

# PRESS RELEASE

Release Date: January 11, 2017

## **Eckert & Ziegler Analytics\*(EZA) announces Proficiency Test (PT) Program Expansion**

ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) selected to accredit EZA to the ISO/IEC 17043:2010 international standard, General requirements for proficiency test providers, in 2017.

**Atlanta, GA, USA January 11, 2017:** Building on its critical supply of proficiency test samples to the North American nuclear power market, EZA is strengthening its quality system to include the ISO/IEC 17043:2010 international standard in 2017. “We want to be more accessible to markets outside the US,” Lawrence Jassin, Global Marketing Director, said from his office at EZA.

Adding to the improvements, EZA’s Nuclear Metrologist, Levan Tkavadze is finalizing a new electronic data processing interface for EZA’s established environmental and higher activity PT schemes. Customers enter their results directly into a password protected web-portal, allowing instant comparison with EZA assigned values. Grading criteria utilize statistical methods from established institutions such as the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) or customer/industry specific guidance. New schemes will be added based on market demand and all users will enjoy access to historical trending and statistical analysis.

The need for PT schemes is expected to increase as testing laboratories and government planners face established and emerging challenges. “2016 was an exciting year,” commented Mr. Jassin, “We worked closely with both international monitoring agencies and US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to increase emergency preparedness and verify proficiency in global fallout monitoring using samples prepared from fresh mixed fission products.”

More broadly, to comply with the ISO/IEC 17025:2005 international standard for testing laboratory competence, analysis methods shall be validated and deemed appropriate for use on a growing list of various sample types including decommissioning, environmental monitoring and NORM related to hydraulic fracturing (Fracking). “Creating commutable (fit for use) calibration, reference and PT samples and material is key to supporting our laboratory customer. It’s what we do.” commented EZA’s Scientist, Evgeny Taskaev.

---

\*Acquired in 2005, EZA is part of Eckert & Ziegler Isotope Products which operates four (4) ISO/IEC 17025:2005 Accredited Calibration Laboratories in Valencia and Burbank, California; Atlanta, Georgia; and Braunschweig Germany.