

Round Robin Test

By participating in a round robin test, the performance of a given laboratory is compared with the performance of other laboratories. This allows systematic errors to be detected and corrected accordingly. The performance and efficiency of a laboratory can thus be improved and the confidence in the test values increased accordingly. Regularly conducted round robin tests are an important control instrument for a certified or accredited quality management system as well as for in-house solutions.

As an accredited proficiency test provider (ISO 17043), the results of our round robin tests can be used for your accreditation. The evaluation is anonymous and only you know the code of your laboratory.

What is the procedure and what rules apply to the round robin test?

Once you have registered, you will receive confirmation of your participation in the desired round robin test by e-mail. On the published dispatch date of the selected round robin test you will be sent materials considered to be technically suitable by our experts. As required by ISO 17043, these materials are tested for homogeneity. Once the materials arrive you will have approximately 4 weeks to carry out the tests and hand in the results.

We strongly recommend that you pay attention to the following points:

- In order to fulfil the purpose of the quality control, the samples should be treated as normal, pending orders
- If, depending on the type of textile provided, the test standard to be tested allows several possibilities of sampling, test performance or other variations, the round robin test participant is responsible for the correct interpretation of the test standard. The relevant factors are listed in the instructions included with the round test material.
- If the test standard allows several washing or care options, TESTEX AG will indicate the preferred option.
- The participant in the round robin test is responsible for the correct determination of the result according to the current version of the test standard.
- Deviations from the above points must be noted in the comments fields.
- Additional test materials can be obtained from TESTEX AG. The costs are calculated on a time and material basis and amount to at least CHF 100.

Pre-announced and justified delays of test results can be submitted until one week after the “Return until» date on the result form. Delays that have not been pre-announced cannot be taken into account in the first evaluation.

After receiving the results, they will be entered into the evaluation system and subjected to an initial analysis. In case of outliers, the laboratory concerned will be contacted and asked to re-examine the result. After a correction period of three to four weeks, a first evaluation of the round robin test will be prepared.* (Change to the procedure until 2020) During a further two weeks there is the possibility of submitting an objection to the evaluation by email (rrt@testex.com). With the exception of formal adaptations, adjustments to results can only be made in justified cases.

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How can I register for round robin tests?

You can register by email using the registration form in the download area (https://www.testex.com/de/downloads/RT/RRT_Application_Form_0118.pdf). The round robin test schedule for the current year is available online (https://www.testex.com/de/downloads/RT/02_RRT_Schedule_Jahresplan.pdf). Registration can be completed up to four weeks before the round robin test. You can cancel your registration up to one week before the test items are dispatched. To cover the costs already incurred, 50% of the round robin test fees will be charged.

What are the payment methods?

Customers from the DACH region can pay for their participation in the round robin test by invoice. Those from other regions can pay for participation by advance payment in Swiss Francs. Payment must be received by TESTEX AG at least two weeks before the samples are sent out.

How is the data evaluated?

The evaluation is carried out anonymously. Each participant is assigned a confidential code. Within TESTEX AG, this code is only known to a selected number of employees and is treated as strictly confidential. The performance evaluation is based on a comparison of the individual laboratory with the totality of the submitted values. TESTEX AG uses recognised statistical procedures in order to identify outliers.

A final report is prepared at the end of the programme. The report will contain the results reported by the participants, the results of the statistical analyses, graphical representations of the data and comments.

TESTEX is an accredited agency in accordance with ISO 17043 and organises the following round robin tests:

RRT Yarn

Dispatch of samples for testing the following parameters:

- Yarn count
- Yarn twist
- Tenacity : CRE 20 sec, CRE 500mm/min,
- CRE 5000mm/min
- Tenacity : USTER TENSOJET
- Lea test
- Evenness (capacitive and optical)
- Yarn hairiness (count and index)
- Yarn friction

Test material: yarn on five cones, mostly cotton, count approx. Ne 30 - 110
Conduct and costs: 1 x per year, CHF 450.-/Participation in the Round Robin Test

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RRT Colour fastness

Dispatch of samples to test the following colour fastnesses:

- ISO 105-C06/C2S, ISO 105-C08 - Fastness to washing
- ISO 105-E04 - Fastness to perspiration
- ISO 105-E01 - Fastness to water
- ISO 105-X12 - Fastness to rubbing
- ISO 105-D01 - Fastness to dry cleaning
- ISO 105-B02 - Fastness to light
- Paper samples for visual and/or colorimetric assessment

Test material: 6 samples of woven or knitted fabrics (already cut) or yarn, 2 paper samples for assessment only

Conduct and costs: 3x per year, CHF 375.-/Participation in the Round Robin Test

RRT Fabric properties - physical properties

Dispatch of samples for the following tests:

- ISO 13934-1 – Strip tensile test
- ISO 13934-2 – Grave tensile test
- ISO 13937-1 – Tear propagation force Elmendorf method
- ISO 13937-2 – Tear propagation force Schenkel method
- ISO 13937-3 – Tear propagation force Flügel method
- ISO 13938-1 – Bursting pressure and bursting vault hydraulic method
- ISO 13938-2 – Bursting pressure and bursting vault pneumatic method
- ISO 13936-1 & ISO 13936-2 – Seam slip resistance
- ISO 12947-2 – Abrasion resistance, Martindale method
- ISO 12945-2 – Pill inclination Martindale method
- ISO 12945-1-Pilling inclination- Pilling box
- ISO 5077/6330 – Dimensional change during washing

Test material: practice-related samples in widely differing qualities

Conduct and costs: 1x per year, CHF 890.-/Participation in the Round Robin Test

RRT Fabric properties - chemical properties

Dispatch of samples for the following tests:

- ISO 3071 - pH value
- JIS L 1041 - formaldehyde content

Test material: practice-related samples in widely differing qualities

Conduct and costs: 1 x per year, CHF 400.-/Participation in the Round Robin Test

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RRT Function

Dispatch of samples for the following tests:

- DIN EN 29865 Water repellence Bundesmann
- DIN EN 24920 Water repellence Spray
- ISO 811 – Water penetration resistance
- ISO 11092 – Water vapour resistance
- ISO 11092 – Thermal resistance
- ISO 9237– Breathability
- EN ISO 20471:2013 – Colour measurement Background material
- EN 1149-1 & EN 1149-3 – Electrostatic properties: surface resistance & charge decay
- ISO 15025 – Protection against heat and flames: Test method for limited flame propagation speed

Test material: practice-related samples in widely differing qualities

Conduct and costs: 1x per year, CHF 590.-/Participation in the Round Robin Test

The annual timetable with dispatch dates and the current status of the round robin tests as well as application forms and current prices can be found on our website.

Please also see the current TESTEX AG General Terms and Conditions.

More information

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