

Identifier: **SOP-5162**  
(formerly SOP-15.02-R1)

Revision: **0**



Effective Date: 6/30/08

Next Review Date: 6/30/13

## Waste & Environmental Services

### Standard Operating Procedure

for **ROUTINE VALIDATION OF SEMIVOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUND (SVOC) ANALYTICAL DATA**

#### APPROVAL SIGNATURES:

Subject Matter Expert:	Organization	Signature	Date
Bill Hardesty	WES-EDA	Signature on file	4/21/08
Quality Assurance Specialist:	Organization	Signature	Date
Laura Ortega	QA-IQ	Signature on file	4/30/08
Responsible Line Manager:	Organization	Signature	Date
Craig Eberhart	WES-EDA	Signature on file	4/21/08

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## 1.0 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This procedure represents the minimum standards for evaluating routine semivolatile organic compound (SVOC) analytical data. This procedure is a mandatory document and shall be implemented by all Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL or Laboratory) personnel and contractors who evaluate routine semivolatile organic compound (SVOC) analytical data for the specific LANL projects.

## 2.0 BACKGROUND AND PRECAUTIONS

### 2.1 Background

This procedure conforms to the requirements of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Methodologies and the EPA document, "U.S. EPA Contract Laboratory Program National Functional Guidelines for Organic Data Review." LANL data validation is performed according to procedures based upon the NNSA Model Data Validation Procedure. Data qualifiers and reason codes are assigned according to the specifications in this method specific procedure.

### 2.2 Precautions

Nothing in this procedure precludes the data validator from going beyond the minimum requirements specified within this procedure. If additional directions are required, the data validator shall reference NNSA Model Data Validation Procedure, EPA method specific guidelines and/or National Functional Guidelines for Organic Data Review. Implementation of this procedure may be followed by a more focused and data use-specific evaluation of the data by the project chemist, especially if the implementation of this procedure indicates the data may contain technical deficiencies.

## 3.0 EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS

None.

## 4.0 STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS DESCRIPTION

### 4.1 Qualifications for Data Validators

Data Validator	1.	Possess a minimum of a bachelor's degree in chemistry, or one of the physical sciences  AND  either two (2) years of experience in generating analytical data in an environmental analytical laboratory  AND  two (2) years of data validation experience.
	2.	Complete Attachment 1, Data Validation Cover Sheet, and Attachment 2, Semivolatile Organic Compound (SVOC) Analytical Data Validation Checklist, during data validation.
	3.	Refer to Attachment 3, Guidance for the Qualifier and Reason Code Application, for additional guidance.

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## 4.2 Records

- Data Validator 1. Submit the following records generated by this procedure to the Records Processing Facility:
- Completed Data Validation Cover Sheets; and
  - Completed Semivolatile Organic Compound (SVOC) Analytical Data Validation Checklists.

## 5.0 PROCESS FLOW CHART

For specific validation criteria follow the NNSA Model for Data Validation.

## 6.0 ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 5162-1 Data Validation Cover Sheet (1 page)
- Attachment 2 5162-2 Semivolatile Organic Compound (SVOC) Analytical Data Validation Checklist (4 pages)
- Attachment 3 5162-3 Guidance for the Qualifier and Reason Code Application (4 pages)

## 7.0 REVISION HISTORY

Author: Bill Hardesty

Revision No. <i>[Enter current revision number, beginning with Rev.0]</i>	Effective Date <i>[DCC inserts effective date for revision]</i>	Description of Changes <i>[List specific changes made since the previous revision]</i>	Type of Change <i>[Technical (T) or Editorial (E)]</i>
0	6/18/08	New Document	T

[Using a CRYPTOCARD, click here to record "self-study" training to this procedure.](#)

If you do not possess a CRYPTOCARD or encounter problems, contact the EP training specialist.

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**ATTACHMENT 1: EXAMPLE OF A DATA VALIDATION COVER SHEET**

**5162-1**

**Example of a Data Validation Cover Sheet**

Records Use only



**Section I.**

REQUEST NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ VALIDATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ LAB CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTRACT LABORATORY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

VALIDATOR: \_\_\_\_\_ ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYTICAL SUITE (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> TPH-GRO           | <input type="checkbox"/> HIGH EXPLOSIVES | <input type="checkbox"/> DIOXIN FURANS          | <input type="checkbox"/> LCMSMS PERCHLORATES                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TPH-DRO           | <input type="checkbox"/> METALS          | <input type="checkbox"/> PCB CONGENERS          | <input type="checkbox"/> ORGANOCHLORINE PESTICIDES/POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL CHEMISTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> RADIOCHEMISTRY  | <input type="checkbox"/> LCMSMS HIGH EXPLOSIVES |  |

OTHER (DESCRIBE): \_\_\_\_\_

**Section II. Completeness Check**

YES	NO	N/A	(CHECK ONE)	YES	NO	N/A	(CHECK ONE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY FORM(S)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. RAW/BSS DATA
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. CASE NARRATIVE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. QUALITY CONTROL FORMS
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. SAMPLE RESULT FORMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. QUANTITATION REPORTS
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. SAMPLE CHROMATOGRAMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. TICS FORMS
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. STANDARD CHROMATOGRAMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. TICS MASS SPECTRA

Comments/problems noted (include information about requests for further information submitted to the contract laboratory and agreed-upon date of resolution and contract laboratory point of contact):

VALIDATOR'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SOP-5162, Revision 0.0

LOS ALAMOS  
Environmental Restoration Project

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**ATTACHMENT 2: SEMIVOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUND (SVOC) ANALYTICAL DATA VALIDATION CHECKLIST**

5162-2

**Semivolatile Organic Compound (SVOC) Analytical Data Validation Checklist**

Records Use only



Yes No N/A (Check One)				Assign Qualifier Listed Below If Criterion = Yes	
				Non-detected Analyte	Detected Analyte
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. The holding time was >1 and ≤2 times the applicable holding time requirement.	UJ, SV9	J-, SV9
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. The holding time was >2 times the applicable holding time requirement.	R, SV9a	J-, SV9a
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. The affected analytes are regarded as rejected because the analytical holding time was exceeded.	R, SV9b	R, SV9b
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. The instrument performance sample did not pass method acceptance criteria.	R, SV16	R, SV16
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Samples were analyzed outside specific method tune time criteria.	N/A	J, SV16b
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. The required instrument performance sample information is missing. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.	R, SV16c	R, SV16c
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. The affected results were not analyzed with a valid 5-point calibration curve and/or a standard at the reporting limit.	UJ, R, SV7	J, SV7
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. The affected analytes were analyzed with an initial calibration curve that exceeded the %RSD criteria and/or the associated multipoint calibration correlation coefficient is <0.995.	UJ, SV7a	J, SV7a
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. The affected analytes were analyzed with an RRF of <0.05 in the initial calibration and/or Continuing Calibration Verification (CCV).	R, SV7b	J, SV7b
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. The Initial Calibration Verification (ICV) and/or CCV were recovered outside the method-specific limits.	UJ, SV7c	J, SV7c

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Yes No N/A (Check One)				Assign Qualifier Listed Below If Criterion = Yes	
				Non-detected Analyte	Detected Analyte
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	11. The ICV and/or CCV were not analyzed at the appropriate method frequency.	UJ, SV7d	J, SV7d
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12. Required calibration information is missing or samples were analyzed on an expired calibration. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.	R, SV7f	R, SV7f
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13. The sample result is ≤5X (10X for common organic laboratory contaminants) the concentration of the related analyte in the method blank.	N/A	U, SV4
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	14. The affected analytes are considered estimated and biased high because this analyte was identified in the method blank but was greater than 5X (10X for common laboratory contaminants).	N/A	J, SV4a
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	15. The sample result is ≤5X the concentration of the related analyte in the trip blank, rinsate blank, or equipment blank.	N/A	U, SV4d
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	16. Required method blank information is missing. Data may not be acceptable for use. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.	R, SV4e	R, SV4e
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	17. The IS retention time has shifted by more than 30 seconds.	UJ, SV0	J, SV0
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	18. Analyte is positively confirmed but outside the IS retention time window; however, spectral matches must be provided.	N/A	J, SV0a
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	19. Required IS retention time documentation is missing. Data may not be acceptable for use. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.	R, SV0b	R, SV0b
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	20. The quantitating IS area count is <10% of the expected value, which indicates increased potential for false negative results and other possible problems with sample quantitation. Follow method-specific windows.	R, SV1a	J, SV1a

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Yes No N/A (Check One)				Assign Qualifier Listed Below If Criterion = Yes	
				Non-detected Analyte	Detected Analyte
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	21. The IS area count for the quantitating IS is <50% but >10% for organics window relation to the previous continuing calibration. Follow method-specific windows.	UJ, SV1b	J, SV1b
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	22. The IS area count for the quantitating IS is >200% of the area count for the previous continuing calibration. Follow method-specific windows.	UJ, SV1c	J, SV1c
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	23. Required IS information is missing. Data may not be acceptable for use. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.	R, SV1d	R, SV1d
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	24. The surrogate is <10%R. Follow the external laboratory limits located within the associated data package.	R, SV3	J-, SV3
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	25. The surrogate is < the Lower Acceptance Level (LAL) but ≥10%R. Follow the external laboratory limits located within the associated data package.	UJ, SV3a	J-, SV3a
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	26. The surrogate %R value is > the UAL. Follow the external laboratory limits located within the associated data package.	N/A	J+, SV3b
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	27. At least one surrogate is > the UAL and one surrogate is < the LAL. Follow the external laboratory limits located within the associated data package.	UJ, SV3c	J, SV3c
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	28. Required surrogate information is missing. Data may not be acceptable for use. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.	R, SV3d	R, SV3d
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	29. The LCS percent recovery was <10%. Follow the external laboratory limits located within the associated data package.	R, SV12	J-, SV12
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	30. The LCS percent recovery was < the LAL but >10%. Follow the external laboratory limits located within the associated data package.	UJ, SV12a	J-, SV12a
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	31. The LCS percent recovery was > the UAL. Follow the external laboratory limits located within the associated data package.	N/A	J+, SV12b

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Yes No N/A (Check One)				Assign Qualifier Listed Below If Criterion = Yes	
				Non-detected Analyte	Detected Analyte
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	32. The LCS documentation is missing. Data may not be acceptable for use. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.	R, SV12c	R, SV12c
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	33. The affected analyte is considered not detected because mass spectrum did not meet specifications.	N/A	U, SV8
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	34. The mass spectrum column documentation is missing. Data may not be acceptable for use. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.	R, SV8a	R, SV8a
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	35. Duplicate, dilution, or reanalysis.	UJ, SV88	J, SV88
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	36. The affected analytes have elevated detection limits and may not meet project DQOs because the sample was diluted without any target analytes identified due to matrix interference. Qualify as Reject if the analytical laboratory cannot provide proof for matrix interference.	UJ, R, SV15	R, SV15
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	37. Qualification of data via data validation did not occur based on Quality Control requirements in this procedure. Adhere to the external laboratory qualifiers found within the Form I analytical data summary sheets generated by the external laboratory.	U, U_LAB	J, J_LAB, NQ, NQ
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	38. The LANL project chemist identified quality deficiencies in the reported data that requires further qualification. This code can only be used and/or under advisement by the LANL project chemist.	UJ, R, SV19	J, R, SV19

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**ATTACHMENT 3: GUIDELINES FOR THE QUALIFIER AND REASON CODE APPLICATION****5162-3****Guidelines for the Qualifier and Reason Code Application**

Records Use only



No.	Valid Flag Code Nondetect	Valid Flag Code Detect	Valid Reason Code	Valid Reason Description
1	UJ	J	SV0	The IS retention time has shifted by >30 seconds.
2	N/A	J	SV0a	Analyte is positively confirmed but outside the IS retention window; however, spectral matches must be provided.
3	R	R	SV0b	Required retention time documentation is missing. Data may not be acceptable for use. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.
4	R	J-	SV12	The LCS percent recovery was <10%. Follow the external laboratory limits located within the associated data package.
5	UJ	J-	SV12a	The LCS percent recovery was < the Lower Acceptance Limit (LAL) but >10%. Follow the external laboratory limits located within the associated data package.
6	N/A	J+	SV12b	The LCS percent recovery was > the Upper Acceptance Limit (UAL). Follow the external laboratory limits located within the associated data package.
7	R	R	SV12c	The LCS documentation is missing. Data may not be acceptable for use. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information located within the associated data package.

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No.	Valid Flag Code Nondetect	Valid Flag Code Detect	Valid Reason Code	Valid Reason Description
8	UJ, R	R	SV15	The affected analytes have elevated detection limits and may not meet project DQOs because the sample was diluted without any target analytes identified due to matrix interference. Qualify as Reject if the analytical laboratory cannot provide proof for matrix interference.
9	R	R	SV16	The instrument performance sample did not pass the method acceptance criteria.
10	N/A	J	SV16b	Samples were analyzed outside specific method tune time criteria.
11	R	R	SV16c	The required instrument performance sample information is missing. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.
12	UJ, R	J, R	SV19	The project chemist identified quality deficiencies in the reported data that requires further qualification. This code can ONLY be used and/or under advisement by the project chemist.
13	R	J	SV1a	The quantitating IS area count is <10% of the expected value. Follow the method-specific windows.
14	UJ	J	SV1b	The IS area count for the quantitating IS is <50% but >10% for organics window relation to the previous continuing calibration. Follow the method-specific windows.
15	UJ	J	SV1c	The IS area count for the quantitating IS is >200% of the area count for the previous organic continuing calibration. Follow the method-specific windows.
16	R	R	SV1d	Required IS information is missing. Data may not be acceptable for use. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.
17	R	J-	SV3	The surrogate is <10%R, which indicates the potential for a severely low bias in the results. Follow the external laboratory limits located within the associated data package.
18	UJ	J-	SV3a	The surrogate is < the LAL but ≥10%R, which indicates the potential for a low bias in the results. Follow the external laboratory limits.

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No.	Valid Flag Code Nondetect	Valid Flag Code Detect	Valid Reason Code	Valid Reason Description
19	N/A	J+	SV3b	The surrogate %R value is > the UAL, which indicates a potential for a high bias in the results and a potential for false positive results. Follow the external laboratory limits located within the associated data package.
20	UJ	J	SV3c	At least one surrogate is > the UAL and one surrogate is < the LAL, which indicates a > normal degree of uncertainty in the result. Follow the external laboratory limits located within the associated data package.
21	R	R	SV3d	Required surrogate/tracer information is missing. Data may not be acceptable for use. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.
22	N/A	U	SV4	The sample result is ≤5X (10X for common organic laboratory contaminants) the concentration of the related analyte in the method blank, which indicates the reported detection is considered indistinguishable from contamination in the blank.
23	N/A	J	SV4a	The affected analytes are considered estimated and biased high because this analyte was identified in the method blank but was >5X (10X for common laboratory contaminants).
24	N/A	U	SV4d	The sample result is ≤5X the concentration of the related analyte in the trip blank, rinsate blank, or equipment blank, which indicates the reported detection is considered indistinguishable from contamination in the blank.
25	R	R	SV4e	Required method blank information is missing. Data may not be acceptable for use. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.
26	UJ, R	J	SV7	The affected results were not analyzed with a valid 5-point calibration curve and/or a standard at the reporting limit.
27	UJ	J	SV7a	The affected analytes were analyzed with an initial calibration curve that exceeded the %RSD criteria and/or the associated multipoint calibration correlation coefficient is <0.995.
28	R	J	SV7b	The affected analytes were analyzed with an RRF of <0.05 in the initial calibration and/or CCV.

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No.	Valid Flag Code Nondetect	Valid Flag Code Detect	Valid Reason Code	Valid Reason Description
29	UJ	J	SV7c	The ICV and/or CCV were recovered outside the method-specific limits.
30.	UJ	J	SV7d	The ICV and/or CCV were not analyzed at the appropriate method frequency.
31.	R	R	SV7f	Required calibration information is missing or samples were analyzed on an expired calibration. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.
32.	N/A	U	SV8	The affected analyte is considered not detected because mass spectrum did not meet specifications.
33.	UJ	J	SV88	Duplicate, dilution, or reanalysis.
34.	R	R	SV8a	The mass spectrum column documentation is missing. Data may not be acceptable for use. Contact the SMO or external laboratory for information.
35	UJ	J-	SV9	The extraction holding time is exceeded by <2X the published method for holding times.
36	R	J-	SV9a	The extraction holding time was exceeded by >2X the published method for holding times.
37	R	R	SV9b	The affected analytes are regarded as rejected because the analytical holding time was exceeded.
38	U	J, NQ	U_LAB, J_LAB, NQ	Qualification of data via data validation did not occur based on Quality Control requirements in this procedure. Adhere to the external laboratory qualifiers found within the Form I analytical data summary sheets generated by the external laboratory.

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