

GoMRI Hydrocarbons Analysis QA/QC Workshop
– Experienced Analysts, New Analysts and All Interested Welcome –

Sunday January 26, January 2014 5:00 – 6:00 PM

Background

Quality matters! Analysis of organic compounds is difficult: There are millions of individual organic compounds, and many of them are labile when exposed, e.g., to molecular oxygen and microbial activity. This applies to both target compounds and standard reference materials (SRMs). There is a particular need for Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Control (QC) to insure valid data are produced.

GoMRI research involves hydrocarbon analysis of unweathered and weathered oil, sediments, and biological tissues by a number of laboratories. This is a unique chance for a concerted QA/QC effort in hydrocarbon analysis. GoMRI management is willing to support such an effort, but the initiative and execution should be developed by GoMRI researchers.

This workshop seeks to

- encourage existing QA/QC programs in hydrocarbon analysis,
- motivate those who have thought about QA/QC in hydrocarbon analysis but set it aside for (alleged) lack of previous experience, time, capacity or other reasons and
- support those who can be convinced that QA/QC in hydrocarbon analysis is important but do not yet know how to exercise it.

DRAFT Agenda

1) Welcome – Chuck Wilson, CSO GoMRI, 5 min.

2) Early history of QA/QC procedures and interlaboratory intercomparison exercises for hydrocarbon analysis – John Farrington, Jürgen Rullkötter 10 min.

(NOTE - More detailed handout will be prepared ahead of time. Farrington to take lead and Jürgen Rullkötter to review and add in material).

3) NOAA National Status & Trends and other recent programs – Terry Wade, 10 min.

(NOTE - NOAA Status & Trends QA/QC publications to be made available as PDFs online).

4) Relevant Standard Reference Materials (NIST), potential activities for the future – Steve Wise, Chris Reddy, 10 min.

(NOTE - Here is opportunity to stimulate interest in not only weathered oil, but reaction/degradation product chemicals, dispersants, etc. in a look to the future.)

Open Discussion – Chuck Wilson, moderator.