



Newsletter

May 2009

Sampling Must Be Representative and Defensible.

THE LION GROUP LLC (TLG) provides this Newsletter as complimentary regulatory information to our clients, resources, and associates.

TLG currently has a number of projects that relate to assisting clients in addressing wastewater compliance challenges. In every case, the issue of proper wastewater sampling techniques / protocols is a major question. Regulators focus on analytical results in order to confirm that industries of all types are compliant. In basic terms, improper sampling techniques will lead to bad analytical results.

When TLG is engaged by a client one of the first steps is to begin to review the analytical results that been received in the past. Then the TLG Sampling Technologies Team will conduct a series of sampling events to confirm or question those results. TLG is a completely independent sampling service which is not affiliated with a single analytical laboratory.

Most analytical laboratories offer their own in house sampling service as an add-on to their analytical service. Analytical laboratories are in a very competitive market and in order to provide a client a "one stop shop" they have their own sampling personnel.

Sampling, if done properly, requires very experienced and well trained technicians. TLG has three levels of certified sampling technicians. The TLG technician levels are as follows:

TLG Technician 1 indicates that a person has received 24 hours of classroom training and 12 months of supervised sampling experience in the field.

TLG Technician 2 indicates that a person has received 48 hours of classroom training, provided classroom instruction, has demonstrated competency in sampler repair and calibration, and has 2 years of sampling experience.

TLG Technician 3 indicates that a person has participated in over 70 hours of classroom training, completed all the requirements for a Technician 2, and has over 5 years of sampling experience.

In almost every case TLG has found that improper sampling procedures have been a contributing factor leading to erroneous analytical results. In some projects the final analytical difference between TLG sampling and another party sampling is so much that it is not explainable. In most instances TLG will conduct sampling in the same waste stream as close to the target sampling point in order to demonstrate a correlation between the analytical results. In doing the "multiple sampling" TLG is able to demonstrate what ever results are reported that there is a correlation to one another, there by demonstrating a defensible and representative sample.

If your company is required to sample please ensure that the selected sampling service is well experienced and properly trained. Assure the service has field protocols documented. Assure that the equipment used is proper and calibrated as required. Proper sampling containers and preservation is a must as well as a solid documentation trail such as labeling of samples and proper chain of custodies.

What service selected to do your sampling must have a record of low turn over in their personnel which is a good indicator of how deep is the experience level is. Remember that if you have compliance challenges and or higher than acceptable surcharges those issues are greatly affected by the sampling techniques used.

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As we grow, we continue to look for well-qualified resources who want to grow in personal and professional strengths and abilities that can contribute

to our continued success. Would you be a great contributor to THE LION GROUP TEAM? Call our office at 817.731.4141 and discuss with TLG Principal, Thomas Jones –or– mail your resume / background experience to 4012 Old Benbrook Rd., Fort Worth TX 76116-7810 –or– email to mail.theliongroupllc.com.

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THE LION GROUP TEAM

SAMPLING SPECIALISTS
STORMWATER · WASTEWATER
· AIR · SOIL
817.731.4141




THE LION GROUP LLC
EH&S SAMPLING TECHNOLOGIES

- Certified Sampling Technicians
- Proper Field Protocols
- Representative and Defensible Sampling
- Acceptable / Defensible Chain-of-Custody
- Proper Preservations / Sample Retention
- Field Notes, as required