Industrial Hygiene Proficiency Analytical Testing Program Summary

Industrial hygiene is the science of anticipating, recognizing, evaluating, and controlling workplace conditions that may cause workers' injury or illness. Industrial hygienists use environmental monitoring and occupational health laboratories use analytical methods to detect the extent of worker exposures and potential health impacts. The American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) Industrial Hygiene Proficiency Analytical Testing (IHPAT) Program is designed to assist occupational health laboratories demonstrate competency and improve their analytical performance in support of industrial hygiene programs, which is vital to clients, potential customers, accreditation bodies, and other external entities.

Participation in proficiency testing activities also provides invaluable feedback in the internal monitoring of a laboratory’s quality system. Through these activities, a laboratory can verify its competence to perform specific calibrations or tests. In addition to regulatory compliance, participating in a proficiency testing program can help analyze the reliability of a laboratory’s analytical protocols, laboratory personnel, and equipment. RTI’s partnership with AIHA PAT programs especially provide participants with opportunities to improve and refine the analytical skills of their staff while training different analysts or testing new procedures.

Based on decades of experience in the analysis of industrial hygiene analytes (lead and trace metals in all media, beryllium, bulk and airborne asbestos, and trace organic compounds), RTI is well suited to provide the highest-quality PT materials for the entire suite of analytes in the IHPAT Program. RTI staff has international logistics and shipping capabilities to serve the global participants in the IHPAT program, and the experience facilities to maintain an archive of IHPAT samples. RTI laboratories are expertly equipped for the generation, analysis and archiving of PT materials. RTI provides rigorous training of laboratory staff, and a comprehensive Quality Assurance/Quality Control programs to oversee data quality and regulatory compliance.