

# Environmental Measurement Symposium

## *Using Independent Accrediting Bodies for Laboratory Qualification*

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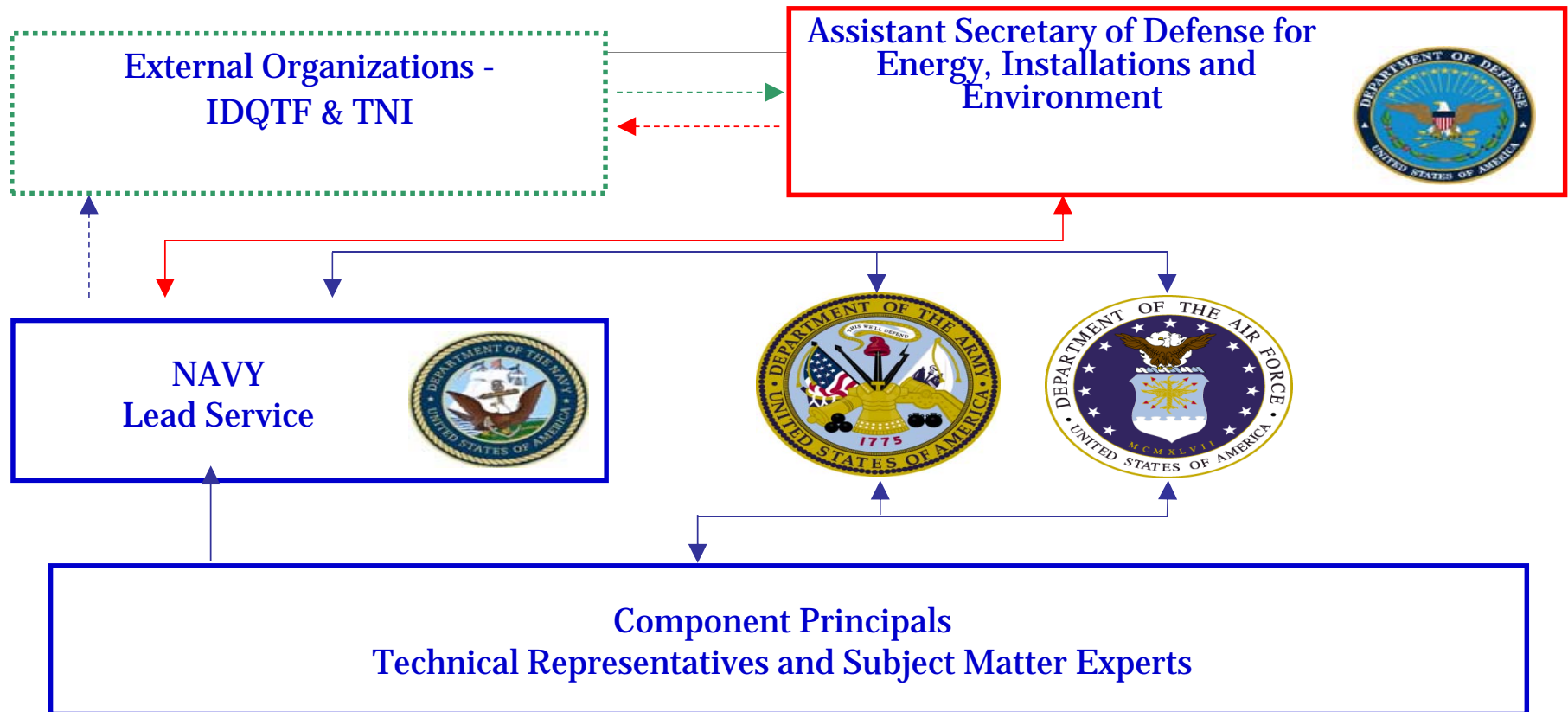
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# DoD EDQW



# DoD Laboratory Accreditation: Prior to DoD ELAP

- Confusion
  - Redundant Component processes
  - Self declaration to DoD QSM
- Participation
  - Limited laboratory participation
- Reciprocity
  - No formal process for reciprocity
- DoD/projects bear the costs
- Limited Flexibility
  - Emerging Contaminants
  - New methods

## DoD ELAP Proposed in 2007

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- Accreditation Bodies (AB) perform assessments
  - Conformance to the DoD QSM
- EDQW Administer and Monitor Program
- Benefits
  - Open participation/increased competition
  - Implements Procurement Policy & DoD QSM
  - Accommodates new methods/programs
  - Allows DoD to shift focus to project-specific goals
  - Facilitates ID of labs competent in specific fields of testing



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ACQUISITION  
TECHNOLOGY  
AND LOGISTICS

DEC 24 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
(ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL  
HEALTH)  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
(ENVIRONMENT)  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
(ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY AND  
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH)  
DIRECTOR DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY (DSS-E)

SUBJECT: DoD Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (DoD ELAP)

This memorandum establishes the DoD ELAP, a DoD-wide program to accredit laboratories that perform environmental testing in support of the Department of Defense and tasks the DoD Environmental Data Quality Workgroup (EDQW) with responsibility for implementing and providing oversight of this program as outlined in Attachment 1. Third party accrediting bodies will be used to assess laboratories on meeting the requirements of the DoD Quality Systems Manual for Environmental Laboratories (DoD QSM).

DoD ELAP shall implement the quality systems requirements of DoDI 4715.15, "Environmental Quality Systems," dated December 11, 2006 and the DoD policy and guidelines for Acquisitions Involving Environmental Sampling and Testing Services, dated December 4, 2007 (Attachment 2). DoD ELAP supports the goals of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (1996), as implemented by the National Institute of Standards and Technology. The objectives of this accreditation program are to: 1) promote interoperability among DoD Components; 2) promote fair and open competition among commercial laboratories; 3) streamline the process for procuring environmental laboratory services; and 4) promote the collection of data of known and documented quality, suitable for their intended uses. It also complies with Section 515(a) of Public Law 106-554 (the Data Integrity Act) as implemented by OSD memorandum, *Ensuring Quality of Information Disseminated to the Public by the Department of Defense*, February 2003.



## DoD ELAP

Established by ADUSD(ESOH)

Effective 1 October 2009

Laboratories currently in programs

- Were able to continue to provide services within scope of current contract or approval
- Were not listed as accredited laboratories until DoD ELAP accreditation was granted

## DoD ELAP Scope

Applies to collection of *definitive data* for environmental restoration programs

Applies to all laboratories regardless of

- Size
- Volume of business
- Field(s) of accreditation
- Public/private
- Mobile/fixed
- CONUS/OCONUS

# DoD ELAP Accreditation Bodies

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American Association for Laboratory Accreditation  
(A2LA)

ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB)

Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation, Inc. (PJLA)

# DoD ELAP Roles & Responsibilities

## Accreditation Bodies

- Operate IAW ISO/IEC 17011 and DoD ELAP Conditions and Criteria
- Conduct assessor training approved by EDQW
- Establish DoD ELAP accreditation process
- Conduct assessments (on-site required every 2 years)
- Ensure deficiencies are resolved
- Issue accreditation certificates
- Monitor Proficiency Testing
- Participate in annual AB review meeting
- Publish/maintain list of accredited laboratories



# DoD ELAP Roles & Responsibilities

## Assessors

- Understand requirements of ISO 17025, NELAC Standards, and the DoD QSM
- Complete required training
- Assess laboratories to the DoD QSM
- Document assessment findings
- Assess Corrective Action Plans (CAP)
- Ensure documentation provides OQE of closure of findings

# DoD ELAP Roles & Responsibilities Laboratories

- Comply with DoD QSM
- Submit application
- Provide required documentation
- Coordinate on-site assessment
- Respond to deficiencies
- Implement & document corrective actions
- Participate in approved PT program

# DoD ELAP Roles & Responsibilities

## DoD Project Managers & Contractors

- Provide resources for, and conduct Systematic Planning
- Produce Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)
- Select DoD ELAP-accredited laboratories
- Verify that project's required tests are within laboratory's scope of accreditation
- Verify that laboratory can meet project-specific requirements
- Notify EDQW of any failure to comply with program requirements

## DoD ELAP Roles & Responsibilities EDQW

- Maintain the DoD QSM
- Evaluate and recognize ABs
- Publish list of recognized ABs
- Develop DoD QSM Training
- Provide government oversight
- Resolve DoD QSM interpretation issues

## DoD ELAP Roles & Responsibilities EDQW

- Provide government oversight
  - Review all assessment reports
  - Perform periodic oversight of assessors
  - Hold regular calls with ABs
    - Consistency
  - Spot check SOP reviews

# DoD ELAP *Benefits*

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Open participation

Cost of assessments shifted to private sector

AB maintains list of accreditations

DoD focus on project specific requirements