

Collaboration – Partnerships for a New Day

State Environmental Laboratory
Profiles and Accreditation

2007 APHL Annual Meeting
Jacksonville, Florida



State Environmental Laboratory Profiles and Accreditation



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The Iowa Perspective

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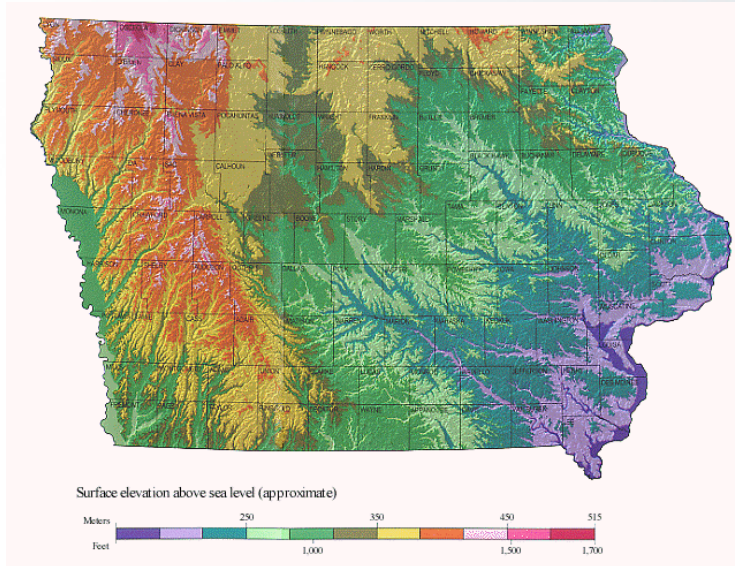
State Environmental Laboratory Profiles and Accreditation



The Iowa Perspective

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Environmental Health Programs

State Environmental Laboratory Profiles and Accreditation



The Iowa Perspective

- University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory (UHL)
- State's Primacy Laboratory for Drinking and Wastewater

UHL Laboratories



- **Ankeny Laboratory**
University Hygienic Laboratory
2220 S. Ankeny Blvd.
Ankeny, IA 50023-9093
- **Iowa City Laboratory**
University Hygienic Laboratory
102 Oakdale Campus #H101 OH
Iowa City, IA 52242-5002
- Considered as two separate laboratories by accrediting agencies

UHL Accreditations



- **Certifications / Accreditations:**
 - **AIHA** (The American Industrial Hygiene Association)
Description: Environmental Lead and Industrial Hygiene
 - **CLIA** (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments)
Description: Moderate and/or High Complexity Testing
 - **SDWA - EPA** (Safe Drinking Water Act - Environmental Protection Agency)
Description: SDWA Program: Chemical, Microbiological, and Radiological

UHL Accreditations



- **Certifications / Accreditations:**
 - **State of Iowa** - DNR (Department of Natural Resources)
 - *Description:* Drinking Water, Underground Storage Tank, Wastewater, and Solid Waste and Contaminated Sites
Chemical, Microbiological, and Radiological
 - **State of Minnesota** - Department of Environmental Protection
 - *Description:* Drinking Water and Wastewater Programs:
Chemical and Microbiological

UHL – NELAC/TNI



Why NELAP ?

- EPA Region 7 – Drinking Water Program
- Iowa Certification
 - Drinking Water
 - Waste Water
 - Underground Storage Tanks
 - Solid Waste
- Certification of Additional Program
 - EPA Certification/Accreditation NOT Available
 - Beyond “home” state certification program

UHL – NELAC/TNI



NELAP

- National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program
- State of California Department of Health Services
Description: Drinking Water, Wastewater, Solid Waste Chemical, Microbiological, Asbestos, Radiological and Toxicity

Why California?

At the time, scope of accreditation covered all programs needed by the UHL at both the Ankeny and Iowa City laboratories

UHL – NELAC/TNI



- **Advantages**

- Uniform Accreditation Standards
- Accreditation requirements based on ISO Guide 17025
 - Proficiency testing
 - Quality system
 - On-site assessment
- Accreditation across programs: Drinking Water, Waste Water, Solid Waste
- Reciprocity
- Accepted by EPA Region 7 for SDWA

UHL – NELAC/TNI



NELAP Reciprocity

- **State of Kansas** – Department of Health and Environment
Description: Drinking Water, Wastewater, Solid Waste
Chemical, Microbiological, Asbestos, Radiological and Toxicity
- **State of Nebraska** - Department of Environmental Protection
Description: Drinking Water private samples only: Chemical and Microbiological
- **State of New Hampshire** - Department of Environmental Protection
Description: Chemical and Radiochemistry
- **State of Tennessee** - DNR (Department of Natural Resources)
Description: Radiochemistry

UHL – NELAC/TNI



- **Disadvantages**

- Additional Proficiency Testing Requirements
- Limited State Accrediting Authorities (AA)
 - At present – 13 AA
- Need AA that accredits for all Programs/Fields of Testing (FOT)
- EPA is NOT an AA
- Some issues with ISO copyright restrictions
- Costs

UHL – Accreditation Costs



- Both Ankeny and Iowa City Laboratories
- Accreditation Fees: \$ 77,000 – \$ 87,000/year
- Proficiency Testing Fees: > \$ 36,000/year
- Total Costs: > \$ 100,000/year
- 2006 - > 45,000 samples analyzed
Nearly 178,000 tests

Issues



- Inconsistent acceptance within states
 - State specific programs/standards
 - Iowa UST Program
 - NELAC Standards
 - Reciprocity
- Some state laboratories part of state's certification program
 - Potential conflict of interest
- Accreditation from another state AA
 - EPA is NOT and AA
- Inconsistent Program/Field of Testing accreditation across AA

Conclusion



- NELAC Standards - Quality System
- Limited Accrediting Authorities
- Some Limitations in Programs/Fields of Testing per Accrediting Authority
- Some state specific programs/methods
- Reciprocity inconsistent
- Accreditation of State Environmental Labs