

An Introduction to Understanding and Implementing

Field Sampling and Measurement Accreditation

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Introduction

This one-day course outline was developed to provide introductory training regarding the 2007 TNI National Environmental Field Activities (NEFAP) Standard and procedures for field sampling and measurement organizations (FSMO) to gain accreditation. It focuses heavily on specific requirements and additions to ISO/IEC 17025 in the NEFAP standard for field sample collection and measurement organizations. Additionally it will discuss briefly quality systems provisions, importance of proper documentation, record keeping, and following methods and procedures specific to field sample collection and measurement. It is designed to help FSMOs develop systems, practices, and procedures to prepare for NEFAP accreditation.

Suggested Attendance

This customized program is applicable to all FSMOs performing collection of field measurements used for process and compliance use. Individuals that collect samples, preserve collected samples, conduct field tests and measurements, and those that conduct limited laboratory testing should attend this program. Firms and individuals performing evaluations of FSMOs, those designing sampling and analysis plans, and data evaluators should also attend this program.

Learning Objectives

Specific learning objectives of this training course are designed to:

1. Raise awareness of participants on the importance and benefits of voluntary consensus standards associated with field sample collection and measurement.
2. Raise awareness of participants on the need, requirement, and importance of quality assurance, proper sample collection, testing, and record keeping.
3. Introduce applicable regulations and provide an overview of applicable standards that govern sample collection and analysis.
4. Introduce the concepts of “data of known and documented quality” and “historical reconstruction”.
5. Discuss the ramifications of poor quality and testing data.
6. Discuss and foster an understanding of major quality system elements.
7. Discuss how to implement systems, practices, and procedures to assure proper documentation and recording.
8. Discuss the background and process for obtaining accreditation to the TNI NEFAP Standard.

This training course focuses heavily on Quality System elements and ensuring the accuracy, reproducibility, and historical reconstruction of environmental measurement data used for process control and compliance. Some of the elements include:

1. Detailed documented procedures.
2. Records to allow historical reconstruction.
3. Training and competency.
4. Management and quality oversight.
5. Traceability of reagents and standards.
6. Data integrity and ethical decision making.

Each participant that attends the entire program and passes the final examination will be awarded a certificate of completion.

Instructors

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