

IC2 Product Testing Workgroup

Thursday, November 21, 2024 1-2pm ET/ 10-11am PT

Participants (26): Mikalah Bailey, Stephanie Frisch, John Fay, Kelleigh Wasser, Robert Brushia, Conor Shea, Katie Fellows, Michele McCaughey, Jennifer Harfmann, Katherine Hamblin, Andre Algazi, Hannah McNeight, Sarah Briggs, Mui Koltunov, Peder Sandhei, Amy Rousseau, Tom Metzner, Justin Waltz, Michael Zahn, Nicole Orabona, Jen Jackson, Emily DeMaio, Sara Sekerak, Brenna Giannetti

Reviewed the spreadsheet for information sharing

- The excel was shared with and presented to the group.
- What options do we have to share files?
 - IC2 website, OneDrive, Teams channels. Leaning towards OneDrive.
- What is our desired outcome? Andre asked the group for a consensus on changes needed to finalize and populate spreadsheet
 - Mui (CA DTSC) asked the group about their experiences using contract/commercial labs for product testing
 - Conor (NYSDEC) shared that the main takeaway was that once you navigate the contracting process, they are able to meet needs after that.
 - Follow up from Mui:
 - Have you been in the stage of presumably doing some enforcement work and that may require any litigations in which you might need the contract lab that's doing your testing to sort of testify?
 - Conor: We haven't advanced to the point.
 - Andre (CA DTSC) asked what is the data used for? If something needs to be defensible in court, what does that look like?
 - Justin (OHA) added to question around if NYSDEC had labs refuse to take on testing of products?
 - Conor: Some labs were not willing to test for pfas in food packaging because their previous testing didn't involve the dedicated equipment for it. Contamination issues.
 - Justin mentioned that many labs do environmental testing and asked if product testing is more niche?

- Conor: Some state labs are more geared towards environmental testing and don't have the capabilities for product testing.
- Kelleigh (MPCA): shared experiences when comparing labs for the pfas in packaging. One of the labs changed their instrumentation and the way they did their tests equaled in completely different results. Beware that those kinds of issues do exist.
- Sara (ECY): The excel should also mention what data was used for. Product category vs. regulatory, etc. What are people doing with the data and data quality attributes.
 - Andre: Data Quality objectives will be added to the contract labs table. As well as what the labs focus is environmental vs consumer product testing
- Justin asked Kelleigh about what MPCA is using testing for?
 - Kelleigh: Total fluorine and extractable organic fluorine and the extractable organic didn't give us the information we wanted. Mostly in fiber type products. Some plastics, some paper fiber.
- Mui asked to add one more tab on data quality and whether the method is accredited and the different tiers.

Updates on current and upcoming work. Identifying potential areas of common interest/collaboration.

- Conor: Two new laws going into effect. Part of the rule making is around restriction levels. PFAs in apparel, flame retardants, other categories. Electronic displays, furniture and mattresses, PFAS in carpet. Those are the three areas that they're looking into in the next year.
 - Andre: DTSC is doing a lot of compliance testing for some of their priority product regulations. Once they identify something as a priority product with a chemical of concern, then manufacturers either have to submit alternatives analysis Documents or take the product off the market. Testing on carpets and rugs, treatments for textiles, leathers, toluene, and nail products. DTSC also has an public advisory panel meetings for industry, academics etc.
 - https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2024/10/PFASs-in-Carpets-and-Rugs-Compliance-Report_remediatedV2.pdf

Summarize decisions and action items

- **Decisions**

- Additional columns should be added to the Excel document:
 - To the “Contract Labs” and “Product Testing Capabilities” sheets and, possibly, the “Method Compendium” sheet, a column to indicate how the data is used/data quality objectives
 - To the “Contract Labs” sheet, a column to indicate whether the lab’s focus is on product testing or whether it’s an environmental lab
- The work group’s next meeting will be in the second week of January
- **Action Items**
 - André will work with Mikalah to share the table with the group via Teams, OneDrive, or other
 - IC2 will send out a OneDrive test
 - André will add a few columns to the table of lab capabilities, methods, and contract labs, as discussed at the meeting
 - Product Testing Work Group members will contact André and/or Mikalah If they're interested in joining a subgroup to focus on technical aspects of testing products for PFASs
 - For the January meeting IC2 will send out a poll and will implement steady scheduling. Wednesday’s usually work well for this group.