



## AIHA Proficiency Analytical Testing Programs Update

### **Invoicing**

The AIHA PAT Programs mailed out the Annual Invoices on October 20, 2011. The program invoices were generated based on your laboratory's current enrollment. Current participants are invoiced through an auto-renewal billing system and are billed prior to the beginning of the year for the next year's dues. Please note that invoicing terms are net 30 days. Instructions to make changes to enrollment and make payment are provided on the back of your laboratory's invoice. All change requests including dropping from any PT program must be sent in writing. Please contact Anthony Hodge at [ahodge@aiha.org](mailto:ahodge@aiha.org) if you have any questions regarding your invoice.

### **PAT Participant Directory**

The AIHA PAT Programs presents the PAT Participant Directory (PAT Directory). This is a searchable listing of the current participants in the AIHA PAT Programs. The PAT Directory contains the most up-to-date enrollment and contact information. The PAT Directory is a great avenue through which customers can find your laboratory and your laboratory can view your enrollment and contact information. Please submit all your contact or address changes for your AIHA PAT Programs participation via email to [info.PATLLC@aiha.org](mailto:info.PATLLC@aiha.org). Don't forget to include your organization ID number on the request.

### **PAT Customer Satisfaction Survey**

We are listening and are glad that your laboratory participated in the PAT Customer Satisfaction Survey. We would like to share some of the improvements that we have implemented based on the survey feedback that we received from you.

### **Results Submission:**

#### *EMPAT Culture results*

The AIHA PAT Programs will be switching to online submission of EMPAT Culture results. The goal is to have laboratories enter their round responses into a data reporting portal starting with EMPAT Round 47 (the first round of 2012). All the current rules regarding the results submission such as correct spelling, reporting results by the results due date will remain the same. More information will be provided to participants at the beginning of the year to ensure that all participants report data correctly.

#### *BAPAT Results*

The BAPAT Data Portal has been updated to allow laboratories to submit their data multiple times until the reporting deadline. This is ideal for participants who identify an error in their data submission during additional review of their submission confirmation printout page.

### *BAPAT/BePAT Results*

Receiving results reports as soon as possible is important to our participants and the AIHA PAT Programs has worked with our sub-contractor to reduce the time between results submission and the availability of reports.

### *IHPAT & ELPAT Reports*

The AIHA PAT Programs, LLC has upgraded its data management system to alleviate report access issues that some participants were having. Please do contact us at [info.PATLLC@aiha.org](mailto:info.PATLLC@aiha.org) if you still have trouble accessing or printing your laboratory's results.

### *PT Sample Shipment*

Participants have a limited window to analyze samples and report results and The AIHA PAT Programs, LLC is committed to getting samples to the laboratory in a timely manner. As the AIHA PAT Programs, LLC renews its contracts with the various PT sample sub-contractors we are moving towards shipping all international samples for regular rounds by courier. This will ensure that our international participants are able to analyze samples and report data within a reasonable timeframe. International participants are strongly encouraged to keep their physical address information current so that round samples are delivered seamlessly.

### **Additional Industrial Hygiene Metals Analytes in 2012**

The Industrial Hygiene Proficiency Analytical Testing (IHPAT) Program will include two additional metals: nickel and manganese and will be dropping zinc from the metals rotation. This change will take effect during IHPAT 188 (the first IHPAT round of 2012).

### **Social Media**

We are now on Twitter and you can follow us to receive updates and reminders regarding the PAT programs. Our Twitter handle is @AIHA\_PAT.

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The **AIHA Proficiency Analytical Testing Programs, LLC** provides laboratories with the opportunity to improve and refine the analytical skills of their staff, while testing new procedures or training different analysts. These programs, which are open to all laboratories, allow laboratories' employees to demonstrate their ability to correctly analyze samples in the workplace and the environment. All AIHA PAT Programs, LLC meet international program requirements established under International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Guide 13.