

ALS Microbiology Sample Stability 101

Following the changes to the reporting of stability for microbiological water analysis and process changes ALS have implemented to our operation, we would expressly encourage that customers also follow the below recommendations to help us help you. Please be aware that there will be an impact on the ability to process samples within the required timeframe where customers are not able to adhere to these changes.

Provide the date and time (24 Hour format) of for each sample submitted

- Where this information is not provided, we will not be able to determine the stability period of the samples.

When sampling early

- Where customers undertake sampling within the hours of 00:00 - 09:00hrs, we advise that the samples are delivered to the lab directly as soon as possible. Under these conditions, submitting samples to ALS drop off locations is not advised.

When using ALS drop-off locations

- For customers who submit samples to an ALS Drop-Off Location, we strongly advise that sampling is undertaken later in the day, in order to minimise the impact of the holding time.

Separate micro and legionella samples

- Where possible, we are also requesting that customers submit samples for Legionella, Microbiology and Chemistry in separate corex boxes to enable the Microbiological samples to be processed quicker.

Box Labels

- Customers must use the new Micro Identification Labels (example below). Labels will be provided with all sample container deliveries, available at ALS Drop Off locations and on the ALS Environmental website.

MICRO LABEL		
PLEASE FILL IN THE BELOW DETAILS AND PLACE IT ON THE CRATE TO ENSURE YOUR MICRO SAMPLES GET APPROPRIATELY PRIORITISED WHEN RECEIVED IN THE LABORATORY. ONLY ONE LABEL PER CONSIGNMENT IS REQUIRED.		
EARLIEST SAMPLE DATE & TIME: _____		
INCLUDES LEGIONELLA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
IMPORT FILE PROVIDED?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
MICRO WATER SAMPLE MATRICES:	<input type="checkbox"/> DRINKING	<input type="checkbox"/> RECREATIONAL
	<input type="checkbox"/> PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

Electronic Registration Option

- ALS are also encouraging customers to take advantage of our Chameleon File Import system, which allows the registration of samples via submission of an electronic Chain of Custody. This import process eliminates sample description errors as well as significantly speeds up sample registration. Should you wish to utilise this facility, please contact your Customer Service Coordinator.