

WWW-Based Information Distribution in the Analytical Laboratory.

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Information gathering, analysis, and distribution are of fundamental importance to the smooth and efficient operation of analytical laboratories. Considerable effort is often expended to produce, control, and distribute critical information. This includes quality assurance documents, standard operating procedures, safety information, and various metrics that reflect operational quality as well as business health. In this presentation we report our experiences in transforming our operations from the traditional "controlled paper" system to a web-based "on-demand" system. This has afforded significant savings in cost, as well as enhancing efficiency. However, such a significant change from the traditional method of information distribution and control requires rethinking issues such as training, access control, and revision management. We will discuss the experience we have gained in operating with a web-based approach for two years, as well as the infrastructure needed to implement this construct.

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