

Air Compliance News™

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From the Desk of...

Tyson Houchin

*Projects Director,
Air Compliance Testing*

Role Reversal

It's our turn to be tested: The Source Evaluation Society (SES) has developed a Qualification Examination program for individual stationary source emission stack testers. The testing staff at Air Compliance Testing welcomes this opportunity to demonstrate our knowledge and be among the first to have Qualified Source Testing Individuals (QSTI) on staff. This program is consistent with the mission of SES: to advance the applied sciences relating to source evaluation with respect to air pollution and air pollution control by:

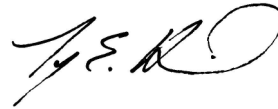
1. Promoting the development of concepts and techniques relating to the field;
2. Encouraging related professional development and knowledge; and
3. Striving to ensure the highest professional standards by its members.

The requirements for earning a Qualification Certificate are as follows:

1. The candidate must have at least 1 year of experience in the group of Methods selected for testing.
2. The candidate must pass the Method Group test.
3. The candidate must submit a completed, notarized application for qualification.
4. The candidate must submit at least three letters of reference. One letter may be from a supervisor, one from a client, and one from a State representative (*for example*), but at least two of the letters must be from outside the place of employment. These letters of reference should address the candidate's integrity and abilities/performance in the area manual methods, instrumentation methodologies, and general source characterization. These letters of reference must be sent directly to SES by the person(s) writing the letters.

Taking the SES exam meets or exceeds the external testing requirements of the ASTM D7036 standard for becoming a "Qualified Individual", which will be required for a 40 CFR Part 75 source test event.

This qualification process was developed to be thorough and meaningful. Those of us at Air Compliance Testing who will be tested look forward to the opportunity and encourage you to look for Qualified Source Testing Individual for your next test event.



OHIO PTIO Program Announced

Ohio EPA's Division of Air Pollution Control (DAPC) plans to combine the existing permit-to-install (PTI) and permit-to-operate (PTO). The division is currently developing regulations and internal processes to implement the new Permit-to-Install and Operate (PTIO) program. Nonmajor facilities (*those not requiring a Title V permit*) will likely begin receiving PTIO's in 2008.

Combining the PTI and PTO will simplify permitting obligations, halve paperwork, and reduce confusion for regulated entities. The PTIO will condense monitoring and reporting requirements into a single document for each emissions source. By eliminating potentially duplicative terms and conditions, regulated entities will clearly be able to identify their compliance responsibilities.

EPA is requesting comments by Friday, April 13, 2007. For complete information, go to:

<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dapc/permits/ptio.html>

Air Compliance Testing Services:

- Source (Stack) Emission Testing
- FTIR Testing
- CEMS Testing and Maintenance
- OSHA Compliance Monitoring
- Dispersion Modeling
- Ambient Air Monitoring



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Ozone Redesignations Proposed

On March 16, 2007, EPA issued a supplemental proposed rulemaking that would affect 18 areas in Michigan, Ohio, and West Virginia. These areas had been designated in 2004 as “nonattainment” for not meeting Ambient Air Quality Standards for ground-level ozone.

Air quality in these areas has improved sufficiently to meet the ground-level ozone standards. The states where these areas are located began working with EPA to “redesignate” the 18 areas to “attainment.” As part of this process, the states were required to show that each area can continue to maintain the standard. The 18 areas are:

Ohio - West Virginia:	Michigan:
Parkersburg - Marietta (2 parts)	Flint
Steubenville - Weirton (2 parts)	Benton Harbor
Wheeling (2 parts)	Benzie County
	Grand Rapids
	Huron County
	Kalamazoo - Battle Creek
Ohio	Lansing - East Lansing
Canton - Massillon	Mason County
Lima	Muskegon
	Cass County

After reviewing the states’ requests, EPA proposed to redesignate each of the areas to attainment, but the proposals have not been finalized. Further action has been pending the Agency’s review of the December 22, 2006, decision of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit that vacated EPA’s Phase 1 rule implementing the 8-hour ozone standard.

EPA believes that final action on these redesignation proposals is appropriate under the relevant provisions of the Clean Air Act and longstanding policies regarding redesignation requests.

In this supplemental proposal, EPA is requesting comment on its belief that the Court’s ruling does not alter the requirements relevant to these proposed redesignations so as to prevent redesignation, and that the Agency may move forward to finalize them.

TRI Data Available Early

EPA’s Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) data is available this year earlier than ever before for local communities and national analysis. Facility-specific data was released last September and the full national data was released March 22, 2007.

This year’s data shows that progress is being made in reducing releases of several chemicals of special concern. For example, between 2004 and 2005 dioxin releases decreased by 23% and mercury releases fell by 9%. In addition, several individual industries have made significant progress in reducing releases. Petroleum refining releases dropped 10%, transportation equipment registered a 6% decrease, and chemical manufacturing cut releases by 4%.

Review of the last five years of data shows chemical releases reported to TRI have decreased by 22% nationally.

95% of the 23,000 facilities used electronic reporting which was instrumental in making the information available to the public quicker and more efficiently than in previous years.

TRI tracks the chemicals and industrial sectors specified by the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 and its amendments. The Pollution Prevention Act (PPA) of 1990 also mandates that TRI reports must include data on toxic chemicals treated on-site, recycled, and burned for energy recovery. Together, these laws require facilities in certain industries to report annually on releases, disposal and other waste management activities related to these chemicals.

TRI Data for 2005 is available at:

<http://www.epa.gov/tri/tridata/tri05/index.htm>

Thinning “Sunscreen”

According to a report issued by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) scientists on March 15, Earth’s natural “sunscreen” of dust, pollution and other aerosol particles has gotten thinner since the early 1990’s. This “thinning” could also have given an extra push to the rise in global surface temperatures.

The finding may lead to a better understanding of recent climate change. In a related study also published in March, scientists found that the opposing forces of global warming and the cooling from aerosol-induced "global dimming" can occur at the same time.

The study uses the longest uninterrupted satellite record of aerosols in the lower atmosphere, a unique set of global estimates funded by NASA. Scientists created the Global Aerosol Climatology Project by extracting a clear aerosol signal from satellite measurements originally designed to observe clouds and weather systems that date back to 1978. The resulting data show large, short-lived spikes in global aerosols caused by major volcanic eruptions in 1982 and 1991, but a gradual decline since about 1990. By 2005, global aerosols had dropped as much as 20 percent from the relatively stable level between 1986 and 1991.

For the complete story, go to
<http://www.giss.nasa.gov/research/news/20070315/>

*"Chemistry can be a good and bad thing.
Chemistry is good when you make love with it.
Chemistry is bad when you make crack with it."*

~ Adam Sandler

Ozone Depleting Chemical Phaseout Schedule

The United States has submitted a proposal to adjust the Montreal Protocol, accelerating the phase-out of ozone damaging chemicals. The proposal includes four elements:

1. Accelerating the phase-out date of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) by 10 years;
2. Adding interim reduction steps;
3. Setting an earlier baseline;
4. Phasing out the most damaging HCFCs to the ozone layer as the first priority.

These proposals would accelerate existing efforts to address ozone layer protection, cleaner air, and climate change by calling on the global community to act more quickly in phasing out HCFCs. In addition, this year is the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Montreal Protocol, which presents an excellent opportunity to assess the progress that has been made since 1987, as well as an opportunity to accelerate the work that remains to be done to meet the Treaty's objectives.

For more information about the proposal, go to:
www.epa.gov/ozone/intpol/montprotocolamend.html

Earth Day 2007

Earth Day, April 22, 2007, is an opportunity to increase the awareness that environmental responsibility is everyone's responsibility. EPA has offered a number of simple everyday choices that people can make to help protect the environment.

Reduce Your Carbon Footprint

Do you know what your carbon footprint is? EPA's interactive climate change Web page has a personal carbon calculator and information on ways individuals can reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind_calculator.html

Save Energy

EPA's Energy Star Web page is the great place for consumers to find energy efficient products that are good for the environment and their wallets. Search this site to find the latest information on energy efficient electronics, lighting and cooling systems.

www.energystar.gov/homeimprovement

Use Water Efficiently

Visit EPA's WaterSense Web page to learn how efficient products and smart water choices can save money and help protect our nation's water supply.

www.epa.gov/watersense/

Check these EPA web sites for more information:

www.epa.gov/newsroom/

www.epa.gov/earthday

PM 2.5 Rule Final

EPA issued a final rule in March defining requirements the states must meet in developing their PM 2.5 implementation plans. An implementation plan includes rules and programs to reduce air pollutant emissions, and a demonstration that the area will meet the air quality standard within the time provided in the statute. The plan must include supporting technical analyses and any adopted state regulations as needed. State, local, and tribal plans must be reviewed and approved by EPA.

States must meet the PM 2.5 standard by 2010. However, in their 2008 implementation plans, states may propose an attainment date extension for up to five years. Those areas for which EPA approves an extension must achieve clean air as soon as possible, but no later than 2015.



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Our Mission Statement:

To be a high quality provider in the Environmental Services Industry that is focused on growth and on diversification through new products and acquisitions.

Our Core Values:

Customer Satisfaction
Flexibility
Rigorous Attention to Detail
Employee Empowerment and Accountability
Continuous Improvement

Upcoming Events...

- **A&WMA Northern Ohio Chapter Spring Technical Conference.** May 24, 2007, Cuyahoga Community College Eastern Campus. Go to <http://www.nocawma.org> and click on "Events" for more information.
- **AWMA 100th Anniversary Annual Conference and Exhibition.** June 26 – 29, 2007. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Go to www.awma.org for information. Stop by to see us there!

Air Compliance

Testing, Inc.

P.O. Box 41156
Cleveland, OH 44141

Excellence in Emission Testing

- ⇒ Source (Stack) Testing
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