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Z 7014

Proficiency Testing Group

Proficiency testing provider no. 7014 accredited by ČIA

according to ČSN EN ISO/IEC 17043:2023

Information on Programme PT/COAL/2027

Dear testing laboratory employees,

We invite you to participate in the **PT/COAL/2027** 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/2027** 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 25, 2027**.
- Five items of about 35 g each will be shipped along with detailed instructions by **February 1, 2027**. Other delivery methods can be arranged.
- The tests will be conducted and the results delivered by **March 5, 2027**.
- We will send participants who have paid the program fee a final report, a certificate of participation, and an individual performance evaluation by email by **April 9, 2027** at the latest.
- If items are not delivered on time according to the schedule, please file a complaint with SZZ.
- 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.
- 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 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 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 summary final report is **May 10, 2027.**

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** – 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 ISO 15237 Coal** – Determination of total 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 25, 2027**, 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. 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/2027** 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. Once the items have been dispatched, each participant will receive a tax invoice. If you are interested in quality control materials, the fee is **CZK 650** excluding VAT per sample. 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 **February 1, 2027**, 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