ACIL

INDEPENDENT LABORATORIES INSTITUTE

ILI

QUALITY TRAINING FOR THE LABORATORY COMMUNITY

Presents

Assessing Microbiology

Online Training Course

The Independent Laboratories Institute (ILI) is the educational foundation affiliated with the American Council of Independent Laboratories. ACIL is the trade association of independent commercial engineering and scientific laboratory testing, consulting and R & D firms.

Advanced Systems conducts training for environmental sampling, quality control, laboratory operations and field operations and design Quality Systems based on the ISO 9000 Quality Standards, ISO 14000 series of Environmental Management Standards, and ISO/IEC 17025 Laboratory Quality and Technical Competence Standards.

Assessing Microbiology

COURSE BACKGROUND

The Independent Laboratories Institute (ILI) is pleased to announce the release of a new online training course entitled, “Assessing Microbiology.” This is the second online technical training course for NELAP assessors and for laboratory employees who work with quality systems.

ILI has partnered with Advanced Systems, Inc. for many years to offer classroom technical training courses for NELAP assessors across the U.S. These classroom courses are being converted to online learning through a cooperative agreement between the ILI and the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA). The online courses facilitate training by delivering content to students in a convenient, cost-effective, and consistent format.

The online technical training course “Assessing Microbiology” is based on the classroom training course developed for Advanced Systems, Inc. by Charles Dyer, Danbury Assessment and Training Services. Mr. Dyer teaches the classroom courses and is the subject matter expert for the technical content of this new online course. Technical content updates are provided by Advanced Systems, Inc.

In this online training course, the assessor learns how to conduct a laboratory on-site assessment to evaluate how the laboratory implements quality system components for microbiology technologies to ensure compliance with the 2003 NELAC Standard. The course meets the content requirements specified in the 2003 NELAC Standard, Appendix B.

COURSE SCOPE

The scope of this online technical training course is microbiology. The analytical technologies and their associated equipment covered in this course are:

- Chromofluorgenic
- Multiple Tube Fermentation
- Membrane Filtration
- Heterotrophic Plate Count
- Cryptosporidium and Giardia

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the learner will:

1. Know how to assess the implementation of the technology by the laboratory.
2. Understand how the technology is used in the various methods.
3. Identify the key elements of data packages and raw data to review and check effectively.

COURSE LENGTH

Most learners will require 8 to 16 hours to complete this self-paced online course. Completion time will depend, in part, upon the learner’s familiarity with the 2003 NELAC Standard and the technologies covered in the course. The course consists of an introduction module, seven learning modules, and a final exam covering all course materials. Learners may review previously completed modules. Learners may exit the course at any time, and are automatically returned to their point of progress when they log back into the course. A certificate of completion may be printed if the learner achieves a passing score on the final exam. The course must be completed within 90 days of registration.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

There is no need to install anything to take the online course. Once you are registered, you simply point your browser to the URL and the course downloads and starts automatically. The platform for the course is the web browser and not a particular operating system.
In order to run the course successfully, your browser must meet certain system requirements. In technical terms, the browser must be HTML 4.01 compliant and must support JavaScript 1.1. If you are a Mac user, the course may not operate as designed.

Please review the internet connection requirements in the table on the next page. Dial-up internet service is too slow to ensure a successful learning experience.

The general minimum browser requirements for running the course are Microsoft Internet Explorer version 5.x or newer or Netscape 7.x or later. The course programming has been tested with, and is known to work in Internet Explorer 5.0, 5.5 and 6.0 on Windows 95/98/ME/2000/NT, and Mozilla 0.9.3 on Linux. Other browsers and versions of the above may also work if they support system requirements noted here.

You also need a sound card and speakers to hear the audio portion of the course.

You will need to download reference documents, which are made available after you are registered for the course. The documents are pdf format. A link to download free Adobe Reader software is available within the course.

Operating System:	♦ Microsoft Windows 95/98/2000/Me/XP or NT 4.0 (SP 4) or ♦ Sun's Java Desktop Environment
Processor:	300 megahertz Pentium II processor or equivalent
RAM:	64 megabytes
Hard Drive Space:	10 megabytes Free Space
Browser:	IE 5.x or later Netscape 7.x or later
Browser Configuration:	Java Script must be enabled
Internet Connection:	28,800 bps or faster modem, integrated services digital network (ISDN), or local area network (LAN) connection **(Dial-up access does not meet this requirement)**
Graphics Card:	8 megabytes onboard memory

COURSE PREREQUISITES

1. Possess basic knowledge of the microbiology inorganic technologies, their principles, and their applications by laboratories.
2. Understand quality systems, including Chapter 5 of the 2003 NELAC Standard.
3. If you are a NELAP assessor, complete the Basic Assessor Training prior to taking this course.

COURSE FEES

ACIL ILI Assessor Training

$550 ACIL Members and Government Employees

$725 Non-Members

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

To register for "Assessing Microbiology," go to **www.acil.org** and click on the Assessor and Laboratory link. After your payment is processed, you will receive an email with instructions on how to access the course (website address, your username and password) and the electronic documents that you will need to download. All instructions for taking the course are in the first course module.

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Testimonial

"This will certainly strengthen NELAC assessments for microbiology."

Laboratory QA Official

ILI is the affiliated educational foundation of the American Council of Independent Laboratories (ACIL). It is a non-profit, scientific educational organization that is multi-disciplined and member-driven. The goal of ILI is to provide quality training for the laboratory community.