



PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM

GEOCHEMICAL

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 Geochemical program is to test each participant's ability to competently perform the prescribed chemical analysis of geochemical prospecting samples.

Application of program to accreditation

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

Program Details

The Geochemical program is an annual program, consisting of one round per year.

Participants receive one sample and are requested to test each sample for a range of elements outlined on the instructions provided.

Participants are requested to analyse the samples, provide an estimate of their measurement uncertainty (MU) 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 Geochemical Program contact ptaenquiry@pta.asn.au