

LABORATORY QUALITY SERVICES

LQSi

Laboratory Quality Services International (LQSi) programs provide a quality-monitoring tool for SGS' global network of analytical laboratories as well as for numerous client laboratories. LQSi, an affiliate of SGS North America Inc., offers the following laboratory quality services:

- Proficiency (round robin) testing
- Proficiency test reporting services
- Quality control samples

Programs are run for solid energy fuels (coal and coke), mineral ores (limestone, iron ore), concentrates (copper, lead, zinc), fertilizers (phosphates, nitrogen (urea), and potassium (potash)).

Many of our laboratories comply with standards for accreditation to ISO 17043:2010; Conformity Assessment - General requirements for proficiency testing.

PROFICIENCY (ROUND ROBIN) TESTING

LQSi prepares and distributes samples for "round robin" proficiency testing. Analytical results are reported to LQSi and confidential reports for each participating laboratory are generated and distributed electronically, by courier or mail.

The LQSi program provides detailed statistical information to:

- Meet the requirements of ISO 9001:2000 – Quality Management Systems, ISO/IEC 17020:1998 – General Criteria for the Operation of Various Types of Bodies Performing Inspections, and ISO/IEC 17025:1999 – General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories
- Compare results with other laboratories testing the same material
- See how well laboratories can duplicate their own analyses
- See how others involved in the test performed (via histogram and data tables)

PROFICIENCY TEST REPORTING SERVICES

LQSi's proprietary statistical software may be used to evaluate data from proficiency tests where sample preparation, distribution and data compilation is conducted by organizations other than LQSi. LQSi's dedicated professionals are available to assist you in setting up the experimental design and in conducting the test program to assure the statistical validity of the results.

LQSi can also manage an independent proficiency test program for your organization. For example, if your organization thinks it is important to monitor the performance of suppliers, LQSi can distribute selected samples, obtain data and prepare a performance report showing your suppliers' capabilities.

QUALITY CONTROL SAMPLES

LQSi's sample preparation equipment permits the preparation of uniform quality control (QC) check samples, secondary reference materials and certified reference materials. Samples may be prepared from materials provided by customers or from samples prepared in conjunction with commercial proficiency test programs.



HOW DO SGS CLIENTS BENEFIT FROM LQSi?

SGS has built its reputation on quality work and the ability to maintain the highest standards in analytical methodology, thus providing clients with the assurance of accurate analytical data that can be used as a basis for financial decisions.

LQSi continuously monitors SGS' global chain of laboratories to ensure reliable and reproducible results that clients can bank on. When problems start to emerge they are noted and corrective action is quickly taken to ensure that our high standards are maintained. All non-SGS participants remain anonymous, but each benefits from the test-generated data.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email us at minerals@sgs.com
www.sgs.com/mining



SGS

WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE