



Action 2 of the Customs Laboratories European Network:

Inter-comparisons and method validations



The main objective of CLEN Action 2 is to ensure a uniform application of the control of goods in the Community through the harmonisation and the validation of methods used by the laboratories.

Participation in Proficiency Testing Schemes is an important means for each laboratory to assess its own performances and way of working and to confirm that the results are comparable to the others. It is also essential to achieve accreditation.

The design of each study depends on its purpose, i.e. whether the aim is to:

- carry out collaborative trials for the validation of a specific method,
- carry out a comparison of different methods or analytical protocols used to measure the same analyte, or on the other hand to
- assess the laboratories performance as in a proficiency testing scheme.

Preparation of the studies and their results are discussed in meetings of the ad-hoc working group of volunteer participants for each study.

The studies organised within the CLEN usually:

- Gather between 10 and 50 participating laboratories
- Deal with 2 to 10 samples
- Are carried out on 1 to 20 different parameters

Ring test on ceramics and pottery



Proficiency test related to Meursing table



Ring test on milk products



Proficiency test on mineral oils



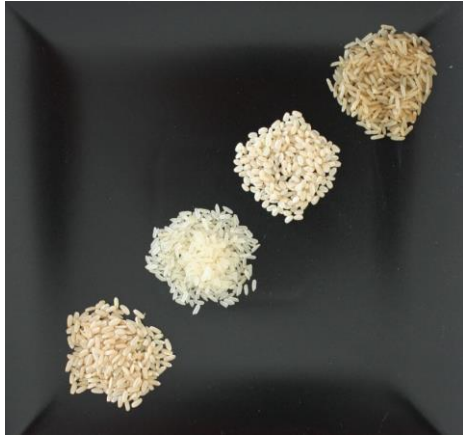
Ring test on nuts and seeds



Proficiency Test on pet-food



Proficiency test on rice



Ring test on Solvent Yellow 124 in gas oil



Proficiency test on spirits, alcoholic beverages and alcohol-based preparations



Proficiency test on sugars and sugar containing products



Proficiency test on Textiles



Ring test on the dimensions of tobacco product particles

