European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law

STRATEGIES FOR VERIFICATION OF SELF-MONITORING AND REPORTING ON AIR EMISSIONS WORKSHOP

Examples from Croatia

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11 October 2021

Accreditation in Croatia

HAA
Hrvatska akreditacijska agencija
Croatian Accreditation Agency

- Accreditation is third-party attestation related to a conformity assessment body conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks
- Hrvatska akreditacijska agencija (HAA) / Croatian Accreditation Agency is an independent and non for profit public institution that acts as the national accreditation service in the Republic of Croatia

HAA ensures:

- Competent testing, calibration, certification and inspection services in Croatia
- Acceptance/Recognition of test reports and certificates of conformity issued in Croatia and other markets
- Technical support to the Croatian economy in reaching competitiveness at the global market
- Confidence in quality and safety of products and services on the Croatian market
- Technical support to the state administration bodies in implementing regulations in the area of citizens' safety and health, environmental protection, consumers' protection and other public interests

Accreditation in Croatia (2)

- EN ISO/IEC 17025:2017, General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories (ISO/IEC 17025:2017) is necessary condition for issuing various permits related to environmental monitoring and environment related activities
- Independent testing bodies
- Testing bodies and laboratories which are part of larger companies and/or industrial plants

Practical benefits of accreditation

- EN ISO/IEC 17025:2017 enables laboratories to demonstrate that they operate competently and generate valid results, thereby promoting confidence in their work both nationally and around the world
- It helps facilitate cooperation between laboratories and other bodies by generating wider acceptance of results between countries.
- Test reports and certificates can be accepted from one country to another without the need for further testing

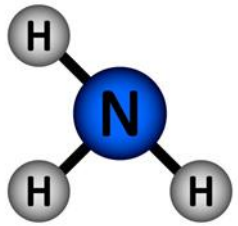
Practical benefits of accreditation (2)

- EN ISO/IEC 17025:2017 guarantees that even some methods that are not accreditated follow the same principle of qualified experts, traceability, reproducibility, repeatibility
- National acredditation body performs annual

audits in laboratories, which ensures independent

third party assessment

Example 1



- Petrochemical plant located in a small town, many inhabitants work at the plant
- Laboratory accredited for testing of properties of technical chemicals, water, waste and testing of ambient air quality and pollution emissions into the air from the stationary sources
- Determination of NH_3 by spectrophotometry – in-house method, plus 4 EN standardized methods for other pollutants
- Accredited method and understanding of the process ensure quality sampling and reliability of measurement data

Example 1

- Automatic monitoring station for NH_3 as part of state network for air quality monitoring is located in the same town
- Company measurements have longer history
- Company measurements are used as back-up for measurements in state network (if necessary)

Example 1 – Lessons learnt

- Company cooperates with local authorities, informs the citizens about production and environmental activities
- Trust building in local community
- Raisnig awareness of citizens
- Knowledge sharing
- Building capacities
- No complaints to inspections!

Example 2

- Large industrial site with more operators /legal entities
- Common sewage and waste water system, next to the river

Example 2

- The largest company has an accredited laboratory and performs waste water analysis **every day**, although legal requrements are less stringent
- Waste water analysis is performed as support to the process and as an indicator of potential deviations in the process

Example 2

- During weekend, oil spillage occured on the site and the finger was pointed at the largest company
- Laboratory analytical records demonstrated that the company couldn’t be responsible and that regular activities on the site couldn’t cause such emissions into wastewater

Example 2 – Lessons learnt

- Self-monitoring is an important leverage in process control
- Costs of analysis are small compared to potential incidents and harms
- Usefull tool for inspection
- Preservation of water resources

Level up

- At some high risk facilities (e.g. pharmaceutical plants), insurance companies require additional security mechanisms, which may include additional self-monitoring accredited methods and/or certification systems like EMAS, ISO 14000, OHSAS or other available best practices

Questions?

THANK YOU!

Zagreb, Dolac market