

Vendors and Commercial Service Labs

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are a vendor or commercial service lab and wish to participate in this study, please read the following:

ABRF Research Group Studies are conducted for the benefit of our members and the field at large to help them evaluate their own technical level in comparison to their colleagues, to provide education in techniques and strategies to which they normally might not be exposed, and to give an overview of the current capabilities of the “average” lab in carrying out a challenging analysis.

The ABRF welcomes the participation of vendors and for-profit labs, provided that they abide by the ABRF guidelines for the use and distribution of data derived from these studies, as follows:

- An ABRF Research Study is not a competition and under no circumstances should it be referred to as such. Words and phrasing that imply a competition—such as ‘winner’, ‘best of’, etc., are strictly forbidden.
- Representations and publications should not be deceptive and should fairly emphasize any differences between any data comparisons. For example, instrument reliability cannot be fairly concluded by comparing 5-year old instruments in the field used in the study with a vendor's new instrument.
- Any comparisons to or use of ABRF data should prominently indicate: the number of samples the vendor received, the number of runs performed by the vendor, and whether the actual characteristics of the sample were known by the vendor at the time the vendor's analysis was performed.
- Uses of or comparisons to ABRF data should specifically emphasize that many factors will affect analytical results and that the data obtained in the company's R & D lab may exceed feasible expectations for an "average" resource or research facility under routine conditions.
- Publications and presentations should contain a disclaimer stating that ABRF prepared and provided the sample to all members and vendors, but did not participate in the vendor's study and does not endorse any specific manufacturer, instrument or strategy.
- Vendors are strongly encouraged to distribute potential publications to the ABRF Executive Board and Research Group Chairperson for comments regarding compliance with these guidelines.

***Recipient:* We recommend that this document be distributed to the appropriate marketing and senior personnel in the company to ensure compliance. A copy of this document (Vendor ABRF Study Participation Guidelines.pdf) can be found at www.abrf.org under the Forms and Documents menu.**