

Soils

Aim of the Program

This proficiency testing program aims to assess laboratories' ability to competently perform the tests in accordance with the AS 1289 series of standards; and to provide participants with external quality assurance to enhance accuracy and reliability.

Application of the Program to Accreditation

Participation in this proficiency testing program satisfies the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2017 – *General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories* for monitoring performance by comparing results with other laboratories.

Program Details

The Soils program is a triannual program comprising of two Classification rounds and one CBR round per year.

Sample – One soil sample.

Tests – Apparent Particle Density, Moisture Content, Liquid Limit, Plastic Limit, Plasticity Index, Linear Shrinkage, Particle Size Distribution Sieving and Hydrometer Method, Emerson Class and California Bearing Ratio (CBR).

Statistical Analysis:

A robust z-score technique is used to assess performance.

Reporting:

At the conclusion of each round, each participant receives a confidential individual summary sheet, detailing its performance in the program, and a final program report summarising all participant data.

Confidentiality

Each participant is assigned a unique code number, keeping all results anonymous in all PTA reports and publications.

Fees and Further Information

For information on program fees or other enquiries, please contact PTA directly:

Email: ptaenquiry@pta.asn.au