

# Committee on Fibre Measurement

# RICE Scheme

Regular Interlaboratory Counting Exchanges  
(Quality Control of Asbestos Fibre Counting)

## CLASSIFICATION OF LABORATORY PERFORMANCE

Laboratory N<sup>o</sup>: **1275**

Period: **26 Nov 2009 to 11 May 2011**

Rounds: **84 - 87**

Laboratory: **ENQUIN ENVIRONMENTAL Ltd.**  
**1 Ringside Business Park**  
**Heol-y-Rhosuog**  
**Wentloog**  
**Cardiff**  
**CF3 2EW**  
**UK**

Classification: **Category 1 (Satisfactory)**

No. of Batches **4**

### Notes

- 1 The RICE scheme tests proficiency in the use of the optical microscopy method of counting asbestos fibres as described in the Health and Safety Executive publication HSG248.
- 2 The classifications will be updated after each subsequent round i.e. at 3 - 4 month intervals.
- 3 Laboratories which have completed fewer than four rounds are normally classified as AWAITING CLASSIFICATION. On completion of four rounds laboratories are classified with the performance category (CATEGORY 1, CATEGORY 2 or CATEGORY 3). Category 1 represents GOOD performance, Category 2 is ACCEPTABLE (but needs improvement), while category 3 is UNSATISFACTORY performance.

Signature: Alison Clark  
RICE Scheme Manager



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**RICE**

Summary of Laboratory Results  
**Rounds 84 - 87**

Laboratory: <b>1275</b> <b>ENQUIN ENVIRONMENTAL Ltd., CF3 2EW, UK</b>				Number ( <i>and percentage</i> ) of counts in performance bands				
Round	Group	Batch	Evaluation date	Band A	Band A & Band B	Band -C	Band +C	
87	1	70	11 May 2011	14	18	1	0	
				74%	95%	5%	0%	
86	1	25	15 Nov 2010	24	24	0	0	
				100%	100%	0%	0%	
85	1	68	28 May 2010	22	24	0	0	
				92%	100%	0%	0%	
84	1	1	26 Nov 2009	22	24	0	0	
				92%	100%	0%	0%	
Four-round average percentages				90%	98%	1%	0%	
<b>Category 1</b>								
Categories from previous rounds				Round	R87 B70	R86 B25	R85 B68	R84 B1
				Category	1	1	1	1

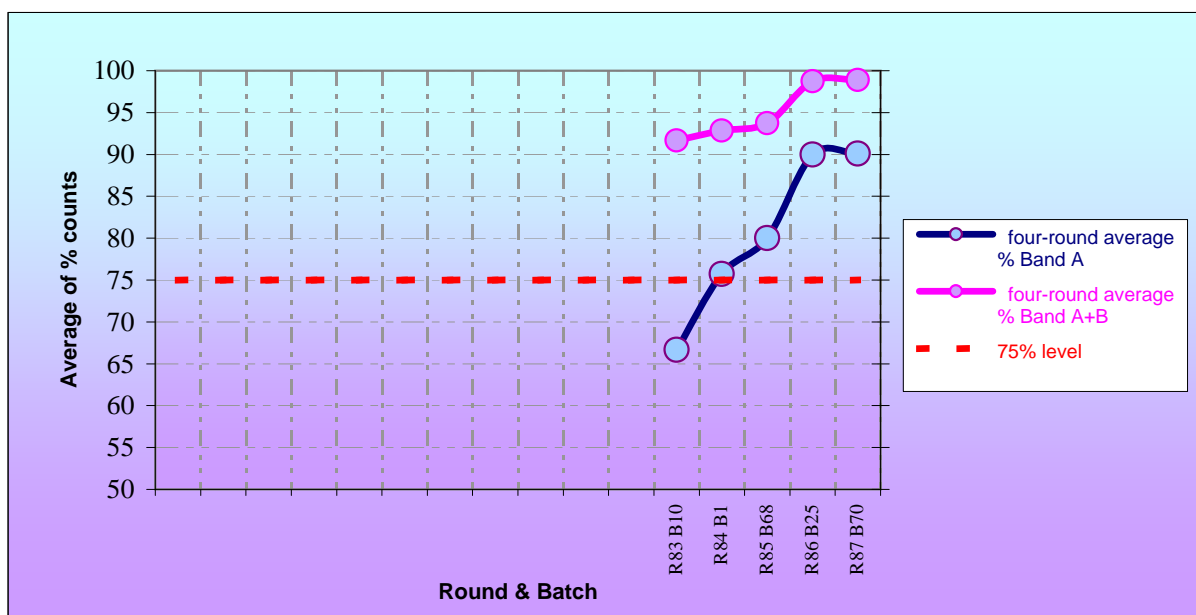
**Calculation of Category**

In routine cases, if the four-round average percentage of counts in Band A is 75% or more, the category is 1; failing that, if the average of counts in Bands A and B combined is 75% or more, the category is 2; otherwise the category is 3.

The category may be subject to review (e.g. if one of the four rounds was missed or if an extra batch of samples was evaluated).

Full details on the assessment of categories, and on the formal performance classifications, are given in the document "*RICE Information for Participants*".





	This laboratory
Current four-round average percentage of A counts	90%
Current four-round average percentage of A + B counts	98%

The plot shown above is a representation of your laboratory's counting performance during the last several rounds of the RICE Scheme.

The lower line is the percentage of counts inside the INNER limits (*i.e.* those achieving a "Band A" mark), as a running average over four consecutive rounds. The upper line is the four-round running average of counts inside the OUTER limits (those counts in Bands A or B).

**When both lines are on or above the 75 percent level, the laboratory is Category 1.**

**When one line is on or above the 75 percent level and the other line below, the laboratory is Category 2.**

**When both lines are below the 75 percent level, the laboratory is Category 3.**

This plot may be used to help assess the standard and trends of your laboratory's recent counting performance. Category 1 is regarded as "good" performance. Category 2, although still "satisfactory" means that improvement should be sought. Category 3 should always be considered unsatisfactory performance and you should act urgently to remedy this.

Take account of any recent trends in the plotted lines: for example, a steep drop in performance would be better investigated while the laboratory is still above the 75% level. Remember also that these are four-round averages, so there is likely to be a delay before an improvement or deterioration becomes obvious.

*(Note that the percentages given in this report have been rounded down and do not take account of the arrangements for assessing the categories of laboratories with missing rounds, extra rounds, or other special provisions as described in the "RICE Information for Participants").*

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RICE

This report shows the most recent values for the slides seen by your laboratory during recent RICE rounds. It includes results from the current round.

The results for your laboratory are highlighted: your category "C" results are shown in red italics and your category "B" results in grey italics.

### Recent Results For Slides Seen By Laboratory 1275: Round 87: Batch 70

Slide Number	Reference Value	Recent Participant Values							
<b>70.01</b>	221.60	229.75	<b>198.92</b>	<b>212.30</b>	244.98	318.50	219.70	145.50	179.40
		122.80	<b>152.20</b>	223.49	374.70	225.70	213.00	167.10	195.37
<b>70.02</b>	6.40	12.74	<b>18.73</b>	17.20	8.90	4.40	28.98	4.55	13.32
		5.30	<b>17.80</b>	11.50	3.20	10.20	21.97	7.32	5.58
<b>70.04</b>	20.51	19.11	<b>16.11</b>	20.38	31.85	21.66	19.70	17.20	21.00
		12.90	<b>8.90</b>	29.96	19.42	31.21	20.40	26.10	15.30
<b>70.06</b>	122.52	230.19	<b>69.60</b>	<b>59.84</b>	103.60	120.20	132.70	141.50	63.00
		144.60	<b>61.81</b>	86.50	127.40	162.80	136.50	94.90	71.80
<b>70.07</b>	17.51	24.84	<b>8.57</b>	21.70	11.30	9.18	15.90	17.51	
		22.20	<b>14.01</b>	23.90	19.10	19.75	16.90	14.60	
<b>70.08</b>	13.34	11.46	<b>8.59</b>	19.20	14.64	12.73	12.34	9.90	7.57
		30.80	<b>10.92</b>	18.50	14.65	20.14	11.37	8.30	9.36
<b>70.10</b>	52.96	131.29	<b>38.83</b>	<b>54.11</b>	42.65	48.09	45.20	78.00	58.90
		89.60	<b>52.52</b>	38.83	52.23	74.93	47.40	59.87	53.70
<b>70.11</b>	120.00	187.34	<b>73.64</b>						
		66.00	<b>67.01</b>						

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# RICE

Laboratory: 1275, record of analysts submitting results

### Round 87, Batch 70

Analyst (initials)	N°. of results submitted
AG	7
IP	3
JC	2
JM	3
PW	4
SJ	6
TP	4

### Round 86, Batch 25

Analyst (initials)	N°. of results submitted
AG	4
CMA	2
IP	6
JC	4
PW	7
SJ	6
TP	5

### Round 85, Batch 68

Analyst (initials)	N°. of results submitted
AG	2
CMA	4
IP	6
JC	5
JM	6
MM	3
RH	5
TP	5

### Round 84, Batch 1

Analyst (initials)	N°. of results submitted
AG	5
CMA	5
JC	5
JM	2
MM	4
SF	6
SJ	7
TP	2