

Peer Review of “Guidelines for the Evaluation of Direct Reading Monitors” and “Addendum to Guidelines for the Evaluation of Direct Reading Monitors”

“Guidelines for the Evaluation of Direct Reading Monitors” and “Addendum to Guidelines for the Evaluation of Direct Reading Monitors” will be published together on the NIOSH website. It is expected that the Guidelines and their Addendum will only be available on the NIOSH website due to the cost of producing hard copy publications. However, it is also expected that posting them on the web will make the documents readily available to a wide audience.

The Guidelines document was internally reviewed and approved by NIOSH in early 2001. In April 2002, the document was sent to external reviewers, including: Carl Elskamp, Dr. Paul L. Knechtges, Dr. Martin Harper, Robert Weber, Gretchen B. Manning, and Captain David A. Macys. Reviewers were requested to conduct technical reviews of the document.

The draft Guidelines document also served as the basis for a NIOSH contract (Midwest Research Institute, Kansas City, MO) to develop an Addendum to the Guidelines in order to address the specific needs for direct reading monitors used by first responders. In the course of this work, a statistical review of the Guidelines appendices was conducted by a contract statistician (Karin Bauer, Statistician, Midwest Research Institute, December 2004).

The contract mentioned above has produced the Addendum to the Guidelines document to guide first responder use of direct reading monitors. During the development of the Addendum, input was sought from the Interagency Board for Interoperability (IAB), composed of representatives from first responder organizations throughout the nation. A presentation was made by the contractor before a limited number of members of the Decontamination Subcommittee of IAB in August, 2003 in Chicago. There was much interest expressed in the Addendum that was sent for external peer review to: Robb L. Pilkington (recommended by IAB), Ronald Dunkle (recommended by Robb Pilkington), and Dan Hawley (recommended by Robb Pilkington). Peer reviewers were asked to comment on the technical content of the document.