

## Proficiency Testing Group

Proficiency testing provider no. 7014 accredited by ČIA

according to ČSN EN ISO/IEC 17043:2010

### Information on Programme PT/COAL/2026

Dear testing laboratory employees,

We invite you to participate in the **PT/COAL/2026** proficiency testing programme, which is designed as an interlaboratory comparison. The programme is intended for testing laboratories that perform tests on solid fossil fuels. The aim of the programme is to demonstrate the competence of accredited and non-accredited laboratories, including verification of the measurement uncertainties used.

#### PT Programme

The subject of the **PT/COAL/2026** programme is determination of

- ash,
- gross calorific value,
- sulphur content,
- carbon content,
- hydrogen content,
- nitrogen content,
- volatile matter content,
- chlorine content and
- mercury content.

#### Test Items

The test items will be five analytical samples of solid fossil fuels, of which three will be brown coal samples and one each will be black coal and coke samples.

The test items will be prepared by an external provider in a testing laboratory. The homogeneity and stability of each set of items will be verified, and the necessary analyses will be performed by an external service provider in an accredited testing laboratory. The SZZ is fully responsible for these services.

#### PT Programme Organization

- The deadline for sending applications is **January 15, 2026**.
- Five items of about 35 g each will be sent by mail with detailed instructions by **January 21, 2026**. Other delivery methods can be arranged.
- The tests will be conducted and the results delivered by **February 27, 2026**.
- Participants will receive an electronic version of the draft final report by **March 30, 2026**.
- Participants may submit their comments on the draft final report by **April 8, 2026**.
- The final report will be sent to participants electronically by **April 22, 2026**.
- Each participant will receive a printed certificate of participation along with an individual performance evaluation.
- Participants may use any methods they normally use. Separate evaluation of results by method is only possible if there are sufficient results for a given method; otherwise, this will be considered in the comments on the results.
- It is not an obligatory requirement to determine all characteristics or all items in the program. However, the fee remains the same in such cases.
- If items are not delivered on time according to the schedule, please file a complaint with SZZ.
- Items will be identified by unique numerical codes to prevent collusion or falsification of results.
- Each participant will receive only one set of items and may submit only one set of results.
- Once the draft report has been published, the results received cannot be changed nor deleted.

## Results and evaluation of the PT programme

The results of the PT programme evaluation will be included in a summary final report. This report will publish the following information from participants: laboratory number, experimental data and their uncertainties, and additional information. Participants from the Czech Republic and Slovakia will receive all documents in Czech, while participants from other countries will receive them in English. The deadline for appealing the summary final report is **May 22, 2026**.

In accordance with the requirements of ČSN EN ISO/IEC 17043, statistical methods according to ČSN ISO 13528 will be used to evaluate the participant's performance, with the evaluation of performance according to z-score or z'-score. The result is considered satisfactory if  $|z'_i| \leq 2$ , questionable if  $2 < |z'_i| < 3$ , otherwise unsatisfactory. A suitable robust mean value characterizing the given distribution of the set of laboratory results will be used as an assigned value. In the event of a low number of laboratories, Horn's procedure will be used. The differences will then be compared with the standardized values for reproducibility according to the standards:

- **ČSN ISO 1171 Coal and coke** – Determination of ash.
- **ČSN ISO 1928 Coal and coke** – Determination of gross calorific value.
- **ČSN ISO 19579 Solid mineral fuels** – Determination of sulfur by IR spectrometry.
- **ČSN ISO 29541 Solid mineral fuels** – Solid mineral fuels — Determination of total carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen content – Instrumental method.
- **ČSN ISO 562 Hard coal and coke** – Determination of volatile matter.
- **ČSN ISO 5071-1 Brown coals and lignites** – Determination of the volatile matter in the analysis sample – Part 1: Two-furnace method.
- **ČSN 44 1393 Coal and lignite**. Determination of mercury.
- **ČSN ISO 587 Coal and coke** – Determination of chlorine using Eschka mixture.

## Application



The criteria for participation are the timely submission of a complete application by **January 15, 2026**, agreement with the terms and conditions in the application, and the participation of a minimum of 7 laboratories. Please send your signed application electronically to [szz@orgrez.cz](mailto:szz@orgrez.cz). The application form and other information about proficiency testing programs can be found at <https://www.orgrez.cz/en/laboratore/proficiency-testing-of-testing-laboratories>.



## Participation Fee

The fee for participation in the **PT/COAL/2026** programme is **CZK 16,200** excluding VAT. Transportation costs and any applicable taxes and other fees are not included in the fee and will be added according to actual costs. If you are interested in quality control materials, the fee is **CZK 590** excluding VAT per sample. Each participant will receive an invoice after the completion of the program. Payment in EUR will be charged according to the current CZK/EUR exchange rate on the date of invoice issuance. If you need to issue an order, please specify the date of **April 22, 2026**, or later for invoicing purposes.

## Privacy Policy



ORGREZ, a.s. processes personal data of business partners in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016, effective on 25 May 2018, on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (GDPR) information on the processing of personal data of business partners is available on the website of ORGREZ, a.s., (<https://www.orgrez.cz/en/gdpr>).

Wishing you successful cooperation

**Michal Petrák** – coordinator of the Proficiency Testing Group