



16 March 2011

To:

Operators of national and regional air pollution monitoring networks

Air quality reference laboratories

Subject:

EU Coordination and Support Action “AirMonTech”:

Request for information on current measurement technologies and procedures for measurements of regulated air pollutants in Europe

Dear Madam, Sir,

Ambient Air Quality (AQ) is a major issue of concern in Europe, particularly in the urban environment. Thus, monitoring of air pollution levels is an important task for EU Member States to demonstrate compliance with air quality limit values set by the respective EU directives and to assure that mitigation measures are effective. The AQ monitoring networks operated by the member states are challenged with continuously increasing quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) demands both with respect to existing and emerging monitoring technologies.

AirMonTech (www.airmontech.eu) is an EU Coordination and Support Action funded under the EU Seventh Framework Programme initiated to handle and to give advice to the above mentioned tasks. The project's objectives are to provide relevant information to network operators and stakeholders on currently used as well as recently developed AQ monitoring technologies, to identify future needs for improvement of the AQ monitoring networks, and to give advice on a corresponding research road map. The results of the project are expected to provide important input to the revision of the EU AQ directives foreseen to start in 2013.

An important task of AirMonTech is to compile information on the performance of available instruments for measurements of regulated air pollutants and to provide guidance for the optimal use of the available technologies. For this purpose, the AirMonTech database will collect information on measurement techniques, instrumentation, type approval, equivalence tests and standard operating procedures and make them accessible to the AQ community. The data base will be designed, set up and operated by the European Joint Research Centre (JRC) in Ispra (I).

With this letter we kindly ask you **to provide us with two types of documents** regarding air pollution variables regulated within the European Directives that may be available within your institution:

- **Standard operating procedures (SOP):** Expected from **network operators and reference laboratories**. A collection of SOPs from various national and local authorities in a data base is considered valuable although they will not all be written in English. As an important element of added value, the AirMonTech team will provide a “Standard SOP” based on the collected material,

containing crucial points, which will provide guidance to less experienced users in setting up SOPs for their own purposes.

- **Equivalence test reports:** Expected from **network operators and reference laboratories**. Reports which describe either full equivalence tests or other comprehensive comparison measurements of PM₁₀ or PM_{2.5} monitors with the manual gravimetric reference methods.

If any documents as specified in the table below are available at your institution (in English if available or in any other language) we would highly appreciate to get a copy (preferably in Word or PDF). Please send your contribution of documents (**preferably in electronic form and before 30 April 2011**) to both of the following addresses:

- EMPA Ueberlandstrasse 129, CH-8600 Duebendorf, Switzerland, c/o Dr. Robert Gehrig
robert.gehrig@empa.ch,
and
- IUTA e.V. Bliersheimer Str. 60, 47229 Duisburg, Germany, c/o Dr. Ulrich Quass
quass@iuta.de

A successful outcome of the AirMonTech project can only be achieved if the entire European air quality community is actively involved. Therefore, your cooperation and contribution is strongly needed and highly appreciated.

Thank you in advance for your valuable cooperation.

Best regards

On behalf of the AirMonTech consortium



Robert Gehrig



Ulrich Quass



Table: Requested documents for input to the AirMonTech data base.

Parameter	SOP	Equivalence test reports
SO ₂ (cont.)	X	
NO _x (cont.)	X	
CO (cont.)	X	
O ₃ (cont.)	X	
Benzene (cont.)	X	
PM ₁₀ (cont.)	X	X
PM _{2.5} (cont.)	X	X
PM ₁₀ (manual grav.)	X	
PM _{2.5} (manual grav.)	X	