

Accurate News

Accurate Labs

"Accurate News" is a publication of Accurate Labs
Stillwater, OK 74074

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Volume: 1 Issue: 14



Oklahoma City: 405-236-5333 ■ Tulsa: 918-587-5300
Enid: 405-237-5353 ■ Wichita: 316-683-1123

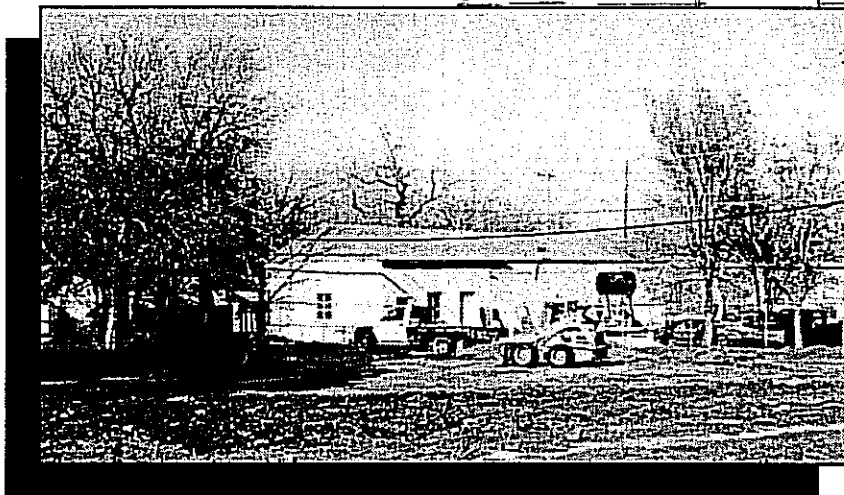
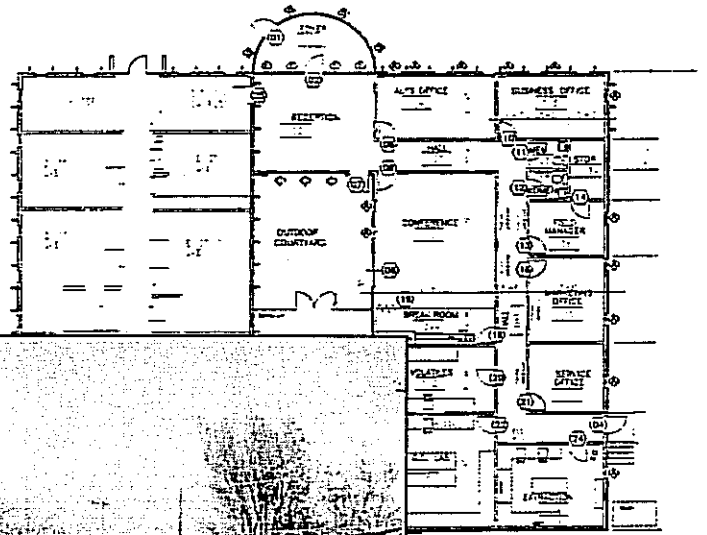
April-June 1997

New Construction Doubles Lab Size

In late March bulldozers began preparing the ground making way for Accurate Labs new addition which will be constructed directly north of the current facility in Stillwater, Oklahoma. This long awaited expansion

will add a structure of approximately 3800 square feet and a large parking lot. In addition, the company acquired property to the east of the lab which will be used for much needed storage space.

The new building will double the space and house several departments: Field Services, Marketing, Administration, and a new Organics lab. An interesting feature of this facility will be a large conference room which Accurate Labs will



use as a meeting and education center. That is, Accurate Labs plans to use the conference area for conducting

Water and Sewer Operator training courses.'

One of the most convenient features of the new construction is a major expansion of the parking area allowing drive-in customers much easier access to the lab with quick, up-front parking.

Completion date for this project is early Fall 1997. Accurate Labs invites you to visit next time you are in Stillwater

by G. Drye



Field Notes

Industrial users and municipal waste water departments should plan early for their quarterly and semiannual sampling events. When sampling wastewater discharge manholes, technicians should plan for much more than just simply pulling a water sample from a hole. Accurate Labs' field crew reminds you that flushing and cleaning manholes can help prevent accumulated surface dirt and grease from contaminating the sample. This flushing process is just one of the preparation steps which can make a beneficial difference in your sampling event.

Composite sampling strives to collect the most representative waste sample, and it can require much time and expensive equipment to complete the task. Yet, in many cases, the sampling event is undermined by easily prevented problems.

Instead of examining only the waste stream and its components, many technicians inadvertently include, as part of the sample, contaminants which have collected on the sides and bottom of the manhole piping--hardly a part of the "representative" waste. As mentioned above, flushing can help remove these pollutants and increase the chances of an uncorrupted sample.

Beyond preparing the sampling site, early planning should involve checking the NPDES permit for changes in monitoring requirements, and detection limits. Permits do change and new requirements can dramatically affect your sampling event.

Also, clients should inform their lab in advance of critical reporting deadlines and establish the specific contacts to whom the lab should direct questions and reports. All of this preparation is to insure smooth, efficient communication. This will certainly help the client avoid possible delays.

Planning early for sampling events helps to prevent mistakes and allows a chance to adapt to changing project requirements.

by J. Russell and T. Unruh

Limited Approval of Oil and Grease Hexane Method

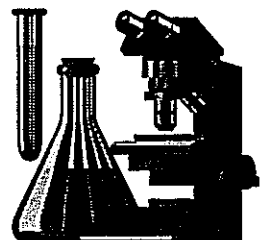
The new method for oil and grease, Hexane based EPA method 1664, will be approved within months to replace EPA 413.1 and 418.1, both Freon methods. Already this new Oil and Grease method has limited, interim approval. When EPA method 1664 is approved formally, there will be a six month period when both Freon and Hexane methods will be accepted. Afterwards only EPA 1664 will be allowed.

There are some important concerns with this new method affecting both the lab and the client. For the lab this method poses some difficulties as it requires much more rigorous QC than previous methods, making it difficult to run in small batches of only one or two samples. However, as Freon extraction is eliminated, labs will no longer be at the mercy of the dramatically escalating prices for this solvent.

As this newsletter reported in July 1995, analytical results could change with this method. Clients with traditionally low levels of O&G probably will not be affected significantly. But, clients with higher O&G need to understand that this method could produce much different results affecting their permitted limits. Clients should consider a comparison study, splitting a sample and analyzing by both methods, to see how results differ.

Accurate Labs is performing both methods and can assist you with a comparison if you have questions about your particular sample. However, as Freon is more difficult to find and more expensive than ever, Accurate Labs will convert to EPA 1664 as quickly as possible after its approval.

by G. Drye





Coliform Bacteria Testing Program A Success

Since its beginnings last June, our Coliform testing program has grown quickly and successfully. We are adding several cities to the program each month, and with good reason. Months of diligent effort by our staff has paid off with a system that works very well for us and our customers.

The drinking water testing service comes at a surprisingly inexpensive price and includes sample pick up on route, transportation to the lab, analysis in 24 hrs, and prompt reporting to the customer and the ODEQ. This service is particularly valuable to those clients who have difficulty mailing or driving samples to their laboratory within the required holding time.

New drinking water customers curious about Accurate Labs' service are encouraged to ask questions and communicate frequently with the staff during the start-up period. This will insure a smooth

transition. After choosing Accurate for drinking water bacteria testing, customers agree that this service makes their monthly monitoring much easier.

Call Accurate for pick up route locations and schedules. Perhaps this service could help you.

by G. Drye and T. Unruh

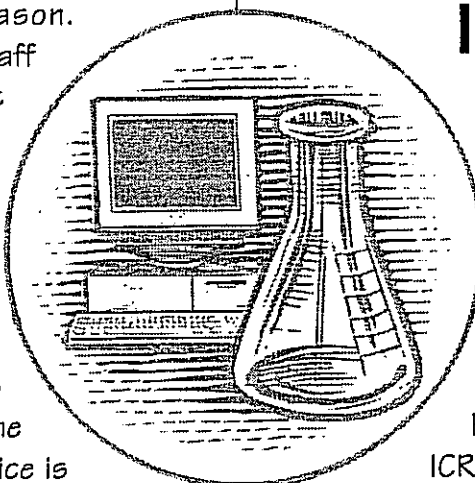
Accurate Achieves ICR Approval

On March 19, 1997 Accurate Labs was approved under the Information Collection Rule for Coliform bacteria analysis of source and finished water. This makes the lab one of a very few commercial labs in the nation to be approved under this rule.

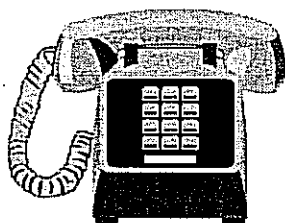
Expected soon at Accurate Labs is ICR approval for Chemistry analysis, covering TOC, THM, HAA, Oxyhalides, and general water quality parameters.

This new ICR approval means that Accurate Labs can provide necessary analytical support for municipal water plants who must participate in the ICR study.

by G. Drye

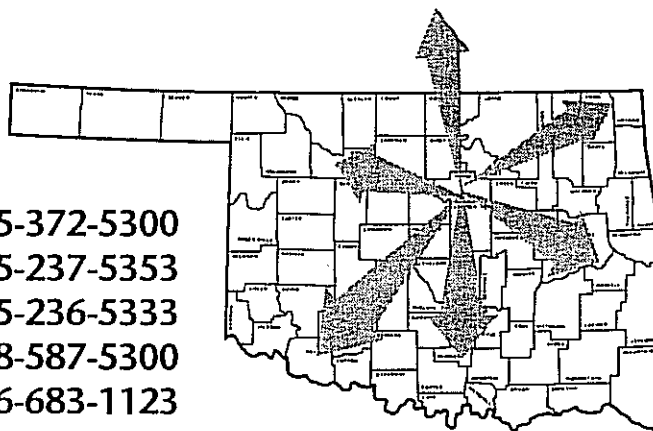


Accurate Labs will pick up your samples along seven statewide routes. Please call.



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