

## PFOS Analytical Discussions

Eurofins | mgt are very aware of the ongoing PFOS deliberations that are currently underway throughout our industry and therefore we would like to add some clarity to our position.

We were extremely pleased with our recent proficiency study results reported in EnviroNote 1052 that was conducted by the National Measurement Institute (NMI) PROFICIENCY STUDY AQA 15-03 PFOS/PFOA IN SOIL AND WATER funded by CRC Care and with EPA Victoria as the project partner with additional advice/input from NSW Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH) plus contribution from a leading environmental consultant.

We are also aware of a discussion within the industry around the quantification method used by another laboratory with respect to the way they treat linear and branched PFOS isomers found in environmental samples. We understand this discussion very well and the quantification method as discussed is different from the way we quantify the PFOS isomers. Having said that we have always believed that the method of quantification that we conduct is correct and complies with USEPA Method 537.

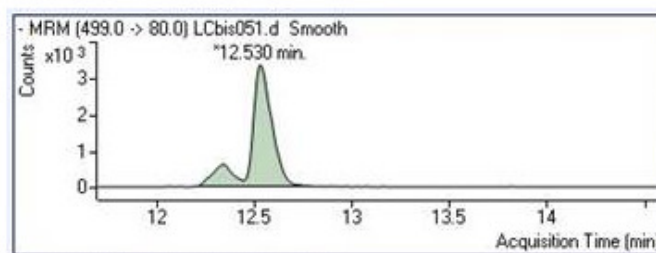
Eurofins is a global laboratory company – we are the largest laboratory company globally with over 19,000 employees and have extensive knowledge in the analysis of PFOS within our ELLE (Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories Environmental) in USA and GfA laboratory in Germany.

To that end we approached our Eurofins colleagues with this discussion that we are having in Australia to seek their opinion and to ask what they do with respect to the quantification of PFOS isomers.

Here is a statement from Charles J. Neslund our Technical Director, ELLE in the USA:

***“Our practice is very much the same as yours and is, in part, structured that way because of our reference to USEPA Method 537. We also use the MRM transition from 499 to 80 and sum the branched chain as well as the linear chain PFOS in the sample for quantitation against a linear chain standard. It is known that not all of the product ions found in linear PFOS are found in all of the branched PFOS, thus using the transition of 499 to 80 is the best and most rugged route to reducing bias. In fact, Section 10.2.3 of the version of EPA Method 537 that you reference states exactly that.”***

Figure 1: PFOS (branched and linear)



We are again extremely pleased that our approach to PFOS analysis mirrors our Eurofins international colleagues in both the USA & Europe where they have been conducting this analysis for many years.

We believe our results are internationally defensible and stand up strongly against what is accepted practice globally.

If you would like further discussion with respect to this matter please contact our Technical Manager Dr Bob Symons – [BobSymons@Eurofins.com.au](mailto:BobSymons@Eurofins.com.au)

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EnviroNote No. 1055 – September 2015

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