

## **Company Background**

Proficiency Testing Australia (PTA) is one of Australia's largest and most experienced proficiency testing providers. We have a reputation for providing friendly, customer-focussed service using qualified, experienced staff and specialists.

PTA is able to service a very broad range of industries, and many of our clients come to use our services based on the recommendation of colleagues. PTA has offices in Sydney and Brisbane, so our services and support are readily accessible.

PTA is accredited as a Proficiency Testing Provider by International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ). The accreditation covers the specific proficiency testing programs listed on the agreed scope of accreditation. The accreditation meets the requirements of ISO/IEC 17043:2010 *Conformity assessment – general requirements for proficiency testing*.

## **Aim of the Program**

The aim of the Air and Emission program is to test each participant's ability to competently perform testing of the chemical properties of air and emissions.

## **Application of program to accreditation**

Participation in proficiency testing programs would satisfy the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2005 *General requirements for competence of testing and calibration laboratories*.

## **Program Details**

The Air and Emissions program is a biannual program, i.e. consisting of two rounds per year.

Participants receive a set of inorganic standards in the form of impinger solutions for a range of tests including:

Hydrogen Halides and Halogens, Fluoride, Nitrogen Oxide, Sulphur Dioxide, Sulphuric Acid and Sulphur Dioxide, Ammonia and Particulate Matter and Metals on Filter Paper.

Participants are requested to analyse the samples, provide an estimate of their measurement uncertainty and to indicate the methods they used. The results submitted by participants for a particular test are typically pooled across all methods and robust z-scores are used to analyse the results.

Summary sheets detailing the performance of that laboratory in the program are submitted to individual participants once results have been analysed. A final report, summarising the information submitted by all of the participants can be viewed on the PTA website at the conclusion of each round of the program.

### **Confidentiality**

Each participating laboratory is assigned a code number to allow for confidential treatment of results in all reports and publications produced by PTA. Please refer to the PTA website (<http://www.pta.asn.au/index.php/programs/confidentiality>) for more information.

### **Fees**

Please contact PTA for information on fees for this program.

### **Further Information**

For further information on the Air and Emissions Program contact [ptaenquiry@pta.asn.au](mailto:ptaenquiry@pta.asn.au)