ASTM International Interlaboratory Study Program (ILS)

Helping Our World Work Better®

An interlaboratory study (ILS) is a multilab study conducted to produce data for developing a Precision & Bias statement and Research Report. This data demonstrates the expected variability of a test method.

We'll discuss...

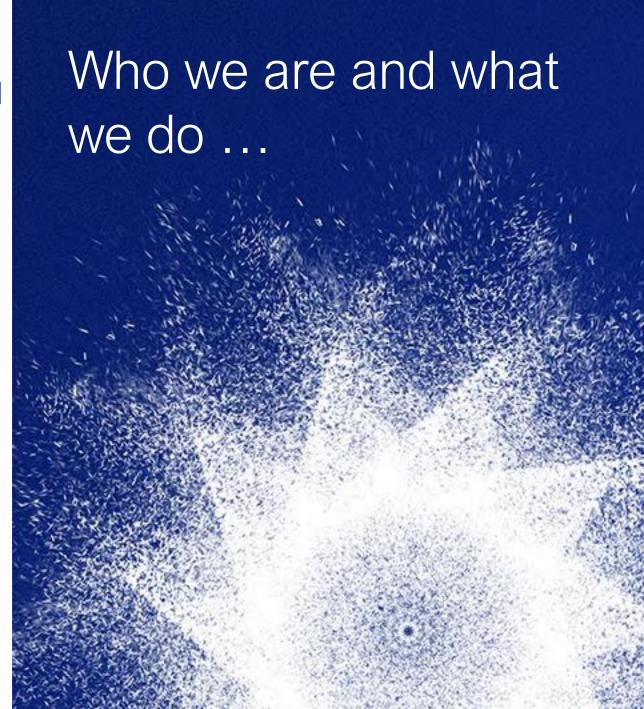
- The purpose and importance of an ILS
- The process involved in conducting an ILS
- The benefits of participating in an ILS



In 2004, the Board of Directors approved the creation of a unit to strengthen the perceived quality of ASTM Test Methods by:

- Facilitating the production of data to develop Precision & Bias statements and Research Reports, demonstrating the variability of our test methods
- Providing administrative and financial support to all ASTM committees
- Ensuring the confidentiality of participating labs

Note: ASTM is not a lab. We cannot test or receive samples.



Form & Style Manual (Blue Book)

A21. Precision and Bias (Mandatory)

A21.2.1 A statement on precision allows potential users of the test method to assess in general terms its usefulness in proposed applications.

A21.2.3 Every test method shall contain: (1) a statement regarding the precision of test results obtained in the same laboratory under specifically defined conditions of within-laboratory variability (repeatability conditions); and (2) a statement regarding the precision of test results obtained in different laboratories (reproducibility conditions).



ILS Phases

Ruggedness Study Finalize Test Pilot Program Full ILS (repeatability) Method (repeatability + F&S requirement Reproducibility) met for 5 years

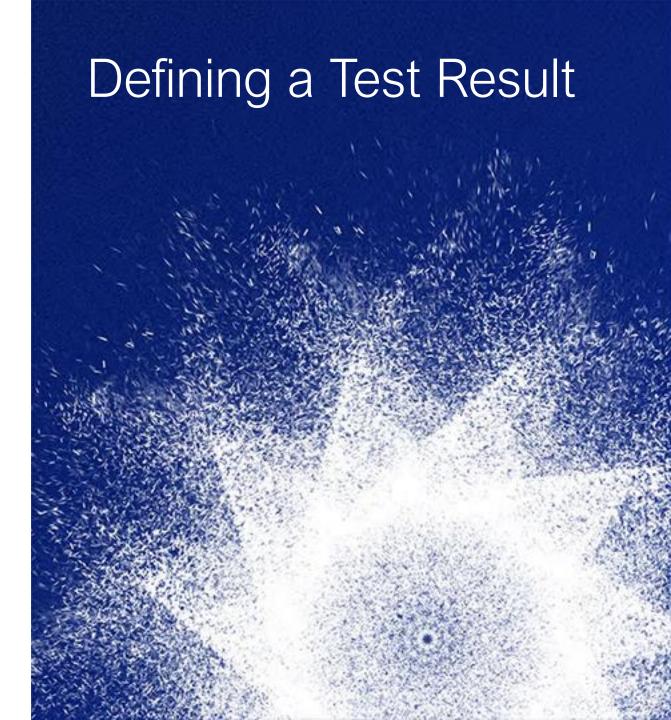
ILS Process Overview



A **test result** should be uniquely defined by the **Test Method**. Review your standard for specifics:

- Single test determination
- The average of two or more determinations
- Subject to multiple if/then statements

One **test result** = one reportable replicate for ILS purposes. A test result is the actual number you would report to a client. We will need multiple test results (replicates), on each material, from every operator to calculate precision.



Test Result Example

Test Method X requires the average of 5 individual measurements to be reported as a single test result (replicate). Your ILS calls for 3 replicates. A total of 15 individual measurements must be taken to produce the 3 replicate test results (each the average of 5 measurements) required from each participating laboratory in this hypothetical.

Laboratory Data Report Form

Hardness					
Individual Measurement 1	3	Individual Measurement 1	4	Individual Measurement 1	4
Individual Measurement 2	4	Individual Measurement 2	6	Individual Measurement 2	7
Individual Measurement 3	თ	Individual Measurement 3	5	Individual Measurement 3	5
Individual Measurement 4	7	Individual Measurement 4	3	Individual Measurement 4	4
Individual Measurement 5	5	Individual Measurement 5	6	Individual Measurement 5	5
Average:	4.4	Average:	4.8	Average:	5

Full ILS Requirements

-Tests:

Listed in the procedure, and again in the reporting section

-Laboratories:

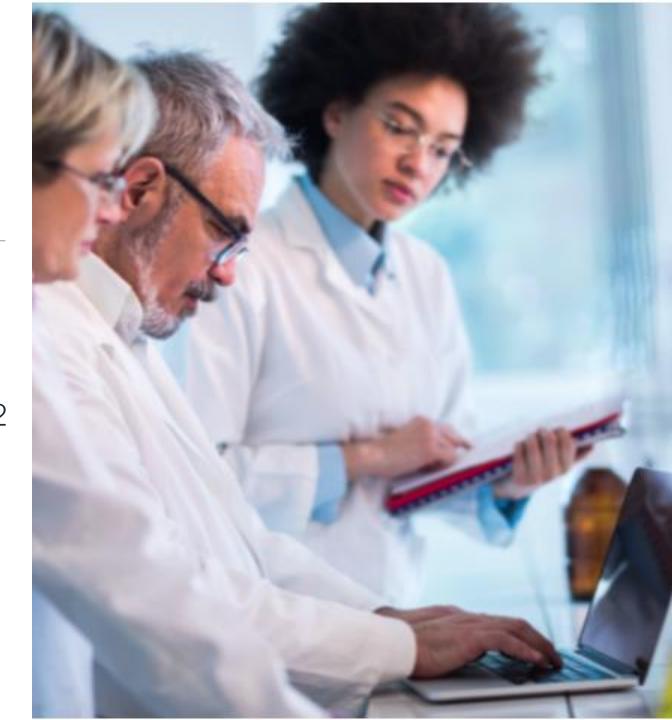
Usually looking to start with at least 10-12 (minimum 6)

-Materials:

Should span the scope of the standard, often 3-7

-Replicates:

Generally, 2-10, but sometimes more



ASTM Staff Assistance

The ASTM staff can assist with various aspects of the Interlaboratory Study, including:

Designing an Identifying Soliciting potential Interlaboratory volunteer samples laboratories Study Finding an Ordering and Contracting with available purchasing a distributor supplier samples Managing Reviewing Collecting and laboratory shipping analyzing data instructions expenses

Compiling

information for

the Research

Report

Recognizing

participating labs

Producing a

draft precision

statement

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Encourages input from active Committee volunteers and non-members, broadening the range and diversity of the study participants.

- Allows the study to most accurately demonstrate expected "real-world" precision.
- Ensures scientific neutrality of ASTM in reviewing test data (random lab numbers are assigned to all of the participants).
- Provides a value-added Quality
 Assurance Program to participating laboratories.



- Monitor strengths and weaknesses of lab testing compared to peers through a statistical program
- Assess testing performance and adherence to written procedures by lab technicians
- Gain recognition in the final Research Report
- How could your lab benefit from participating?



Benefits to the Committees

- –Meet the requirements of the Form and Style Manual
- Obtain valuable feedback on methods, leading to the correction of errors and omissions, as well as highlighting the need for technical updates
- -Resource for increased membership

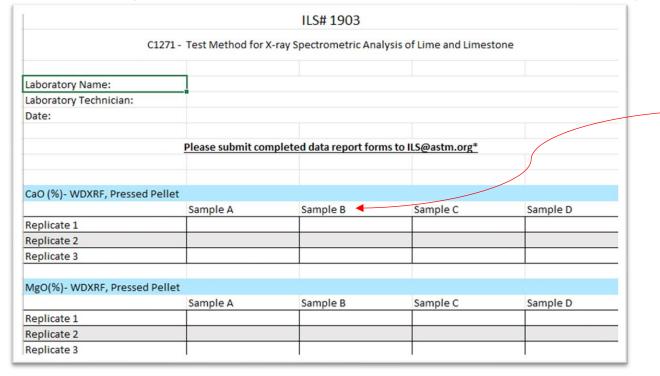


"I think there was a typo in the lab instructions."

Sample Coding Requirements

To generate, the ILS Staff must have the Laboratory Names and Material Names.

Sample Labeling Matrix will be sent to the distributor by the ILS Staff.



Sample Name	Sample Code
Vulcan VGR4	Α
Carmeuse Annville	В
Graymont Genoa	С
Vulcan VDO	D
CRM ECRM-782-1	E
Lhoist Clifton #3	F
Carmeuse Maple Grove	G
Vulcan VCA	Н
Lhoist Clifton #1	I
Lhoist Clifton #2	J

Blind Sample Matrix

To generate, the ILS Staff must have *Laboratory Names*, *Material Names* and the *Number of Replicates*.

Sample Labeling Matrix below was sent to the distributor by the ILS Staff

Utilized by Committees D02, D16, D19 & D28

Sample Name/ Lab Name:	University of Calgary	Marathon Oil	Alberta Research Council	Phillips 66 OK	LyondellBase II	ExxonMobil Research	Agilent Technologies	Triton Analytics Corp	Envantage Inc.
Kerosene	1, 7	2, 12	5, 6	7, 9	4, 6	4, 7	2, 5	8, 11	7, 10
High Sulfur Diesel	3, 6	3, 10	9, 10	5, 10	2, 11	5, 10	9, 12	1, 4	2, 6
#2 Low Sulfur Diesel	5, 12	5, 11	4, 11	3, 11	8, 9	11, 12	1, 10	6, 10	4, 11
Aviation Turbine Jet A	2, 4	4, 6	2, 8	1, 6	3, 10	2, 8	3, 4	2, 9	5, 9
Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel	8, 11	7, 9	3, 7	2, 4	5, 7	1, 6	6, 11	3, 12	1, 3
Light Cycle Oil	9, 10	1, 8	1, 12	8, 12	1, 12	3, 9	7, 8	5, 7	8, 12

Data Report Form Instructions



ILS# 1446

ASTM F3203 - Test Method for Determination of Gel Content of Crosslinked Polyethylene (PEX)

Pipes and Tubing

Basic Study Information:

Please have one Laboratory Technician conduct all ILS testing.

Please follow ASTM standard provided to you for this study.

Please complete the testing in the shortest possible period of time.

Data Entry:

Do not enter commas (1,234 --> 1234)

Do not report units

Submitting Data:

Please submit completed data report forms to ILS@astm.org

Laboratory understands and agrees that the data generated as a result of the services and provided to ASTM will be used in ASTM's business, to assist in developing a research report, consensus standard or adjunct thereto. Laboratory agrees to keep such data and results confidential and not to disclose or share the data/results with anyone else, without ASTM's written consent.

Click here for a copy of the ASTM International's Intellectual Property Policy.

Excel Data Report Form

		INTERNATION g our world wo		
		ILS# 1823		
Standard Test I	Method for Testing Uplift F	Resistance of Adhered M	embrane Roofing Assem	blies
Laboratory Name:				
Laboratory Technician:				
Date:				
	Please submit complete	ed data report forms to IL	S@astm.org*	

	Comments			
ssembly				
				•
		ndwritten or PDF format o	data report forms will be	returned to you for
	reentry in Excel.			
ssembly	_	_	_	_
	confidential and not to disclose or	share the data/results wi	ith anyone else, without	ASTM's written consen
	Click here for a copy of the ASTM Int	ernational's Intellectual Pro	perty Policy.	
	,	*To ensure the integrity of your lab created for your specific study. Har reentry in Excel. Laboratory understands and agrees support or services provided by or research report, consensus standar confidential and not to disclose or	*To ensure the integrity of your lab's data, ASTM can only accreated for your specific study. Handwritten or PDF format creentry in Excel. Laboratory understands and agrees that the data generated support or services provided by or to ASTM, will be used in research report, consensus standard or adjunct thereto. Lab confidential and not to disclose or share the data/results will be used to disclose or share the	*To ensure the integrity of your lab's data, ASTM can only accept the completed Except created for your specific study. Handwritten or PDF format data report forms will be reentry in Excel. Laboratory understands and agrees that the data generated as a result of this study,

Precision



To calculate precision, we need usable data from at least 6 laboratories

(The closer to 30, the better)

Each lab should report 2-10 replicate test results per material



The precision statement in an ASTM test method is not meant to qualify it as good or bad



Example: % Moisture in mulch vs. aspirin The published precision is there to help a user of the standard understand what can be expected based on the <u>real</u> <u>world</u> results of others With 95% confidence, the same operator, in the same laboratory, using the same equipment, under the same conditions, should obtain results when testing the same material that agree within this range.

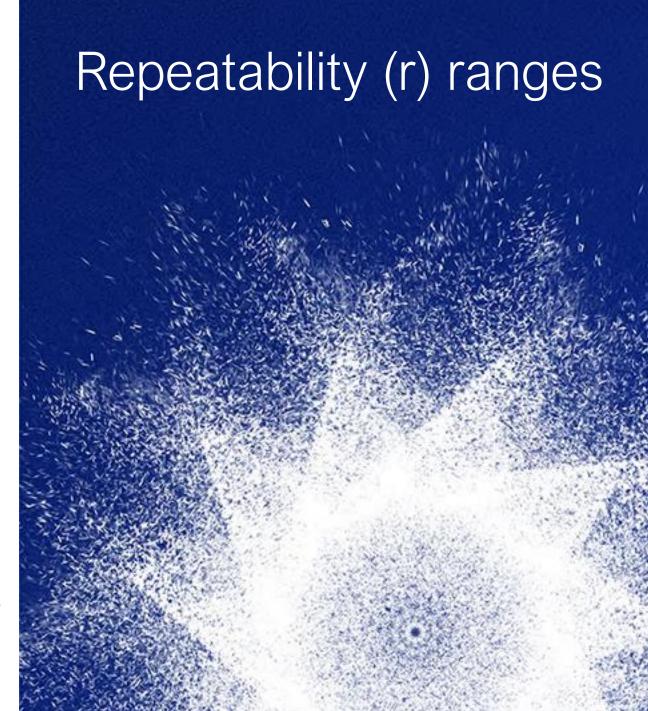
Example:

published repeatability range = 2.4 ppm

Test Result 1: 79.1 ppm

Test Result 2: 81.6 ppm

Results differ by 2.5 ppm, therefore: **Suspect***Internal laboratory investigation may be advisable



With 95% confidence, two operators, in different laboratories, using different equipment, under conditions meeting those specified in the standard, should obtain results when testing *the same material* that agree within this range.

Example:

published reproducibility range = 3.2 ppb

Test Result from Lab 1: 50.8 ppb

Test Result from Lab 2: 47.9 ppb

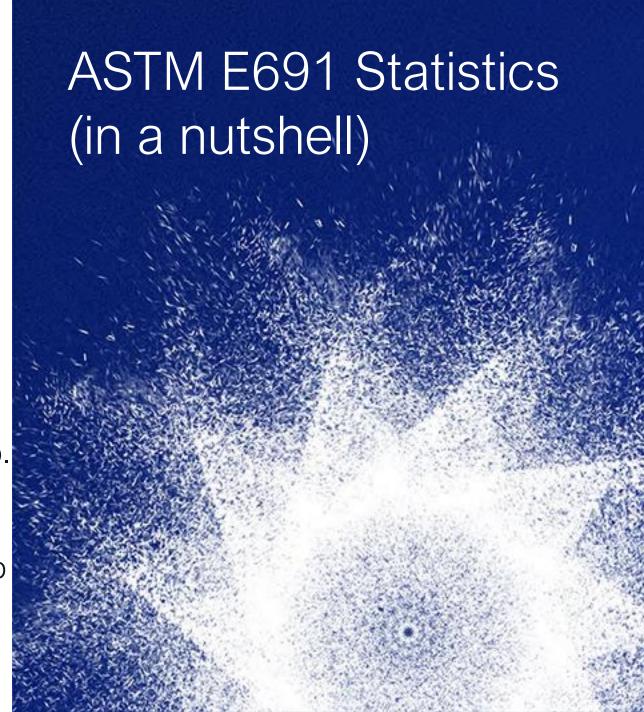
Results differ by 2.9 ppb, therefore: **As Expected**



2

E691 is useful for estimating the precision of different materials at varying levels. It calculates repeatability and reproducibility ranges for each material.

- Typically, 3-7 different materials span the range stated in the Scope of the standard
- Within laboratory precision is evaluated against a k-statistic, which measures variability among replicates in any one lab.
- Between laboratory precision is evaluated against an h-statistic, which compares lab averages among all participants



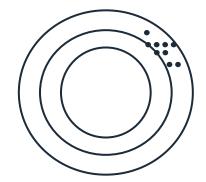
Bias

To calculate bias, we may be able to include a reference "standard" among the sample specimens distributed to the laboratories. Bias may be determined as the average discrepancy between the "known" value and the reported values.



Precision and Bias

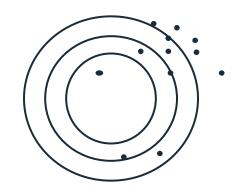
large bias + high precision = low accuracy



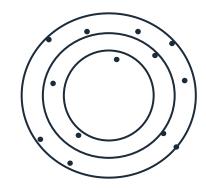
zero bias + high precision = high accuracy



large bias + low precision = low accuracy



zero bias + low precision = low accuracy



An ILS is not required for nonquantitative test results. Examples include pass/fail tests, rating scales, and color changes.

From Form and Style Manual (A21. Precision and Bias:

A21.5.4 When a test method specifies that a test result is a <u>nonnumerica</u>l report of success or failure or other categorization or classification based on criteria specified in the procedure, use a statement on precision and bias such as the following:

Precision and Bias—No information is presented about either the precision or bias of Test Method X0000 for measuring (insert here the name of the property) since the test result is nonquantitative.

Nonquantitative Test Results

For pilling: 5—no pilling —slight pilling 3—moderate pilling 2—severe pilling 1—very severe pilling For fuzzing: 5—no fuzzing 4—slight fuzzing 3—moderate fuzzing 2—severe fuzzing 1—very severe fuzzing 1—very severe fuzzing



Important Reminders



Your standard may allow you to correct for bias, but you cannot correct for imprecision.



An ILS may be used to demonstrate improvement as standards are modified. For example: Compare results from Method A with those from Method B.



Whatever materials we are testing should be as homogeneous as possible (i.e., from the same batch and lot).

ILS Program Website

Why Do You Need an Interlaboratory Study Program?

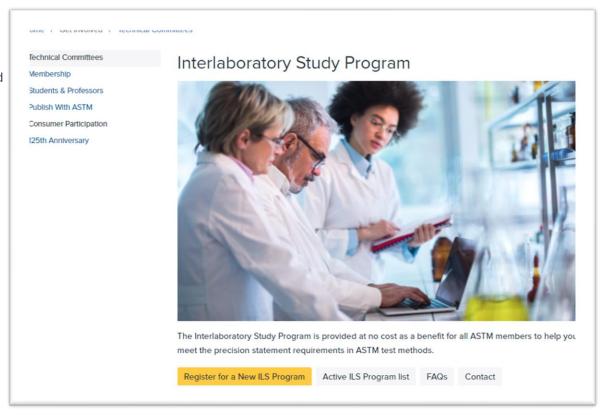
Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods

All ASTM standard test methods must include a precision and bias statement, per Section A.21 Form and Style for ASTM Standards. These statements strengthen the perceived quality of the standard test method. They also let users know that a test method has been laboratory tested.

The two measurements that serve to express precision in the evaluation of a standard test method are repeatability and reproducibility:

- Repeatability addresses variability between independent test results gathered from within a single laboratory (otherwise known as intralaboratory testing)
- **Reproducibility** addresses variability among single test results gathered from different laboratories (otherwise known as interlaboratory testing).

While Bias is defined as a systematic error that contributes to the difference between the mean of a large number of test results and an accepted reference value. When included in an ASTM test method, this statement describes the bias. It is important to remember that if an accepted reference value is not available, then the bias cannot be established. However, if the bias is unknown but the direction or bounds of the bias can be estimated, this information should be included in the bias statement.



Committee Week Reports



ILS# 1812 Committee Week Status Report

C0562, Test Method for Moisture in a Graphite Sample

June 23, 2023

subcommittee: D02.F0

'echnical Contact: Helen Mayer itaff Manager: Alyson Fick Vork Item Number: WK82612 legistered Date: July 28, 2022 itatistical Support: ASTM

itatus: Data report form is on file. This ILS will be conducted alongside ILS #1811, anne data will be separated for processing at the end of testing. The technical contact is reparing the samples. The committee is okay with not blinding the samples. Please le LS know if there have been <u>nay</u> updates or assistance we can provide. Before testing and samples are shipped, ILS would be interested in hosting a pre-test conference call with the laboratories to review the data report form and any lab questions.

'ests:

1. Moisture (%)

Naterials:

- 1. Low purity graphite in solid form Supplied by: Amsted Graphite Materials, Helen Mayer
- 2. Low purity graphite in powder form Supplied by: Amsted Graphite Materials, Helen Mayer
- 3. High purity graphite in solid form Supplied by: Amsted Graphite Materials, Helen Mayer
- 4. High purity graphite in powder form Supplied by: Amsted Graphite Materials,



Technical Contacts with more than one ILS Program going to a specific meeting will receive one email with all ILS Committee Week Reports.



Sub chairs are cc'ed on the ILS Committee Week Report emails

_aps:

Lab Name	Co	Contact Name				
Amsted Graphite Materials	Steve	Rittenhouse				
Anovion	Jeremy	Schrooten				
Asbury	Ryan	Weir				
GrafTech	Brian	Askey				
Mersen	Andy	Covac				
Morgan	Carlos	Lyon y Lyon				

Distributor:

- 1. Low purity graphite in solid form Amsted Graphite Materials Helen Mayer
- 2. Low purity graphite in powder form Amsted Graphite Materials Helen Maye
- 3. High purity graphite in solid form Amsted Graphite Materials Helen Mayer
- 4. High purity graphite in powder form Amsted Graphite Materials Helen Maye

Please email any missing information regarding this Interlaboratory Study to LS@astm.org. ASTM will need all of the study information to complete the research report.

ASTM Form and Style Requirements

The ASTM Form and Style Manual (Section A29.1) states, "Where numerical data have been generated to establish the precision and bias of a test method, a research report is required."

- Use the ASTM Word Research Report Template.
- Make the draft research report available to committee members while the related precision statement is on ballot.
- Research report numbers are assigned after the ballot is approved.

Research Reports

Contact: ResearchReports@astm.org

Parts of a Research Report

- List of participating laboratories
- Description of samples with their suppliers
- Laboratory instructions
- General description of equipment/ apparatus used
- Raw data (lab name's hidden)
- Statistical summary
- Precision and bias statement

This Research Report is insued under the fixed designation RR_[RR al]. You agree onto reproduce or circulate or quote, in whole or part, this document outside of ASTM International Committee Society: activities, or submit it to any other organization or standards body (whether national, international or other) except with the approval of the Chairman of the Committee baving jurisdiction and the written authorisation of the President of the Society. If you do not agree to these conditions, please immediately destroy all copies of this document. Copyright ASTM International, 100 Barr Harder Drivin, Part Corubbleches, PA. 1974. I rights researched.

[Date RR # approved - ASTM to assign]

Committee [Committee] on [Committee Title] Subcommittee [Subcommitte Number] on [Subcommittee Title]

Research Report [RR # - ASTM to assign]

Interlaboratory Study to Establish Precision Statements for ASTM
[Standard Designation Number], [Standard Title]

Technical contact:

[Technical Contact Title] [Technical Contact First Name]

[Technical Contact Last Name],

[Technical Contact Company]

[Technical Contact City], [Technical Contact State] [Technical Contact Zip]

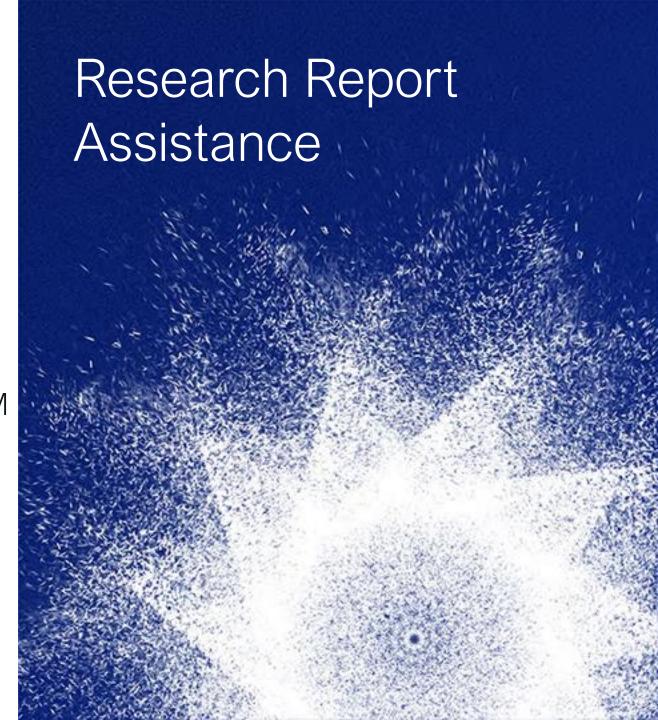
[Technical Contact Country] [Technical contact phone]

[Technical contact email]

ASTM International 100 Barr Harbor Drive West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959 The ILS team is here to help you when developing your Research Report.

Contact us for assistance with:

- Generating research reports from ILS projects
- Reformatting older reports to fit the ASTM Research Report Template.
- Obtaining research report numbers

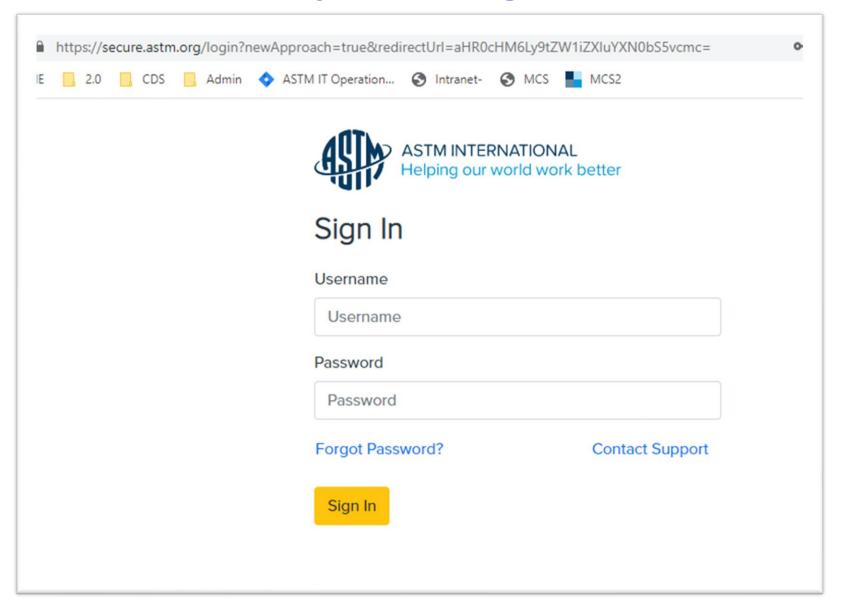


Establishing New Programs

- Concept registered as a Work Item
- Program registered through MyASTM as an ILS Program
- Initial conference call with the technical contact from the committee to establish the basic study parameters
- Experimental design with input from the committee's statistical support person, if available
- Identification of study materials, suppliers, a distributor, and volunteer laboratories



MyASTM Login



Select: Interlaboratory Study (ILS)

MyAccount Membership	MyCommittees	MyTools
MyCommittees Manage Committees	Committee A01 on Steel, Stainless Steel and Relate	ed Alloys MyOutstanding Ballots 52
Change Of Employment Committee Profile	Ballots Rosters Meetings & Minutes & Commit Symposia Agendas Docume	MyNoyt Mootings 25
Invite a Colleague	Committee B09 on Metal Powders and Metal Powd	der Products MyWork Items
Membership Info Recent Activity	Ballots Rosters Meetings & Minutes & Commit Symposia Agendas Docume	MyCollaboration Areas
Orders Compass	Committee C01 on Cement	Ballots & Work Items
Tracker	Ballots Rosters Meetings & Minutes & Commit Symposia Agendas Docume	Meetings, Minutes & Agendas
Account#: 000472556 Caitlin Farrell	Committee C07 on Lime and Limestone	Interlaboratory Study (ILS)
cfarrell@astm.org ASTM International	Ballots Rosters Meetings & Minutes & Commit Symposia Agendas Docume	Terminology Dictionary
	Committee C08 on Refractories	Plan Online Mtg/Conf
	Ballots Rosters Meetings & Minutes & Commit Symposia Agendas Docume	

Register a New Study

MyASTM

LS Home

ASTM.org

Register or Edit a Study

Need Help?

The ILS Staff can help /ou finish your registration.

email: ILS@astm.org

MyASTM / Membership / MyCommittees / ILS Program Registration

ASTM Interlaboratory Study (ILS) Program

Choose from the following options:

I need to register an ILS Program for a Revision or New Standard.

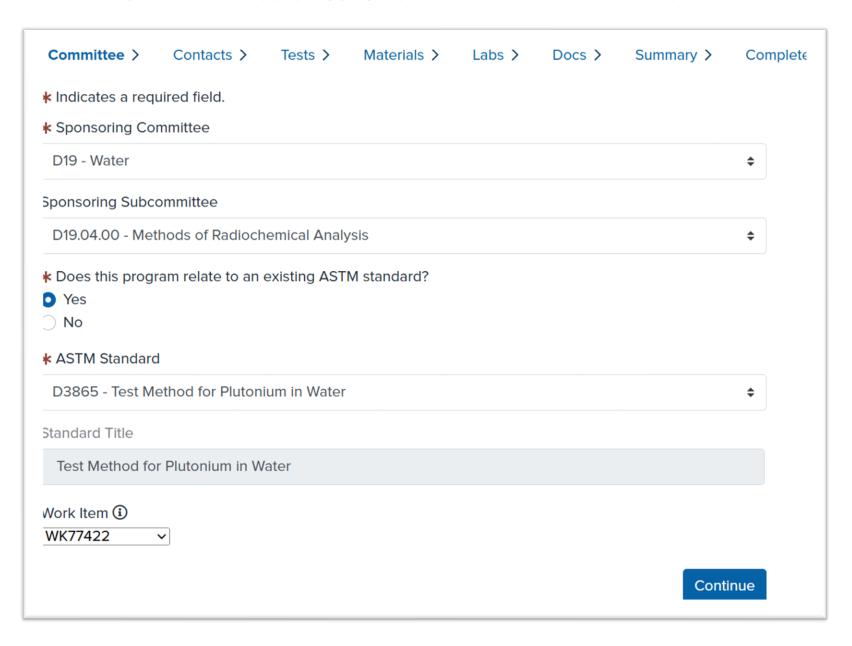
Please navigate through all of the registration pages to submit your ILS Program to the ASTM ILS Staff. The registration will collect details on the standard, tests, samples and laboratories that will be utilized in the study. Filling in all information is not required to submit an ILS Program.

I need to revise an existing ILS Program.

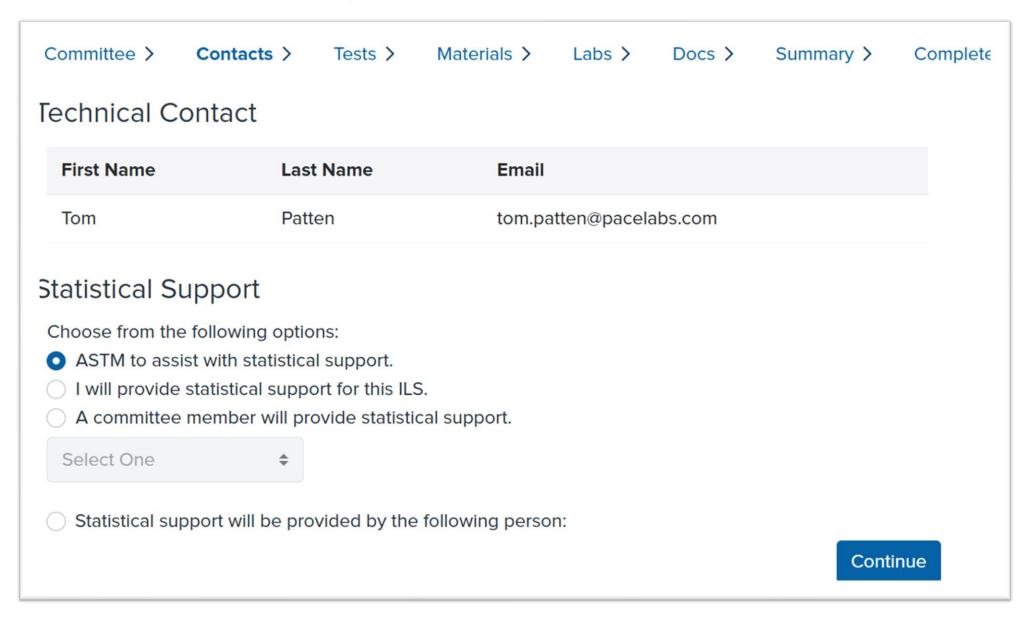
Technical contact understands and agrees that the data generated as a result of this study, regardless of any further support or services provided by or to ASTM, will be used in ASTM's business, to assist in developing a research report, consensus standard or adjunct thereto. Technical contact agrees to keep such data and results confidential and not to disclose or share the data/results with anyone else, without ASTM's written consent. For a copy of the ASTM International's Intellectual Property Policy click here.

Continue

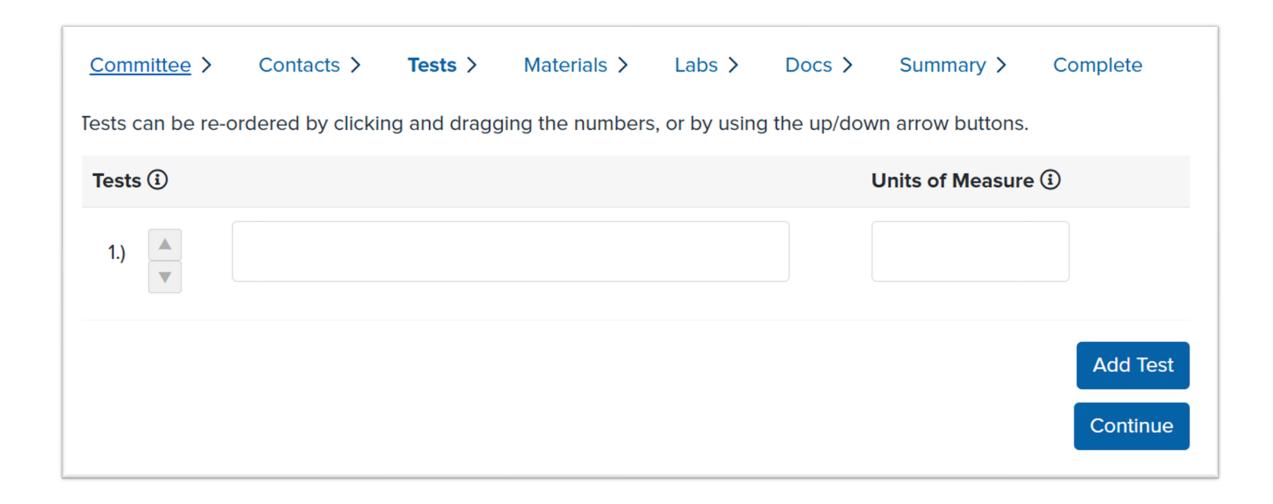
Committee & Standard Information



Contact Information



Test Information



Materials, Supplier(s) & Distributor(s) Information

		 •	
aterial (sample) ①			
teriai (sampie) 🛈			
aterial Supplier (company name) 🛈			
upplier Contact First Name			
upplier Contact Last Name			
upplier Email			
The distributor is the same as the supplie	er.		
aterial Distributor (company name) 🗓			
istributor Contact First Name			
istributor Contact Last Name			
istributor Email			
Save And Add Another			
Save And Add Another			

Laboratory Information

Committee > Contacts > Tests > Materials > Labs > Docs > Summary > Complete

Lab Contact Information Form (Excel)

Download Form

Please fill in the Lab Contact Information form and email it back to ils@astm.org



If you only have a few labs, you can input their contact information here.

Continue

Laboratory Information Form



ILS#

Lab Information Form

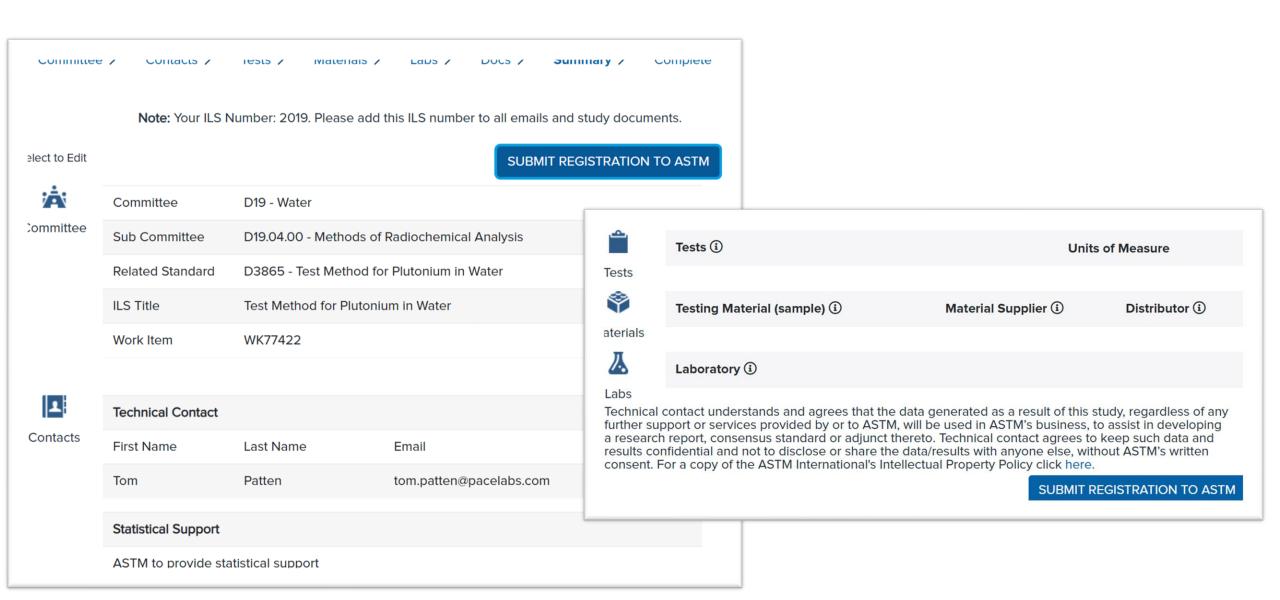
Click here to email this completed lab info form to: ils@astm.org

aboratory ame	Lab Contact Name	Lab Contact Bmail	Lab Contact Phone #	Lab Address 1	Lab Address 2	Lab City	Lab State (Full name)	Lab Zip	Lab Country (Full name)	Lab Technician Name	Lab Technician Email

Upload Documents

Committee >	Contacts >	Tests >	Materials >	Labs >	Docs >	Summary >	Complete	
Have any docum Program.	ents to share wit	th the ILS Sta	aff before our init	tial call? Use	the drag and	d drop box belov	v to attach those f	îles to your ILS
		Drag a	and Drop to	o upload	d or choo	ose a file		
We accept pdf, p send them as em			ile formats, unde	r 4MB size. I	Maximum 3 fi	iles are allowed.	If you have more	files, please
File (i)		Date U	ploaded (i)					
								Continue

Registration Summary



Key Takeaways

- One lab technician should conduct all ILS testing in each participating laboratory.
- Labs should follow the **ASTM standard** provided for the ILS and complete the testing in the **shortest possible period of time**.
- For a **full ILS**, we need good usable data from a **minimum of 6 labs**.
- Do **not** send samples to ASTM Headquarters!
- The ILS Program is a FREE member benefit, available to all committees, for members working on ASTM Test Methods.

Questions



Additional Classroom for Member Trainings

New Member Orientation & Training

Balloting & Handling Negatives Votes

WebEx Training

Roster Maintenance

Process of Developing & Revising a Standard

Task Group Chair & Technical Contact Responsibilities

Subcommittee Chair's Duties and Responsibilities

<u>Planning Symposia & Workshops</u>.

Collaboration Area Training

Phillip Godorov, Director 610-832-9715 pgodorov@astm.org

Contact Information

Kaylah St. Hill, Project Manager 610-832-9738 ksthill@astm.org Interlaboratory Study Program (ILS)

ASTM International 100 Barr Harbor Drive West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959

ILS@astm.org