

Improving Environmental Monitoring Through Collaboration

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Objectives

1. To serve the needs of the laboratory community for more accurate, effective, and efficient monitoring tools.
2. To serve the needs of the technology innovation community by facilitating the development and use of new monitoring technologies.
3. To serve the needs of regulatory agencies for more accurate data.
4. To serve the needs of the regulated community by lowering the cost of compliance monitoring.

Approach

1. Facilitate the various components of the environmental monitoring community working together to achieve common goals.
2. Use the Independent Laboratories Institute (ILI), as a means of mobilizing and bringing together government and non-government organizations from across the laboratory, technology innovation, and academic communities.

Mechanism

- ILI has undertaken a multi-pronged approach to achieving the aforementioned objectives including:
 - Hosting problem solving **Workshops**
 - Codifying and validating orphan technologies.
 - Developing and making available **Training Courses** in new technologies.
 - Developing an **Analyst Enrichment Training Program** to improve analyst expertise and knowledge.
 - Implementing the **Quality Customer Service Award** certification program for laboratories.

Activities to Date

- Three Workshops have been held to address issues identified by the community and EPA as ones in which EPA did not have sufficient information or resources to address.
- A program was conducted to develop a standard protocol for the use of Solid Phase Extraction (SPE) for water testing and to demonstrate the validity of the protocol and technology for wastewater monitoring.

Activities to Date

- ILI work groups have started work to develop a series of courses for use in implementing an Analyst Enrichment program.
- ACIL Customer Quality Service Award
- Reaching out to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to facilitate sharing of monitoring expertise between the food and environmental testing communities.

Future Plans

- Continue to identify issues of importance to the environmental and food testing communities and to host workshops to bring together experts from all sectors to help identify possible solutions to the issues.
- Make the Incubator mechanism available to the technology and laboratory communities to address new or orphan technologies in order to speed up their adoption and use.

Future Plans

- Implement the Analyst Enrichment training program to help improve the level of expertise within the laboratory community.
- Develop and present training courses of new monitoring technologies to facilitate the adoption and use in testing laboratories.

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 - Dan Hautman (Office of Water - Safe Drinking Water Program)
 - Robin Segall (Office of Air and Radiation)

For Further Information

- Workshop and General Questions
 - David Friedman (703-389-3821)
- ILI Incubator Program
 - David Kennedy (402-304-5022)
- Analyst Enrichment Program
 - William Lipps (979-690-1711)
- ACIL Quality Customer Service Award Program
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