

NEWSLETTER

LPD Lab Services

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One-Stop Shop for Industrial Process Problem Solving, Consulting and Routine Analysis

Capability Increases and Collaborating Laboratories

LPD Lab Services has a wealth of technical experience and an increasing array of analytical techniques that can be used to support and solve customer product and process problems plus conduct both measurements and contract Research and Development. However, it is not always possible to cover all the analytical requirements of our customers in house. To tackle this problem, LPD has been collaborating with a select few specific organisations and consultants to extend our capabilities and the breadth of knowledge. These laboratories have been chosen for their staff industrial experience, applications and approach to customers. They similarly understand the specific goals of support work and in addition are committed to quality and confidentiality as a priority. These expanded capabilities include:-

- Plastics / polymers and rubbers
- Polymer failure and environmental degradation
- Organic coatings technology
- Pharmaceutical purity analysis
- Metallurgical investigation
- Technical consultancy
- Expert witnessing

These collaborations can also be used to increase LPD's capacity to deliver large workloads plus add extra flexibility and the performance of the collaborating laboratories are tightly managed. Any external subcontracting is highlighted to the customer with additional protection of 2-way NDAs if necessary.

Examples of analysis techniques that can be accessed through the collaborating laboratories include:

- UV-Vis-NIR
- NMR (Nuclear Magnetic Resonance)
- TEM (Transmission Electron Microscopy)
- DSC/TGA
- GC-MS
- ICP-MS
- XRD (X-ray Diffraction)
- Mechanical Testing
- Confocal Microscopy
- Laser Particle Size Analysis

In all cases LPD aims to provide the added value interpretation service many customers have said is the laboratory's major strength together with its flexibility.

LPD Lab Services and RAPRA at Mediplus 2013 and Advanced Engineering Composites 2013

In September and November 2013, Dr S. Jenkins from LPD Lab Services was invited to speak as a RAPRA Preferred Provider & Partner (PSP) at both Mediplus 2013 and Composites Engineering Show 2013 exhibitions at the NEC. The exhibitions focused on plastics used in the medical devices and the pharmaceutical industry and the use of composite materials in a wide range of industries. The presentations covered Technical Industrial Problem Solving and Failure Investigations and discussed the proven practice the laboratory delivers to its over 1000 company customers. It also covered some specific applications that have been provided over the years.



The RAPRA exhibition stands provided a focus for delegates and RAPRA members to meet and discuss technical issues with RAPRA staff and the preferred supplier speakers (PSP). This helped further build the PSP – RAPRA relationships. It provided possibilities for collaborations between PSP's as they have been selected to provide trusted unique and competent support activities. Such a relationship could be the

failure investigation and reverse engineering of flawed plastic or composite material products by LPD Lab Services coupled with moulding process optimisation and training offered by G&A Moulding Technology, who could provide specific consultancy and support once the shortcomings have been identified by the lab. This networking allows a more complete service to be delivered to the clients. The lab can also provide support during the resultant improvement process and prove the problem has been fixed.

New Analytical Facilities - ICP-MS and IC

The laboratory is always looking to enhance the services it can provide. In particular by purchasing new equipment. This year's acquisitions include :-



ICP-MS to extend quantitative elemental detection limits the lab can attain for elements between Lithium and Uranium.



Ion Chromatography (IC) to measure anions such as Fluoride, Chloride, Bromide, Nitrate, Sulphate, Carbonate and Phosphate.

These techniques allow measurements and assays in liquids backed by the lab's chemical sample preparation capabilities. Example applications of these techniques include: corrosion investigations, assessments of damage to ships cargo and quantification of airborne filter contaminants. It is planned that some specific methods associated with these techniques will be UKAS accredited in due course.

Contact Us

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