



Color Proficiency Testing

Collaborative Testing Services



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TESTING QUESTIONS

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QUOTE REQUESTS & ORDER INQUIRIES

Subscriptions Department
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Collaborative Testing Services, Inc.

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About Us

Founded in 1971, Collaborative Testing Services (CTS) is a leading proficiency testing provider that serves the evolving quality assurance needs of several industries with innovative interlaboratory proficiency testing. With worldwide clients in both the public and private sectors, we aim to create and administer sustainable and meaningful testing schemes in both our industry and forensic programs.

CTS is ANAB-accredited to ISO/IEC 17043. Certificate Number: AP-1884.

Our Testing Process

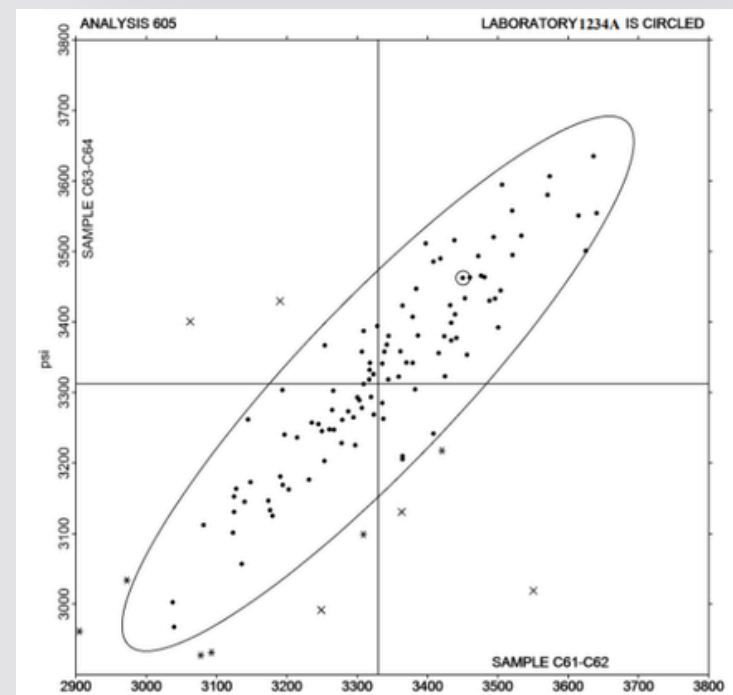
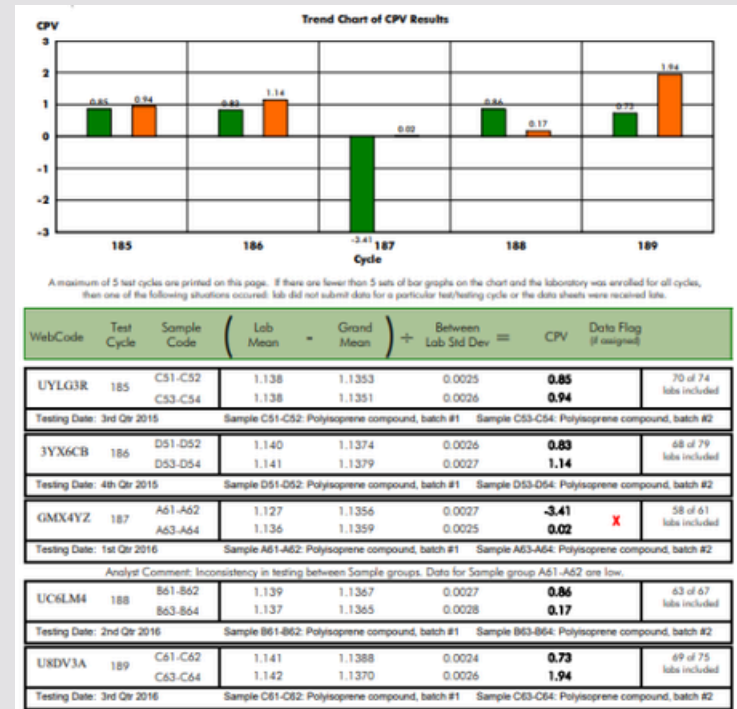
In keeping with the principles of quality assurance, we use a prepaid subscription model where testing is conducted on a quarterly schedule to ensure that proficiency testing is a streamlined and consistent process for your laboratory:

- Purchase your testing, noting the type of samples offered, frequency of testing, and other conditions.
- Receive your samples, test at your convenience, and submit your results through our full-service customer portal before the data due date (six weeks after samples ship).
- Receive your in-depth, individualized Performance Analysis Report just three weeks after the data due date, which uses bimodal consensus statistics to provide you with insight on what is actionable, what is diagnostic, and what is predictive.

Our Reports

Our reports are generated through a comprehensive analysis by our technical staff, with several features designed to provide data that is both insightful and easy to navigate.

- Trend charts visually present your historical performance over time, where continuous and consistent enrollment reaps the most benefits.
- Data tables provide a Comparative Performance Value (CPV), a ratio that represents how well your laboratory's results agree with the other participants. Our graphs provide this information in a visual format to pinpoint your lab's performance.
- Data flags and comments can be used to predict or diagnose potential issues before they escalate.



Color Program Schedule

Enrollment in our color program is open on a rolling basis, with subscriptions including four cycles of testing, beginning with the earliest cycle available for the next enrollment deadline.

Enroll Between:	Samples Ship:	Data Due Date:	Reports Issued:
August 26th – November 25th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January • April • July • October 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February • May • August • November 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March • June • September • December
November 26th – February 25th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April • July • October • January 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May • August • November • February 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June • September • December • March
February 26th – May 25th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July • October • January • April 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August • November • February • May 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September • December • March • June
May 26th – August 25th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October • January • April • July 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November • February • May • August 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December • March • June • September



Test Listings and Methods

Test 408: **CIE, L*, a*, b*** **Illuminant D65, 10°** **Observer, 45-0(0-45)** **Geometry**

Participants will report their results as CIE L* a* b* data only.

Each test shipment includes two opaque color paint chips, selected from throughout the color spectrum. The two chips consist of a main color and a nonmetameric match with slight color differences.

Test Methods: ASTM E1347, ASTM E1349.

Test 409: **CIE L*, a*, b*** **Illuminant D65, 10°** **Observer, Sphere** **Geometry**

Participants will report their results as CIE L* a* b* data only. This test also optional reporting for spectrophotometric (reflectance) data at 16 selected wavelengths between 400 and 700 nanometers using one of the opaque color chips.

Each test shipment includes two opaque color paint chips, selected from throughout the color spectrum. The two chips consist of a main color and a nonmetameric match with slight color differences.

Test Methods: ASTM E1331, ASTM E1347.

Test Listings and Methods (cont.)



Test 440: Gloss 60° (30-75 gloss units)

Participants will report data for specular gloss.

Each test shipment includes four paint chips of two gloss levels, with two specimens per level. The gloss levels are approximately 5 to 10 units apart.

Test Methods: ASTM D523.



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