

Instructions to participants for the interlaboratory study mixed-Xylenes iis21C13

- * Please **confirm sample receipt** as soon as you have received this package and checked the contents via the data entry portal www.kpmd.co.uk/sqs-iis/. Please give date of receipt and press the "Save Date" button. Please inform the Institute for Interlaboratory Studies (iis) immediately when something is wrong with the package and/or samples via nl.iis@sgs.com.
- * When a bottle has been broken, please do not accept the package from the courier. Please note that we will only send a replacement bottle at our cost when there is proof of the sample being broken upon receipt. This means that the consignee must report a broken bottle immediately. The consignee should take pictures of how the package and bottles looked upon arrival. We need these pictures to claim costs from the forwarders. The consignee should always mark any damage (dents, rips, leakage etc.) on the outside of the packages on the consignment note from the courier when it is delivered. Even minor damages should be reported. Please send copies of consignment notes and the pictures via e-mail to nl.saman.iis@sgs.com.
- * This interlaboratory study concerns **2 different** samples of mixed-Xylenes, 1x 250mL glass bottle labelled #21181 and 1x 250mL glass bottle labelled #21182 for various analyzes. You can check the test scope in round iis21C13 via www.kpmd.co.uk/sqs-iis/.
- * Please treat the samples **as if they were routine samples** and analyze them in the way you normally do in day-to-day circumstances. Each laboratory is advised to analyze only those components you normally do (but you are allowed to report all components if you like).

* **Reporting of test results:**

Within a time frame of five weeks test results can be entered or revised. Please report your test results via www.kpmd.co.uk/sqs-iis/. It is not necessary to enter all test results in one session. Within the time frame you can add (or delete) test results and/or change test results or units. Please **do not forget** to hit the "Save/Submit" button after entering the test results. Please note that you will get a pop up to say that you have submitted your test results. You can check if your test results have been saved by logging out and logging in again. When your test results are still present it means that everything is OK and that your test results are received in good order.

On the report page is a column, titled "reference method". In case a method is mentioned in this column, it will be used for the calculation of the z-scores. It is of utmost importance to know that it is **not mandatory** to use this 'reference method' as test method. Please select the method that you used from the picklist under "Actual Method Used". When your method is not listed here, please select "Other" and write the method that you used in the comments.

Please report the test results using the indicated units. It is possible to report in the last column the test results rounded in accordance with the test method that was used and in the first result column the same test results but less rounded. Please note that it is not mandatory to report both 'rounded' and 'unrounded' test results. The 'unrounded' test results are preferably used for our statistical evaluations. However the 'rounded' test results will be used in case the 'unrounded' test results are not reported. We suggest to report extra significant figures in order to give more meaningful statistical evaluations. For example, when you use ASTM D7504 for the determination of m-Xylene and you found a test result of 39.99463 %M/M, we request you to report 39.99463 %M/M as 'unrounded' test result and 39.9946 %M/M as 'rounded' test result in accordance with ASTM D7504.

It is also requested not to report 'less than' test results, which are above the detection limit, because such test results cannot be used for meaningful statistical evaluations.

The official closing date for reporting test results for this PT is October 15, 2021.

After the official closing date it is no longer possible to submit or correct test results via the data entry portal. When you cannot report via the portal or for unforeseen reasons cannot report before the closing date, please inform the Institute for Interlaboratory Studies (iis).

- * **For all communication (e.g. problems with the package/samples, login details for the data entry portal, not reporting in time) or any remarks/questions please contact:**
ing. R.J. Starink, Institute for Interlaboratory Studies (iis)
P.O. box 200, 3200 AE Spijkensisse, The Netherlands
tel.no. +31 181 69 45 41 / fax.no. +31 181 69 45 43
e-mail: nl.iis@sgs.com / website: www.iisnl.com