

# Data Quality Screening Using Trend Charts



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# Back Ground



- EPA's Analytical Services Branch (ASB) manages the Contract Laboratory Program (CLP).
- Laboratories in the CLP receive and analyze samples in accordance with EPA methods and provide their electronic analytical data and sample results to the Sample Management Office (SMO).
- The analytical data include instrument calibrations, laboratory blank results, spike compound recoveries, and other laboratory QC data.

# Back Ground (Cont.)



- Analytical data and laboratory performance data are stored and maintained in EPA databases.
- Analytical data not only support EPA site decisions, but are also used to:
  - Evaluate laboratory performance
  - Monitor Method performance
  - Identify new potential contaminants of concern
  - Perform data trend analysis

# Analytical Data Trending Tool



- Developed by EPA ASB in an effort to support USEPA Region 9's validation and site investigation.
- Allows users to access analytical data via the web and perform their data trending and evaluations.
- Allows the download of both the chart and the underlying data in an Excel spreadsheet.

# Analytical Data Trending Tool



- Innovative, transparent and quantitative web-based tool to communicate data quality information (quality control results) for Superfund analytical data.
- Why are trend charts an innovative and transparent approach in information collection, aggregation and dissemination?
- How do trend charts promote open and transparent data assessment by the Agency?