

AIHA bestows honor on WOHL QC officer

Derek Popp, the Wisconsin Occupational Health Laboratory's quality control coordinator, received the American Industrial Hygiene Association's Evan Campbell Committee Member of the Year Award last year.

The award is given annually to the outstanding member among those serving on the AIHA's Laboratory Accreditation Committees. Candidates are nominated by the Accreditation Board

and AIHA staff, then voted on by the board.

Popp has served on the AIHA's Environmental Lead Laboratory Accreditation Committee since 2000. The committees write AIHA policies and establish laboratory accreditation criteria for industrial hygiene, lead, and mold analysis.

Popp has over 15 years of industrial hygiene experience at WOHL. He has been the lead QC officer since 1990.



What's new at

WOHL ?

Take a look inside to find out!

Wisconsin Occupational Health Laboratory
Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
2601 Agriculture Drive
P.O. Box 7996
Madison, WI 53707-7996

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Reactions

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2601 Agriculture Drive, Madison WI, 53718 • 800-446-0403 • WOHLservice@mail.slh.wisc.edu

2004

WOHL wide web unveiled!

Your favorite industrial hygiene laboratory has a new home on the Internet:

www.wohlab.com

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WOHL
The Wisconsin Occupational Health Laboratory
Leaders in Industrial Hygiene Analysis for over 50 years!

WE CAN DO IT WOHL offering hard to find tests

Providing our worldwide customers with state of the art science, excellent quality and exceptional customer service!

WOHL prides itself on supplying our customers with an extensive list of analytical capabilities, method development experience and industrial hygiene expertise.

A brief list of some of our analytical capabilities include:
Metals, VOCs, Bioaerosols (molds, spores), Bacteria, Silica, Asbestos, Pesticides, Elemental Carbon (Diesel Exhaust), mVOCs, Environmental Tobacco Smoke, Isocyanates and many many more. Click on the "Sample Analysis" link on the menu bar at your left for more detailed analytical details. If you don't see it on the list; contact the lab. Odds are we have done (or can develop) a method to find your compound of interest.

AIHA
Environmental Microbiology
ACCREDITED LABORATORY

WOHL Most Popular "Quick Links"

- Online Sampling Guide
- Ask The Experts
- Online Media Ordering
- Sample Submission Forms
- WOHL Quality Documents
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Contact the Laboratory

Feedback, questions or accessibility issues:
WOHLservice@mail.slh.wisc.edu

The Wisconsin Occupational Health Laboratory
2601 Agriculture Drive
Madison WI 53718
Phone: 1-800-446-0403
Fax: 1-608-224-6213

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Bookmark www.wohlab.com today! Check us out the next time you need to order supplies, get answers to your technical questions, or learn more about the wide range of analytical services offered by WOHL. Take a look inside this edition of Reactions to learn more about some of the ways www.wohlab.com can make life easier — and safer — for you and your clients.

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Some highlights of www.wohlab.com

Here's a quick look at a few of the helpful and interesting things you will find on the new WOHL website, www.wohlab.com.

Lab capabilities

Wondering if we run samples for elemental carbon or ethanalamine? (We do both, by the way.) Check out our online sampling guide to verify the appropriate media type, flow rate, sampling time and other vital information about all the analytical services offered by WOHL, including bioaerosols, asbestos, solvents, silica, metals, and many more.

Homeowner help

Our Healthy Homes section of the website is devoted to homeowners concerned about potential hazards, such as lead paint, radon, mold, and asbestos. Useful information presented in an easy-to-understand format, with links to state and federal agencies.

Online media ordering

A shipment of a dozen small charcoal tubes is now just a click away with our online media ordering form. Select the number and type from any of our nearly 40 media types, click on the submit button, and your order will be processed as soon as possible.

Ask the experts

Got a question about an unusual test or how to proceed in a unique situation? Drop us an email using the link provided and one of our highly trained professionals will get you an answer within 24 hours.



Get it now: WOHL reports emailed, faxed automatically

Completed analytical reports are available faster than ever before now that WOHL has implemented its automatic email and fax service.

Simply provide your email address and/or your fax number and all future reports will be sent to you electronically as soon as they are printed at the laboratory.

There is no charge for this service and it is applied to all re-

ports, regardless of whether routine, priority or rush turnaround is requested for your samples.

Enhancements to this new benefit are on the way. Plans include making it possible to check on the status of a study in real-time using a web-based client login, and providing graphical and statistical analysis of sample results. Check out future issues of *Reactions* for updates.

Be wise: WOHL AIHA-accredited for Beryllium

The WOHL Inorganic Metals Unit has been testing samples for beryllium for over 15 years, but the increased attention paid to the toxicity of beryllium recently led to the establishment of a proficiency testing and accreditation program by the American Industrial Hygiene Association.

WOHL became one of the initial group of laboratories accredited for beryllium analysis by the AIHA last year.

Collect air samples for beryllium on mixed cellulose ester filters at 2 L/min. Use Whatman filters for wipe samples.

MVOC testing now available

WOHL has developed a method to analyze for microbial VOCs, the musty smelling volatile organic compounds produced by molds as they grow.

The method is suited to cases where visible mold growth is not present but there is a noticeable odor. A positive result indicates there may be an unseen mold problem and further investigation is warranted.

Collect samples using a proprietary thermal desorption tube. Samples are analyzed by GC-MS.

WOHL introduces Endotoxin assay

A growing concern throughout the industrial hygiene community is the health effects of endotoxins in the workplace.

Endotoxins, lipopolysaccharide (LPS) components of Gram-negative bacteria, are released into the environment during active cell growth and after bacterial cell lysis. Health problems associated with endotoxins including malaise, chest tightness, cough, wheezing, shortness of breath, and headache.

Gram-negative bacteria are found in many work environments, such as sewage treatment plants, cotton textile mills, farms, manufacturing plants, and animal housing facilities. Even office buildings can be affected, especially where humidification systems are in operation.

To answer the increased need for monitoring and testing for endotoxins, WOHL's Bioaerosols Unit recently added the Kinetic-QCL LAL Endotoxin Assay for air and liquid samples to its analytical capabilities.

Air samples must be collected in pyrogen-free (endotoxin-free) polycarbonate cassettes. Fluid samples must be collected in pyrogen-free bottles. WOHL is happy to supply both media at no charge upon request.

Take note that samples must be refrigerated – but NOT frozen – immediately after collection and shipped to WOHL within 24 hours to minimize bioactivity and help prevent falsely elevated endotoxin readings.

Results are typically available within one week.

More news from bioaerosols

Bacterial and fungal species identification by the Biolog Microbial Identification System is now available at WOHL.

The technology compares the carbon utilization fingerprint of an organism to a database to ascertain its genus and species.

Turnaround time is two to four business days for bacteria and four to seven days for fungi.

New sampling media

WOHL is now offering a disposable vacuum sampling device for collection of samples for bioaerosol analysis.

The Environmental

Monitoring Systems product (pictured) attaches to a standard vacuum cleaner wand and is a convenient alternative to vacuum sampling with inefficient mixed cellulose ester filter cassettes or other vacuum insert-type bags. The cost is \$8.00 per device.

❖ Another new media type now available at WOHL is BioTape, which can be used for bioaerosol tape sampling. There is no additional charge for this individually packaged media.



How to reach us: Staff directory

ADMINISTRATION

WOHL director

Terry Burk
(608) 224-6215
tb@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Customer service

Barb Endres
(608) 224-6210
be@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Kathy Loehr-Lishka
(608) 224-6210
loehrlka@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Dee Ann McGary
(608) 224-6210
dam@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Glassware

Bill Coppens
(608) 224-6208
coppennw@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Information technology

Eric Maly
(608) 224-6236
malyec@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Dave Schleis
(608) 224-6227
dave@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Quality control

Donna Johnsen
(608) 224-6298
drjohnse@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Derek Popp
(608) 224-6298
dp@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Shipping

Larry Yonash
(608) 224-6214
tb@mail.slh.wisc.edu

BIOAEROSOLS

Bioaerosols technical chief

Christine Powell
(608) 224-6261
cp@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Molds, spores and bacteria

Curtis Hedman
(608) 224-6261
hedmancj@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Paul Eglsaer
(608) 224-6261
pce@mail.slh.wisc.edu

RJ Messling
(608) 224-6262
messlirj@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Terri Williams
(608) 224-6261
williatl@mail.slh.wisc.edu

INORGANICS

Inorganics supervisor

Lyle Reichmann
(608) 224-6216
lr@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Asbestos

Dick Kittel
(608) 224-6222
rlk@mail.slh.wisc.edu

John Knight
(608) 224-6222
jk@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Bill Steele
(608) 224-6222
ws@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Chromatography

LeRoy Dobson
(608) 224-6223
ld@mail.slh.wisc.edu

John Glowacki
(608) 224-6224
jglow@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Pam Skaar
(608) 224-6224
skaarps@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Metals

Shakker Amer
(608) 224-6225
saa@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Mike Grochowksi
(608) 224-6226
mg@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Jason Loughrin
(608) 224-6225
loughjt@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Doug Smieja
(608) 224-6225
ds@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Weights

John Draeger
(608) 224-6297
draeger@mail.slh.wisc.edu

ORGANICS

Organics supervisor

Steve Strebel
(608) 224-6216
ss@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Mass Spectrometry

Mark Mieritz
(608) 224-6219
mm@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Non-routine

Alan Cormack
(608) 224-6218
abc@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Dan Omilianowski
(608) 224-6217
do@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Pesticides

Mark Hudziak
(608) 224-6218
mh@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Solvents

Adam Bednarek
(608) 224-6219
ab@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Jim Blair
(608) 224-6219
jeb@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Michael Jager
(608) 224-6219
jagermj@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Cheri Johnson
(608) 224-6218
cj@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Tony Liebig
(608) 224-6219
al@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Kathleen Reihbandt
(608) 224-6220
kr@mail.slh.wisc.edu

Shari Schwabe
(608) 224-6218
sls@mail.slh.wisc.edu