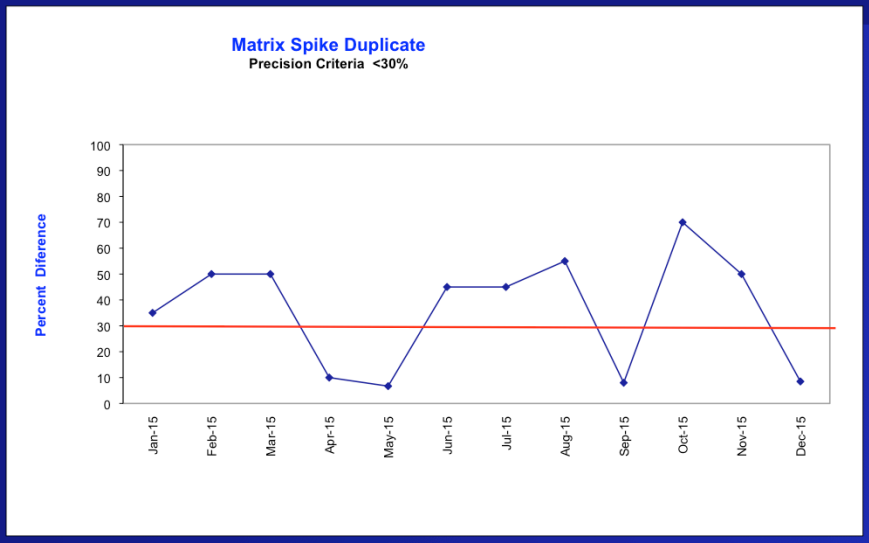
90

EXAMPLE 1 – QC Results for Trichloroethene Matrix Spike, Accuracy Criteria +/- 40%



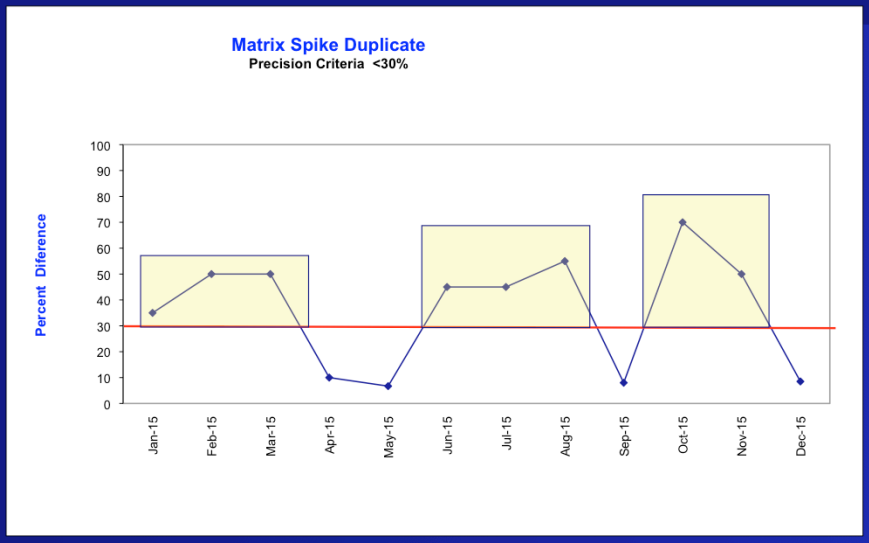
91

EXAMPLE 1 – QC Results for Trichloroethene
Matrix Spike Duplicate, Precision Criteria < 30%



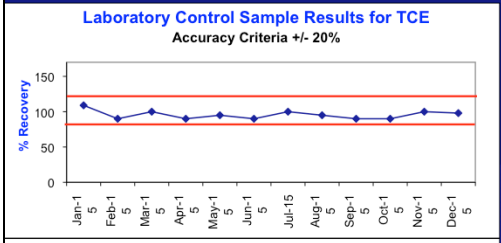
92

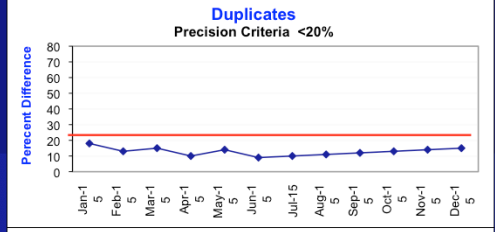
EXAMPLE 1 – QC Results for Trichloroethene
Matrix Spike Duplicate, Precision Criteria < 30%

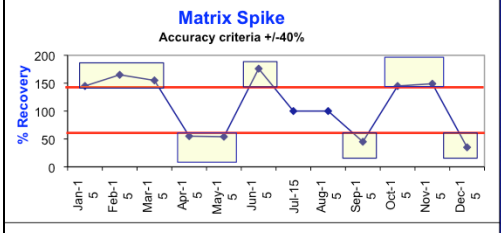


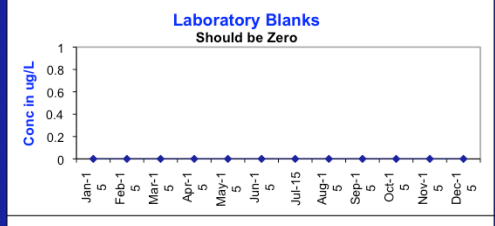
93

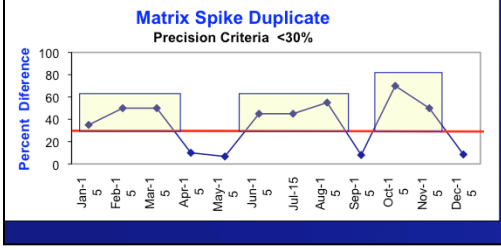
EXAMPLE 1, QC RESULTS FOR TCE AND ACTUAL SAMPLE RESULTS

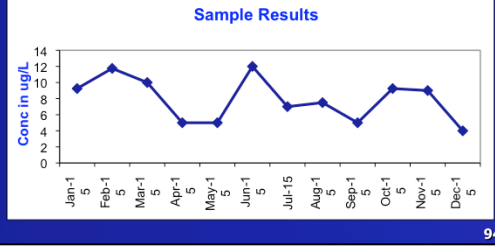




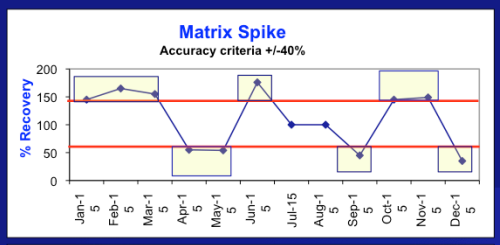


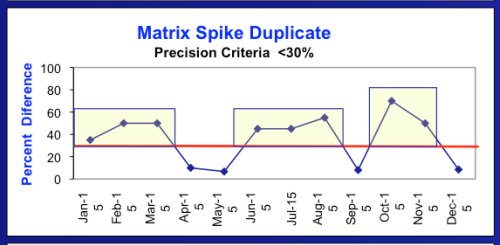


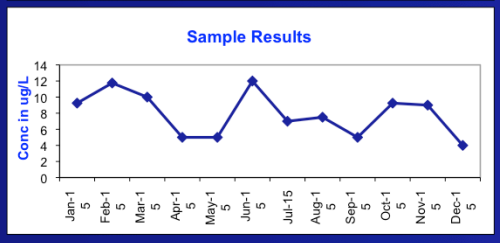




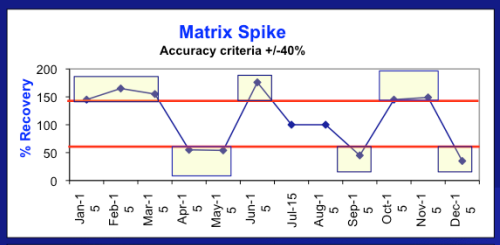
94

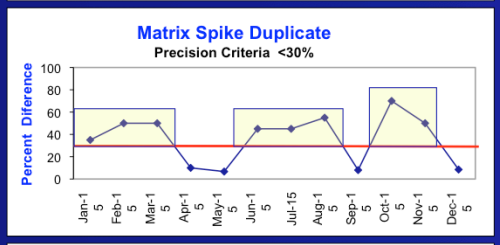

Matrix Spike
Accuracy criteria +/-40%
% Recovery
200
150
100
50
0
Jan-15
Feb-15
Mar-15
Apr-15
May-15
Jun-15
Jul-15
Aug-15
Sep-15
Oct-15
Nov-15
Dec-15

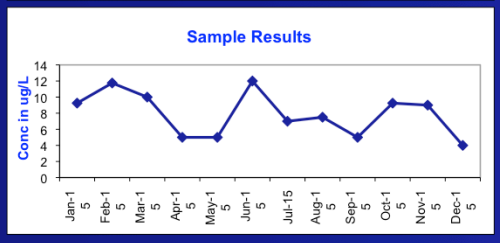

Matrix Spike Duplicate
Precision Criteria <30%
Percent Diference
100
80
60
40
20
0
Jan-15
Feb-15
Mar-15
Apr-15
May-15
Jun-15
Jul-15
Aug-15
Sep-15
Oct-15
Nov-15
Dec-15


Sample Results
Conc in ug/L
14
12
10
8
6
4
2
0
Jan-15
Feb-15
Mar-15
Apr-15
May-15
Jun-15
Jul-15
Aug-15
Sep-15
Oct-15
Nov-15
Dec-15

95

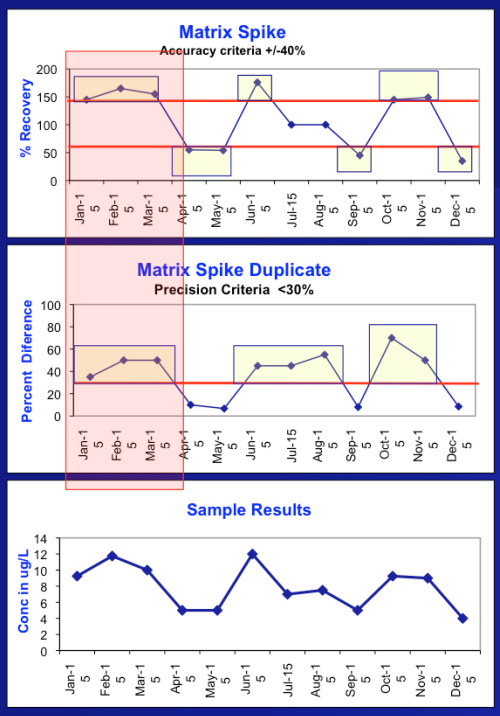






Matrix may not be compatible with Method

96



Corrective Action should have taken place early on.

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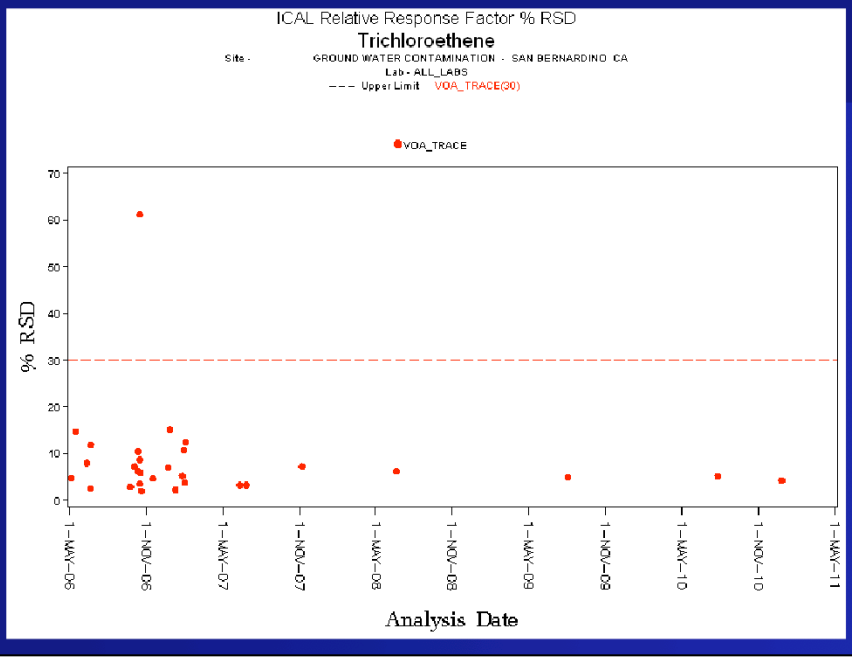
Contract Laboratory Program (CLP)
Trichloroethene Initial Calibration Relative Response Factor Data

case	sdg	LABID	FRACTION	CLIENTSAMPLEID	MATRIXID	CLIENTANALYSISID	CASREGISTRYNUMBER	ANALYTENAME	adate	PercentRSD
		STLV	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	27-Jul-10	5.2
		MITKEM	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	4-Aug-09	5
		SHEALY	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	27-Dec-10	4.3
		ENVSYS	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	20-Jun-08	6.3
		LIBRTY	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	8-Nov-07	7.3
		MITKEM	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	13-Oct-06	10.5
		SHEALY	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	17-Nov-06	4.7
		MITKEM	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	12-Jun-07	3.3
		ENVSYS	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	28-Dec-06	15.2
		SHEALY	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	25-Sep-06	2.9
		MITKEM	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	21-Oct-06	2.1
		KAP	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	20-Jun-06	2.5
		DATAC	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	16-May-06	14.69673
		KAP	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	5-Oct-06	7.3
		DATAC	VOA_TRACE				79-01-6	Trichloroethene	12-Jun-06	7.988618

98

CLP Initial Calibration Relative Response Factor %RSD, s/b* < 30 For Trichloroethene (TCE)

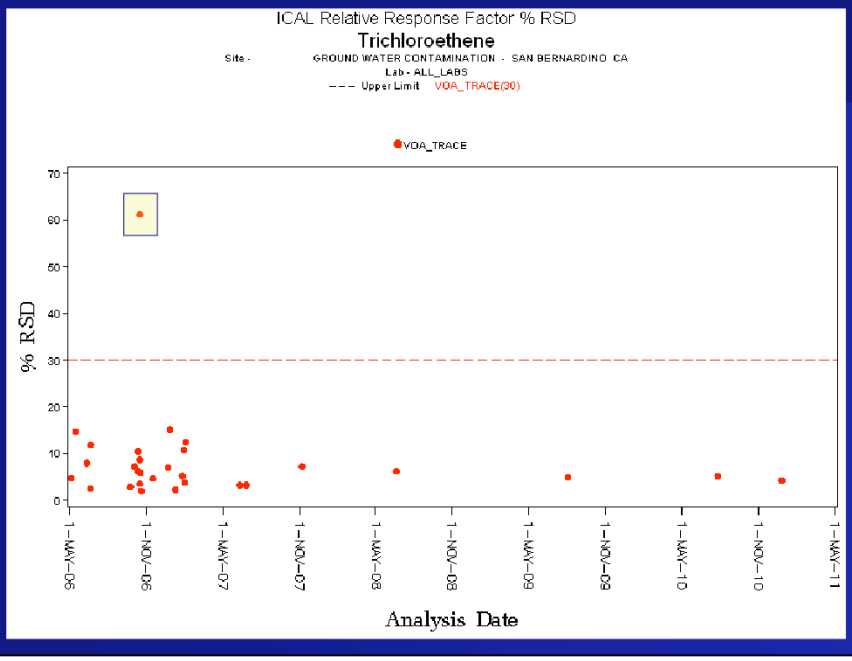


Acronym

***s/b= should be**

99

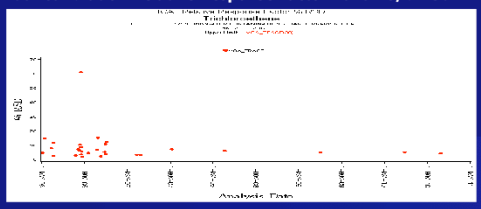
CLP Initial Calibration Relative Response Factor %RSD, s/b* < 30 For Trichloroethene (TCE)



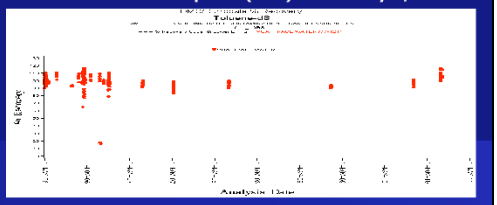
100

CLP Consolidated Results for Site XX

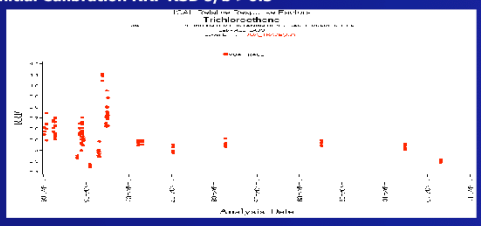
Initial Calibration Relative Response Factor %RSD s/b <30



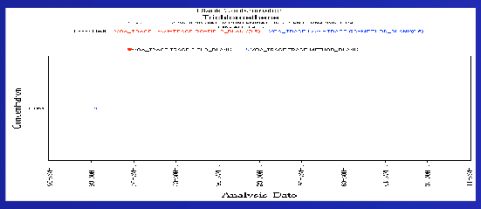
Deuterated Mon Check Compound (DMC) % Recovery s/b 77-121%



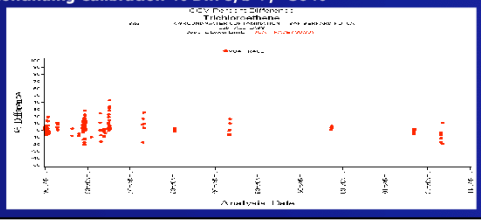
Initial Calibration RRF RSD s/b >0.3



Blank Contamination (s/b zero)



Continuing Calibration % Diff s/b +/- 30%

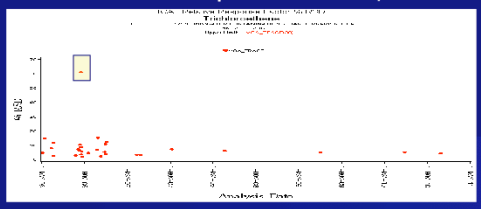


Acronym
RSD (relative standard deviation)

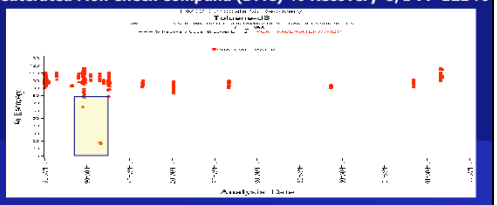
101

CLP Consolidated Results for Site XX

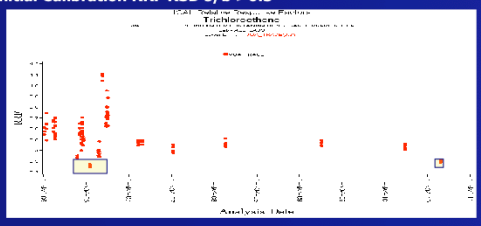
Initial Calibration Relative Response Factor %RSD s/b <30



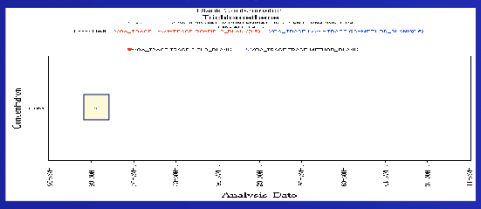
Deuterated Mon Check Compound (DMC) % Recovery s/b 77-121%



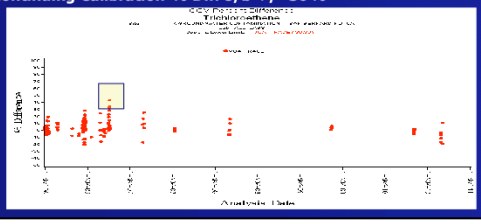
Initial Calibration RRF RSD s/b >0.3



Blank Contamination (s/b zero)



Continuing Calibration % Diff s/b +/- 30%

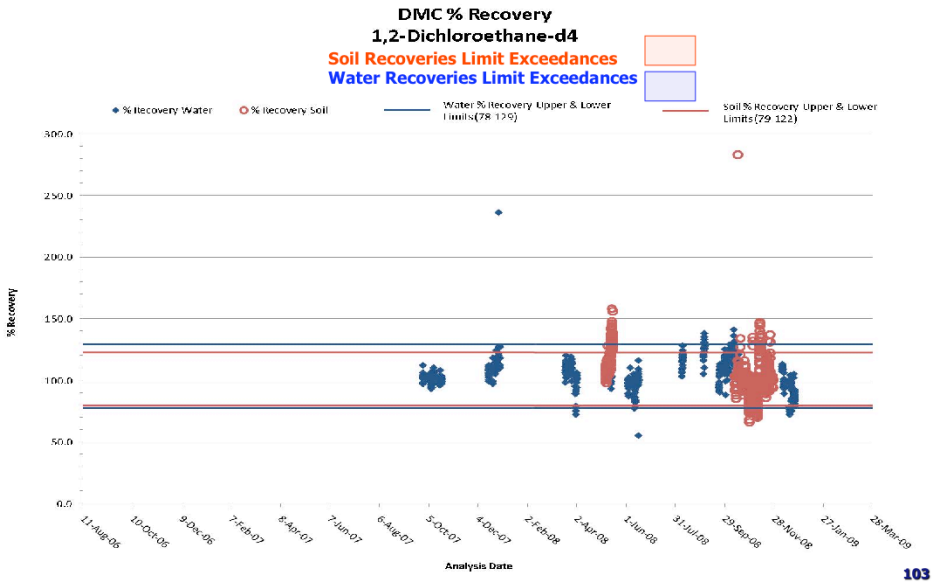


Acronym
RSD (relative standard deviation)

102

CLP Lab QC Results for Site Z, Carbon Tetrachloride

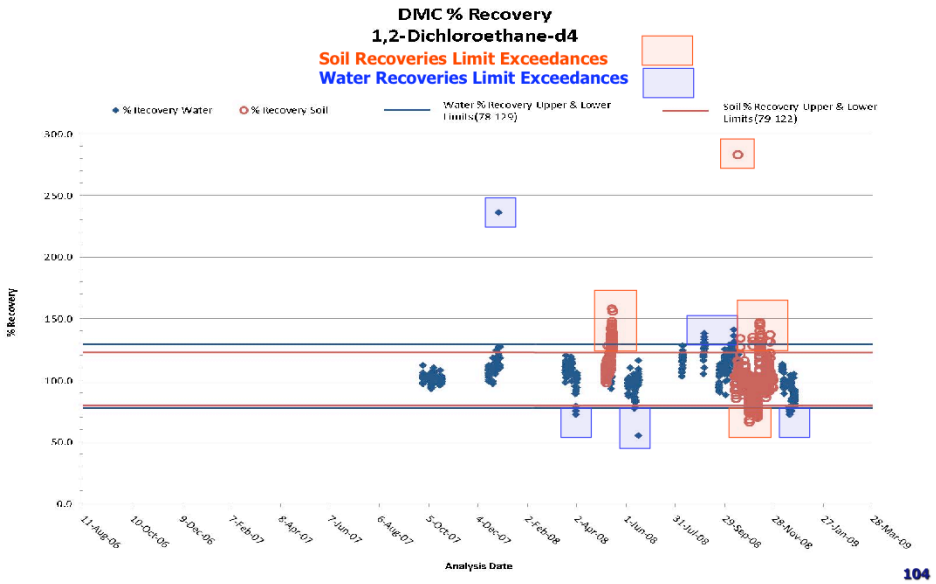
Deuterated Monitoring Check Compound (DMC) % Recovery 78-129 (water)



103

CLP Lab QC Results for Site Z, Carbon Tetrachloride

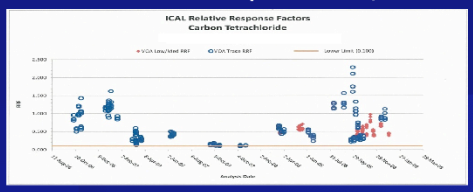
Deuterated Monitoring Check Compound (DMC) % Recovery 78-129 (water)



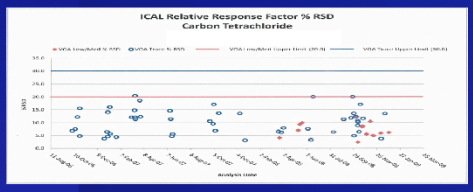
104

CLP Lab QC Results for Site Z, Carbon Tetrachloride

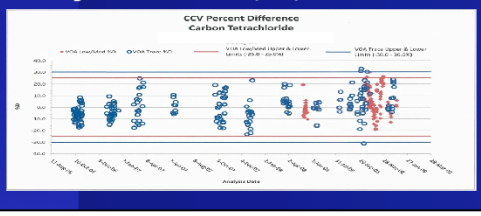
Initial Calibration Relative Response Factor s/b > 0.1



Initial Calibration RRF RSD s/b < 20%

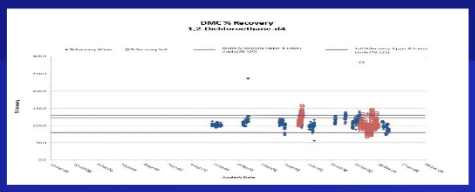


Continuing Calibration % Diff s/b +/- 25%

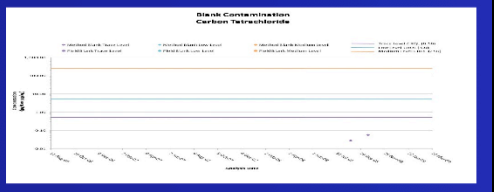


Deuterated Mon Ck Cmpd (DMC) % Recovery

78-129 for water and 79-122 for soils



Blank Contamination (s/b zero)

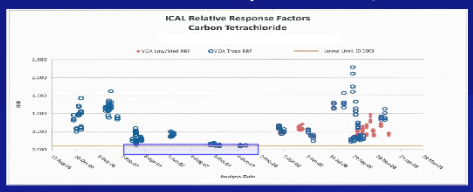


Acronyms
Relative Response Factor (RRF)
Relative Standard Deviation (RSD)
s/b = should be

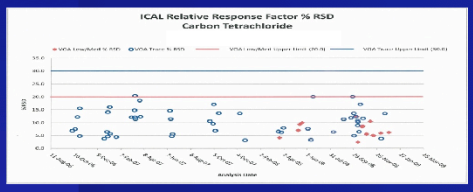
105

CLP Lab QC Results for Site Z, Carbon Tetrachloride

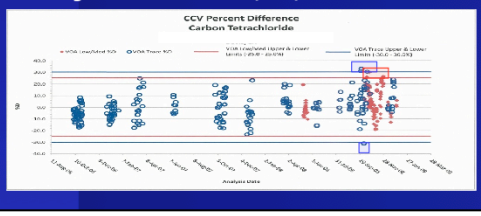
Initial Calibration Relative Response Factor s/b > 0.1



Initial Calibration RRF RSD s/b < 20%

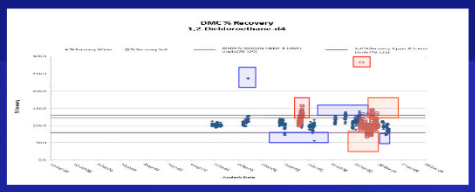


Continuing Calibration % Diff s/b +/- 25%

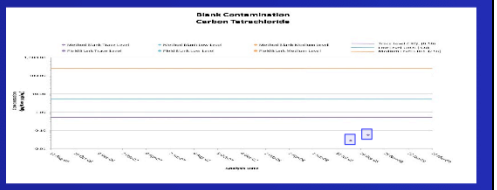


Deuterated Mon Ck Cmpd (DMC) % Recovery

78-129 for water and 79-122 for soils



Blank Contamination (s/b zero)

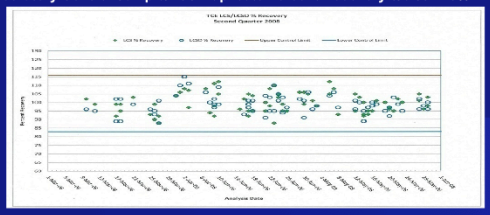


Acronyms
Relative Response Factor (RRF)
Relative Standard Deviation (RSD)
s/b = should be

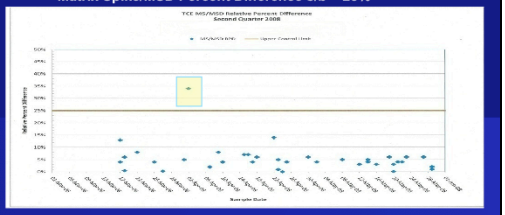
106

PRP Laboratory QC Results for Trichloroethene

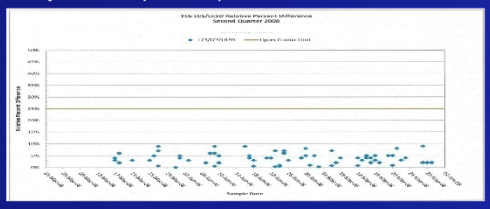
Laboratory Control Sample/LCS Duplicate Percent Recovery s/b 83-115%



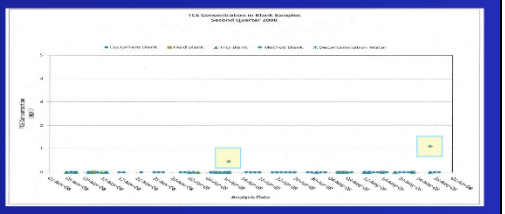
Matrix Spike/MSD Percent Difference s/b < 25%



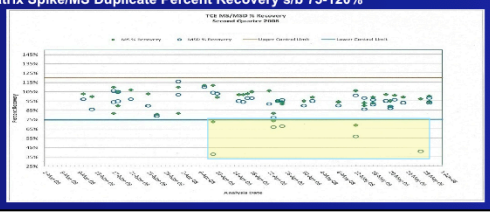
Laboratory Control Sample/LCS Duplicate Percent Difference s/b < 25%



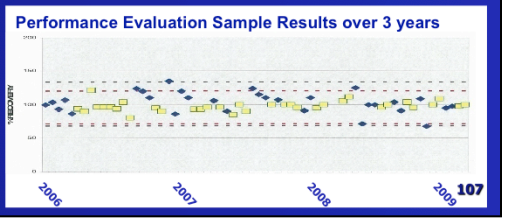
Blank



Matrix Spike/MS Duplicate Percent Recovery s/b 75-120%



Performance Evaluation Sample Results over 3 years



Core Laboratory QC Information that may be charted

- Sensitivity
- Initial calibration and continuing calibration
- Laboratory Control Sample (LCS) and LCS Duplicate Percent recovery
- LCS/LCSD - Relative Percent Difference
- Matrix Spike (MS) - Percent Recovery
- MS and Matrix Spike Duplicate (MSD) - Relative Percent Difference
- Deuterated monitoring compound (DMC) (similar to surrogates and MS) - Percent recoveries
- Blanks
- Internal Standards
- Tunes and holding time

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Proposed Core Field QC Information that also may be charted

- **Field QC checks**

to monitor over time	What they can Indicate:
Field Duplicates	**Sampler precision**
Field Blanks	**Contamination**
▪ Equipment	Equipment
▪ Field	Field
▪ Trip	En Route
Split Samples	**Laboratory precision** (compare results from two diff laboratories)

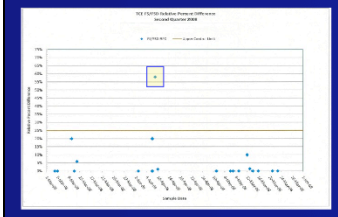
- **Other checks:**
  - **Field Instrument Calibration, standard expiration date**
  - **Chain of custody (presence/absence), sample preservation**
  - **Site Physical/Chem measurement changes (for long term projects)**
  - **Field Audits conducted and number of findings**
  - **Laboratory Audits**
  - **Percentage of data validated (screening and full validation)**

109

Field QC, Number of Audit Findings, and Data Validation Performed

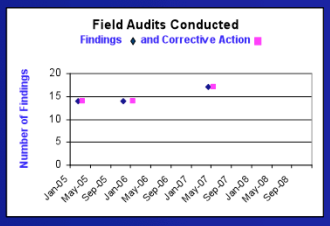
Field QC (Duplicate)

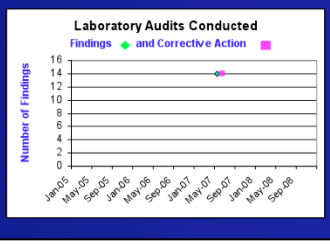
s/b < 25%



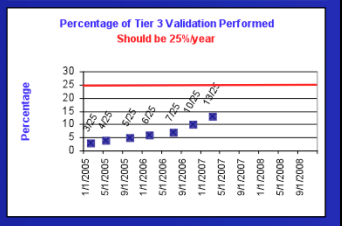
Number of Audit Findings

s/b 0





Validation Perf s/b 25%



110

Chemicals often reported but may not be in the sample (blank contamination)

Chemical	Possible Source of Contamination
Methylene chloride Carbon Disulfide Acetone	Laboratory, common solvents used
Benzene Toluene Ethyl Benzene Xylenes MTBE	Motor Exhaust
Trace Metals	Nitric Acid Preservative
Para-Dichlorobenzene	Restrooms
Freons	Leaking refrigerators and air conditioners
Phthalate esters	Plastics (sampling devices, gloves, etc.)

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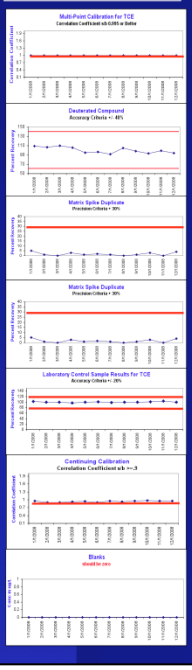
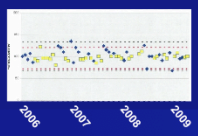
Summary of all QC results tracked over time

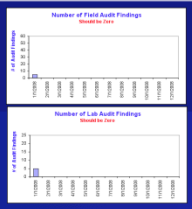
Laboratory QC



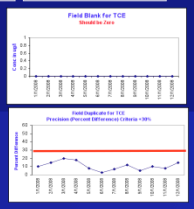
PE Sample



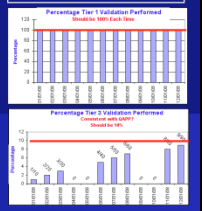
No. of Audit Findings



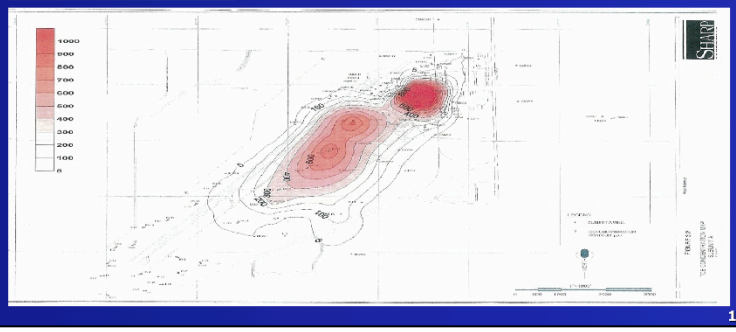
Field QC



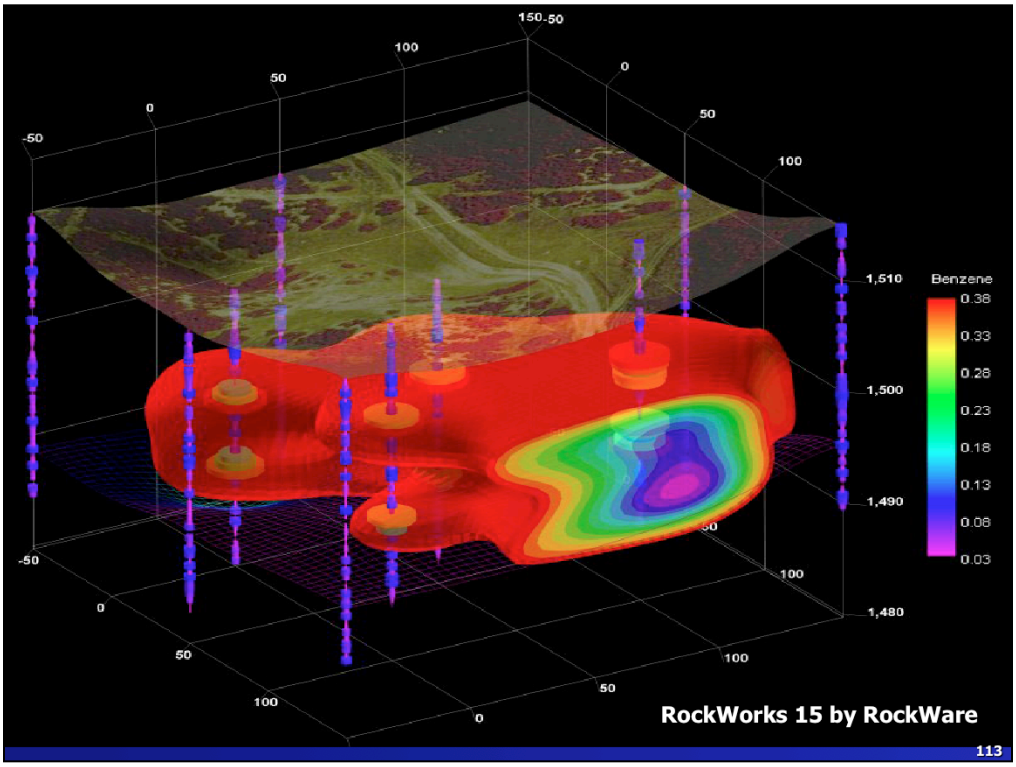
Validation Perf



Site Condition 2008

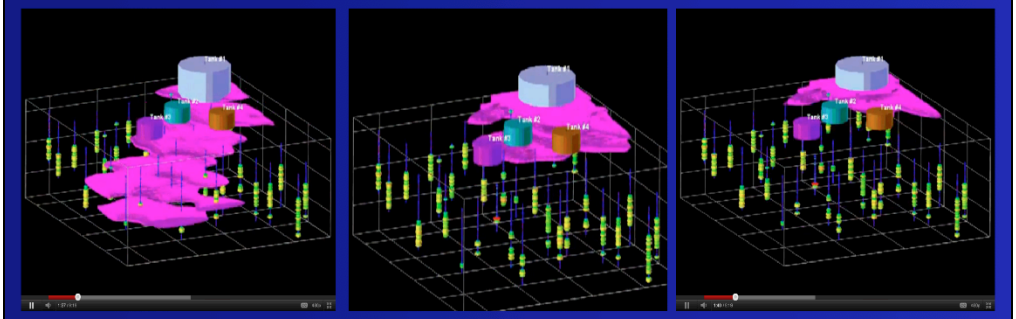


112


150
100
50
0
-50
-50
0
50
100
1,510
1,500
1,490
1,480
Benzene
0.38
0.33
0.28
0.23
0.18
0.13
0.08
0.03
RockWorks 15 by RockWare
113

MONITOR CLEANUP PROGRESSION

2011 2012 2013



RockWorks 15 by RockWare

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Value of Trend Charts

- Quantitative, transparent method for condensing data quality information in an easy to assimilate, visual method for QAPP implementation oversight;
- Improved use of time and money; focus validation on those instances where conditions do not meet acceptance criteria.
- Self monitoring and tracking performance (short and long term trends) of QA/QC conducted by laboratory and field staff, and whether there were excursions from QAPP criteria (e.g., +/- 15%); bias may also be determined.
- Sources of error, whether field or lab, can easily be determined by aligning charts by date.
- Implement corrective action in lab and field.
- Improved oversight and control of data quality. Allows QA Office to spot check
- sites – offer assistance to Project Manager.
- Single out of control events fade into background of long term positive trend – keeps things in perspective.

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Other Advantages

- Improved language for contracting with laboratories and field personnel.
- Potentially Responsible Party vice-president sold by this feature; stated he never had time to read QTRLY reports or understand them.
- Potential usefulness at public meetings to show overall positive trend where there is concern over an anomalous result.
- Improved collaboration and increased trust between stakeholders via transparency, open government.
- Screen data obtained from other sources, if QC data available for charting.

LIMITATIONS

- An effective broad brush tool, fine tuned oversight still necessary to determine cause of deviations outside of acceptance criteria.
- Check with project chemist on the validity of your assumptions before using the data to make decisions.

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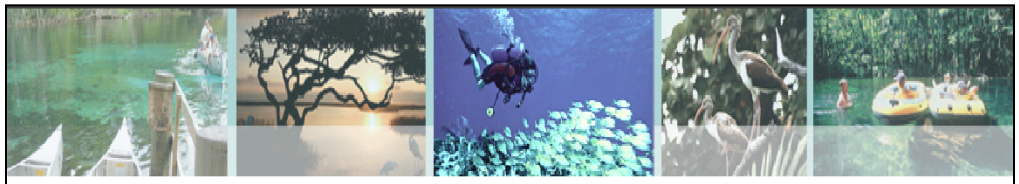
Other Organizations Using Similar Tools

- EPA's Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Program
- Bay Area Air Quality Monitoring District – Steve Randall
- California Air Resources Board


United States Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Environmental Information Washington, DC 20460
EPA/240/B-06/002 February 2006
EPA
Data Quality Assessment: A Reviewer's Guide
EPA QA/G-9R
http://www.epa.gov/quality/qs-docs/g9r-final.pdf
Quality
118



Questions

Intermission
You've joined EPA Region 6's webinar on Quality Assurance in Electronic Environmental Data Management

We will continue on this schedule shortly.

Eastern (EDT)		
10:30 am	Intro	
	Part I:	Data Standards at EPA Dawn Banks Waller Quality Staff, Office of Environmental Information, US EPA
11:30 am	Part II:	Quality and Legal Considerations in the Development and Use of an Information Management System in EPA George Brilis US EPA Office of Research and Development National Exposure Research Laboratory
2:00 pm	Part III:	Method for Screening Data Quality in Electronic Data Systems Roseanne Sakamoto Region 9, US EPA

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Reviewing Data from Other Sources

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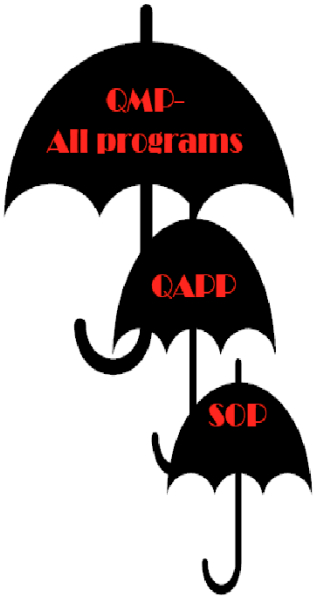
QMPs, QAPPS and SOPs



QMP - Organization Specific
- Describes organizations quality system
- Establishes capability

QAPP - Project Specific
- Identifies the reasons for collecting data and for collecting it in a specific way
- Documents how the data are collected and how quality is maintained

SOP - Instrument/Method Specific
- Ensures consistency
  - From day to day
  - From one person to the next

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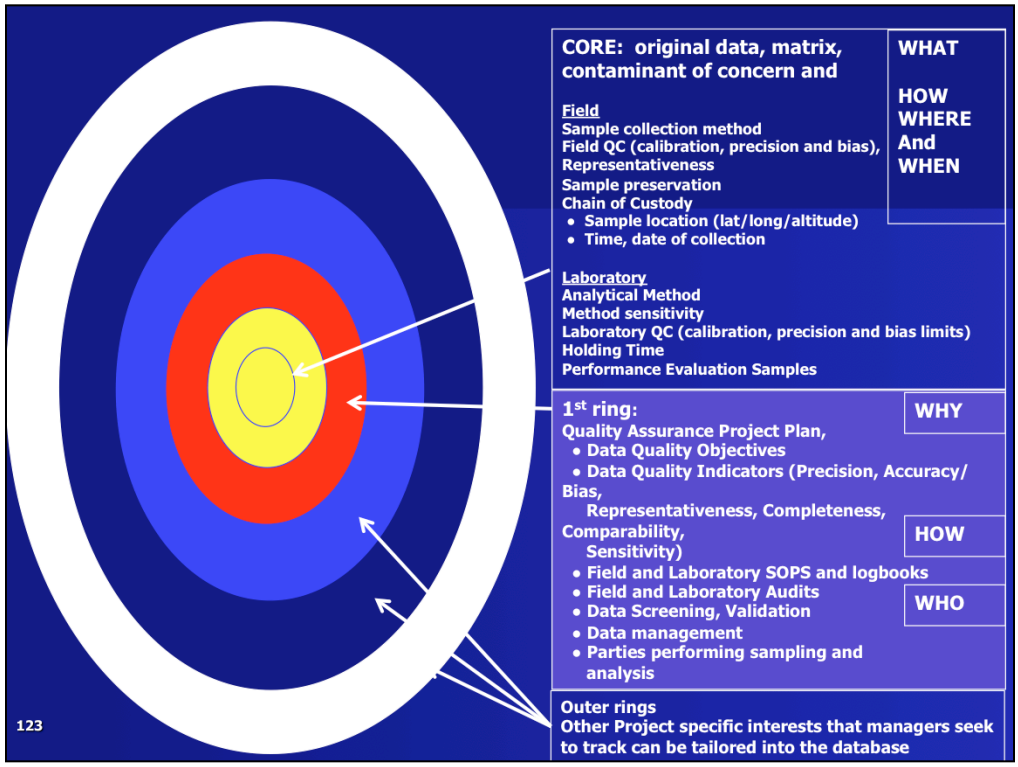
CORE: original data, matrix, contaminant of concern and
WHAT
HOW
WHERE
And
WHEN
Field
Sample collection method
Field QC (calibration, precision and bias),
Representativeness
Sample preservation
Chain of Custody
• Sample location (lat/long/altitude)
• Time, date of collection
Laboratory
Analytical Method
Method sensitivity
Laboratory QC (calibration, precision and bias limits)
Holding Time
Performance Evaluation Samples
1st ring:
WHY
Quality Assurance Project Plan,
• Data Quality Objectives
• Data Quality Indicators (Precision, Accuracy/ Bias,
Representativeness, Completeness, Comparability,
Sensitivity)
HOW
• Field and Laboratory SOPS and logbooks
• Field and Laboratory Audits
• Data Screening, Validation
WHO
• Data management
• Parties performing sampling and analysis
Outer rings
Other Project specific interests that managers seek to track can be tailored into the database
123

Comparability

Qualitative term that expresses the confidence that two data sets can contribute to common interpretation and analysis (e.g., compare sample collection methods, analytical procedures, holding times, stability issues, and QA/QC protocols).

Comparability should be carefully evaluated in order to establish whether two data sets can be considered equivalent in regard to the measurement of a specific variable or groups of variables.

Quantitative measures of comparability are also possible and involve statistical tests that measure the similarity or difference between two or more data sets.

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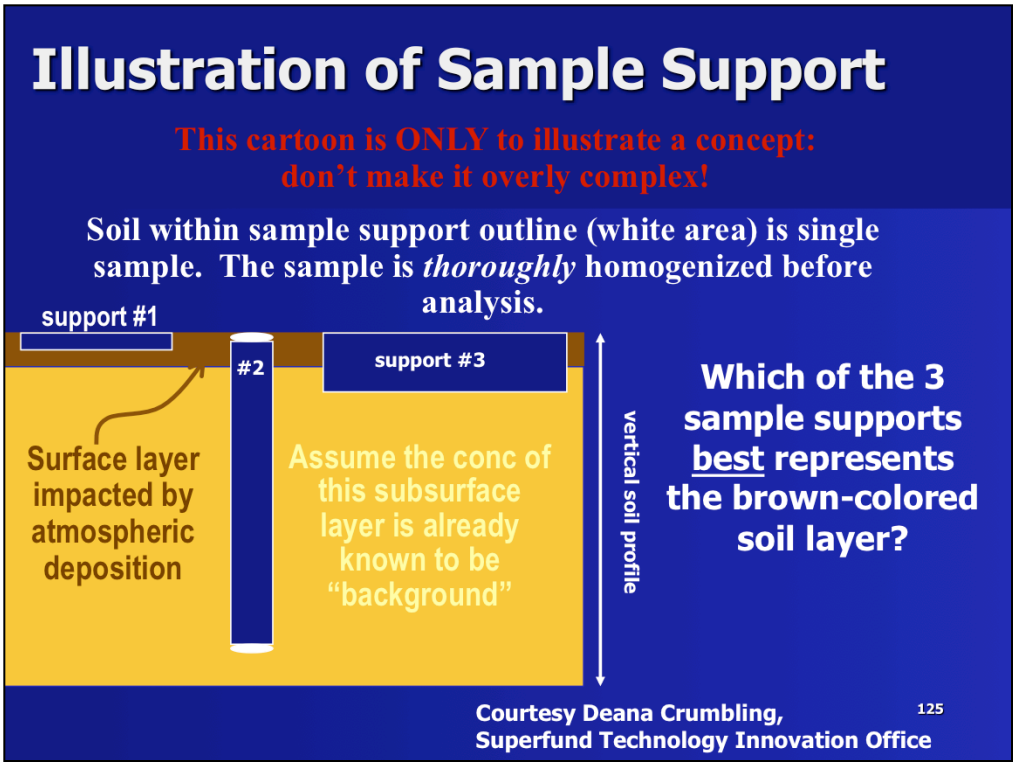

Emphasize that this is cartoon whose only purpose is to illustrate the sample support concept.

Representativeness:

Central to representativeness is assurance that both the sampling and measurement processes are free from known biases and which data accurately and precisely represent a characteristic of a population, parameter variations at a sampling point, a process condition, or an environmental condition.

RCRA (40 CFR 260.10): "Representative sample means a sample of a universe or whole (e.g., waste pile, lagoon, ground water) which can be expected to exhibit the average properties of the universe or the whole."

It implies that the decision maker can extrapolate results from an analytical subsample to a larger mass.

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Completeness

A measure of the amount of valid data obtained from a measurement system vs those planned.

It may be calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Percent completeness} = \frac{\text{number of valid measurements}}{\text{Total number of measurements planned}} \times 100$$

Generally like to see ≥ 90% completeness

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Sensitivity

The capability of a method or instrument to discriminate between measurement responses representing different levels or amounts of the variable of interest.

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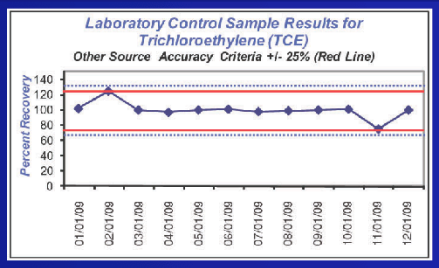
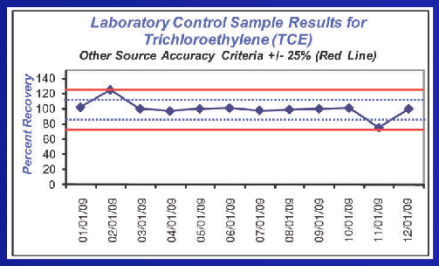
Reviewing and Using Data from Other Sources

Example 5



Example 6



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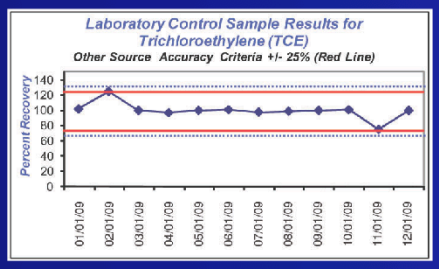
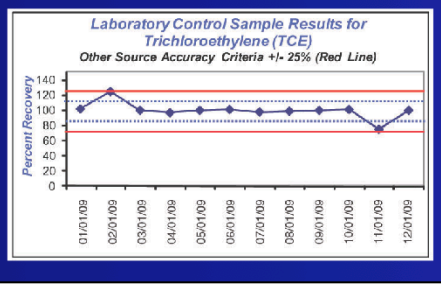
Reviewing and Using Data from Other Sources

Ex 5



Ex 6



Current Criteria represented by blue dashed lines

In Example 5, current criteria are wider, broader (+/- 30%) than the criteria for data obtained from other sources (+/- 25%). One may use all data obtained from other sources.

Current criteria are more stringent (+/- 15%) than the criteria for data obtained from other sources in the Example 6.

One may use only the data associated with QC results falling within current criteria (i.e., exclude February and November, 2009, unless you've consulted with a chemist on the data usability).

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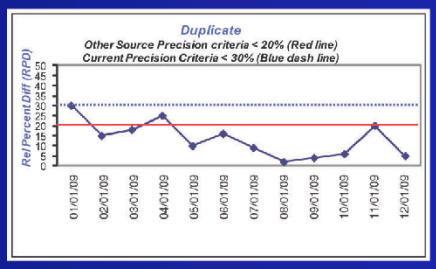
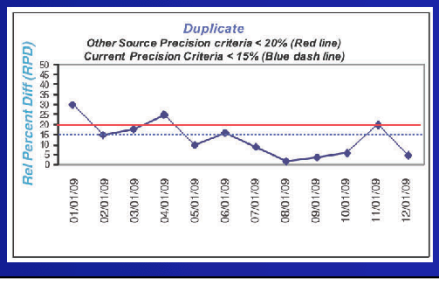
Reviewing and Using Data from Other Sources

Example 7



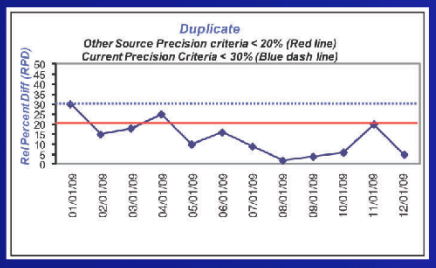
Example 8



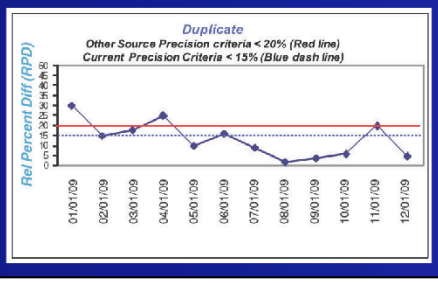
131

Reviewing and Using Data from Other Sources

Ex 7



Ex 8



Current Criteria represented by blue dashed lines

In Example 7, current criteria are wider (<30%) than the criteria for data obtained from other sources (<20%). With exception of January, 09, one may use all data obtained from other sources.

Current criteria are more stringent (< 15%) than the criteria for data obtained from other sources in the Example 8.

One may use only the data associated with QC results falling below/within current criteria (i.e., Feb and Jun 2009 data are marginally acceptable; exclude Jan, Mar, Apr, Nov, 2009, unless you've consulted with a chemist on the data usability).

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Data Quality Screening Using Trend Charts

Quality Assurance Office, Region 9 – July, 2011 VERSION 2

INTRODUCTION

Frequently the quality of results from data collection activities are difficult to assess due to the number of reports one needs to review and digest to reach a conclusion (see Figure 1). These reviews may take place months after data collection is conducted.

GROUNDWATER SAMPLING
VALIDATION OF LABORATORY RESULTS

ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY
LABORATORY REPORT # 0701004 – REPORT DATED JANUARY 13, 2007

LEVEL 4 – FULL QC DELIVERABLES EVALUATION FOR VOCs AND PERCHLORATE

INTRODUCTION

collected seven groundwater samples and one quality control sample on January 4, 2007. The samples were hand delivered to Environmental Laboratory located in on January 4, 2007. Analyses for perchlorate were subcontracted to Laboratory located in Sacramento, California. The sample identifications and requested analyses are listed below.

ARCADIS Sample ID	Lab ID	Matrix	Analyses Requested / Comments
COC-EQUIP-010707	0701004-01 A,B	Groundwater	VOCs and Perchlorate
TA-INF-010407	0701004-02 A,B	Groundwater	VOCs and Perchlorate
TA-MID-010407	0701004-03	Groundwater	VOCs
TA-EFF-010407	0701004-04 D	Groundwater	VOCs
TA-MW-04-010407	0701004-05 D	Groundwater	VOCs
TA-MW-05-010407	0701004-06 D	Groundwater	VOCs
TA-MW-06-010407	0701004-07 D	Groundwater	VOCs
TRIP-010407	0701004-08 D	Water Quality	VOCs – Trip Blank

Samples were submitted for analysis of organic and inorganic compounds, as listed below:

- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) – EPA Method 8260B
- Perchlorate – EPA 314.0 (Subcontracted to Sacramento)

Quality Control for the water sample is evaluated in the following checklist tables and comments. A summary of data quality for the samples analyzed is provided in the final page of this validation report.

Figure 1

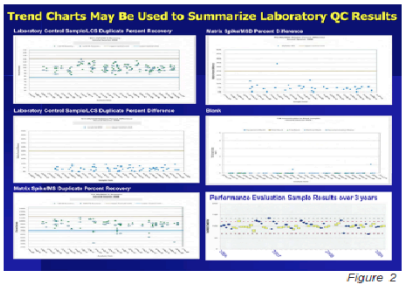
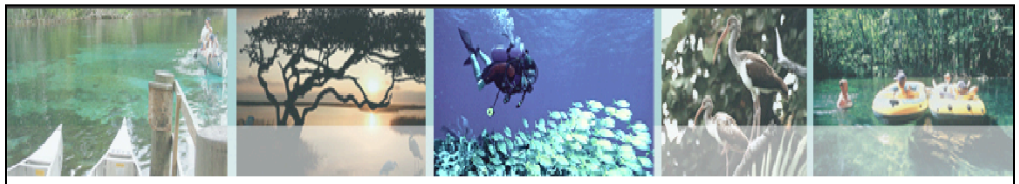


Figure 2

Trend charts are an effective, efficient oversight **screening** tool for Remedial Project Managers (RPMs), QA Officers (QAOs), field samplers and laboratory managers for monitoring data quality for specific contaminants of concern (COC). Figure 2 illustrates laboratory quality control (QC) results for a year or more. The visual display of data helps to identify patterns and trends that might go unnoticed using summary reports or numerical formats. Charts can be used to identify these patterns, to identify poten-



Questions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(415) 972-3802
Michael S Johnson (CLP Trend Charts)
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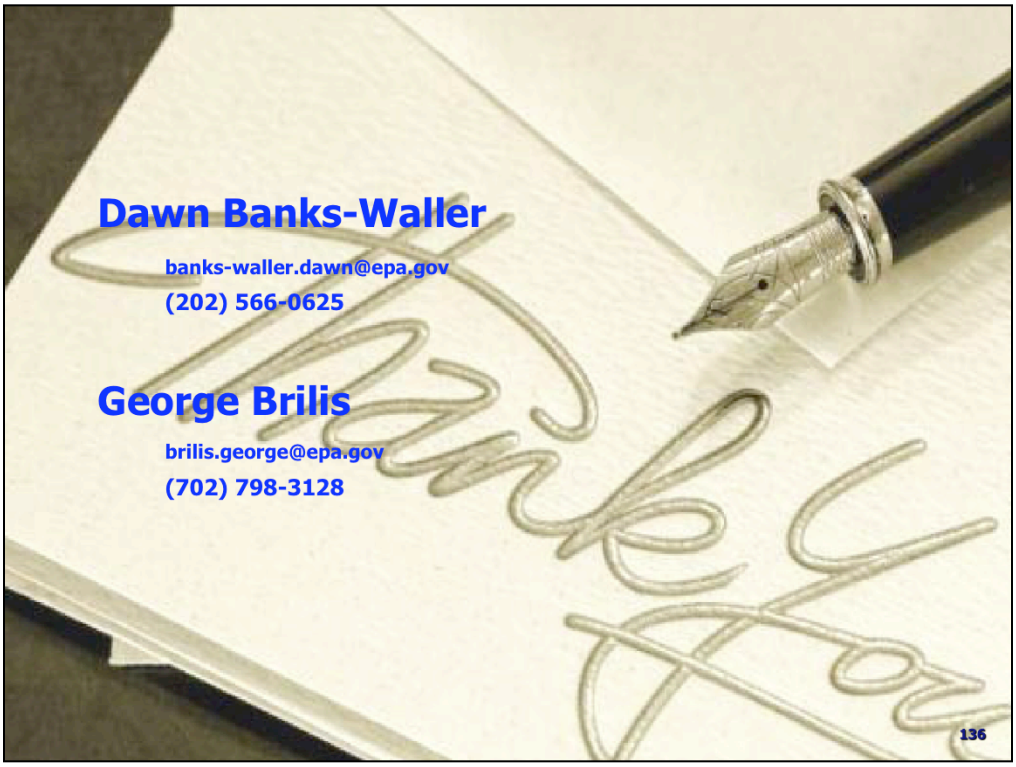
(703) 603-0266
135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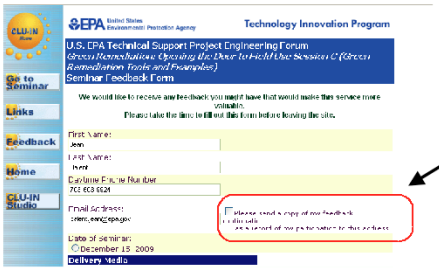
George Brilis
brilis.george@epa.gov
(702) 798-3128
136

Resources & Feedback

- To view a complete list of resources for this seminar, please visit the **Additional Resources**
- Please complete the **Feedback Form** to help ensure events like this are offered in the future



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