



The Essential Source

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March 3, 1999

Dear Lab Managers:

This letter is a reminder that analysis of composite wipe samples as single samples is not covered under AIHA's Environmental Lead Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELLAP). TSCA & HUD regulations allow for the collection of composite wipes, however the AIHA ELLAP does not recognize them because they are considered a separate matrix. Composite samples may be analyzed as separate samples that will permit you to report the results under the ELLAP accreditation.

In order to meet the requirements of the ELLAP when analyzing composite wipes, you must follow the procedure outlined below.

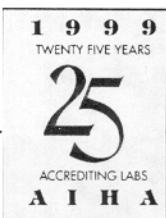
Composite wipe samples must be separated before digestion and each individual wipe put into a digestion vessel. Remember to quantitatively rinse the container into one or more of the vessels. The analytical process should then continue as written in your lab SOP; treating each subsample as a single wipe sample. This shall include reporting each subsample separately and annotating the results as follows.

"These wipes were received in the same container and are cross contaminated. These wipes were quantitatively separated and analyzed as individual subsamples according to procedures listed under our AIHA Accreditation. The results of each subsample have been reported individually as micrograms lead found per sample."

If the procedure above is not followed, you can not report the composite data under your AIHA ELLAP Accreditation. The data and report form must be annotated with the above wording without the accreditation listed.

If you mathematically combine the subsample analysis data, the combined result is unreliable unless equal areas were sampled, and the same type of wipe was used for each subsample. Please note that there is an ASTM standard for wipe materials, ASTM E 1792. The quality of your data depends on many factors, including the type of sampling media used.

To help us determine the level of interest in composite wipe sample analysis, please return the following survey.



LABORATORY
QUALITY
ASSURANCE
PROGRAMS

SOUND DATA

SMART DECISIONS

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