

# Air Emissions Testing Accreditation and Certification

## **Programs and regulations**

Peter Westlin  
OAQPS, SPPD, MPG  
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# What I intend to cover

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- History and other background
- Available programs
- Regulatory applications
- Status of SES QSTI/QSTO program



# Some terminology

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## □ Accreditation

- Criteria addressing administrative, quality, and technical systems (e.g., a testing company or laboratory)
- Focus on operations, performance, and competency
- May involve auditing

## □ Certification

- Process to establish minimum qualifications (e.g., for a source testing individual)
- Usually involves performance evaluation and knowledge testing



# History

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- ❑ 1974 – Source Evaluation Society formed partly to establish quality criteria for source testers
- ❑ 1990-2000 – EPA and SES draft structure for qualifying individuals
- ❑ 2003 – SES establishes QSTI program with three methods groups exams and volunteer operating committee
- ❑ 2004 – ASTM publishes D7036-04 for air emissions testing bodies



# Programs

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- Air emissions testing bodies
  - **Stack Testing Accreditation Council (STAC)**
    - Not-for-profit organization
    - For implementing ASTM D7036-04
  - **Sources can self-accredit**
- Qualified individuals
  - **Source Evaluation Society (SES)**
    - Volunteer run, not-for-profit organization
    - Provides approvals for individuals for four methods groups
  - **Not aware of any other program**



# Regulatory applications

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- EPA – part 75, appendix A revisions
  - May be published 12/2010
  - Once revisions are final, ASTM D7036-04 will apply to AETB
  - Must have qualified individual on site for CEMS RATA and Hg tests
- No such plans for NSPS or MACT testing
- Some states have accreditation programs



# Some Source Evaluation Society QSTI/QSTO Program basics

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- QSTI – Qualified Source Testing Individual
- QSTO – Qualified Source Testing Observer
- Qualifications
  - Experience - mirror ASTM D7036-04 standard
  - Pass at least one methods group exam
- Application process
  - Document experience
  - Describe two projects per methods group
  - Include three letters of reference
- Guidelines and forms are on SES website



# More SES QSTI/QSTO Program basics

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## Four emissions measurements groups

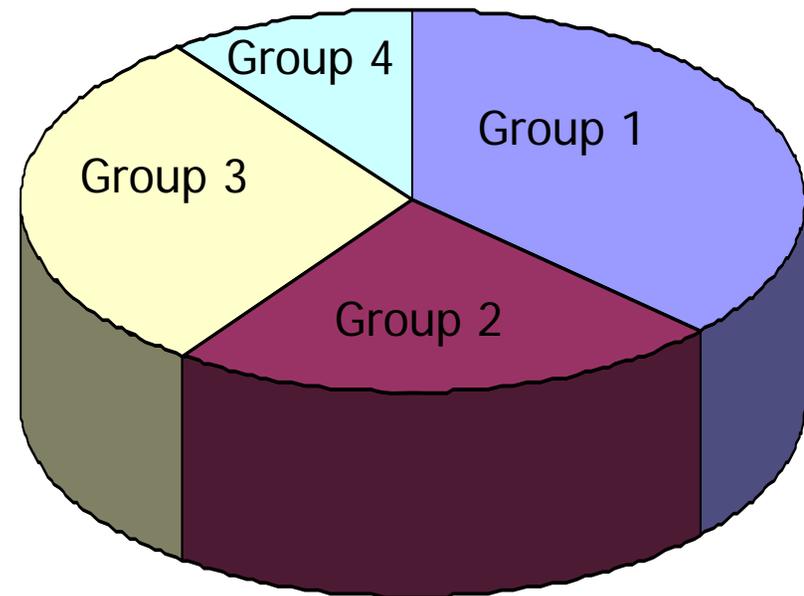
- Group 1 – Isokinetic test methods (2004)
- Group 2 – Wet chemistry gaseous pollutant test methods (2004)
- Group 3- Instrumental gaseous test methods and CEMS performance specifications for both parts 60 and 75 (2005)
- Group 4 – Hazardous metals test methods (2007)



# Some statistics (through November 2010)

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- ❑ >3520 exams administered
- ❑ >930 individuals have taken one or more exams (some more than once per exam)
- ❑ >1850 exams passed



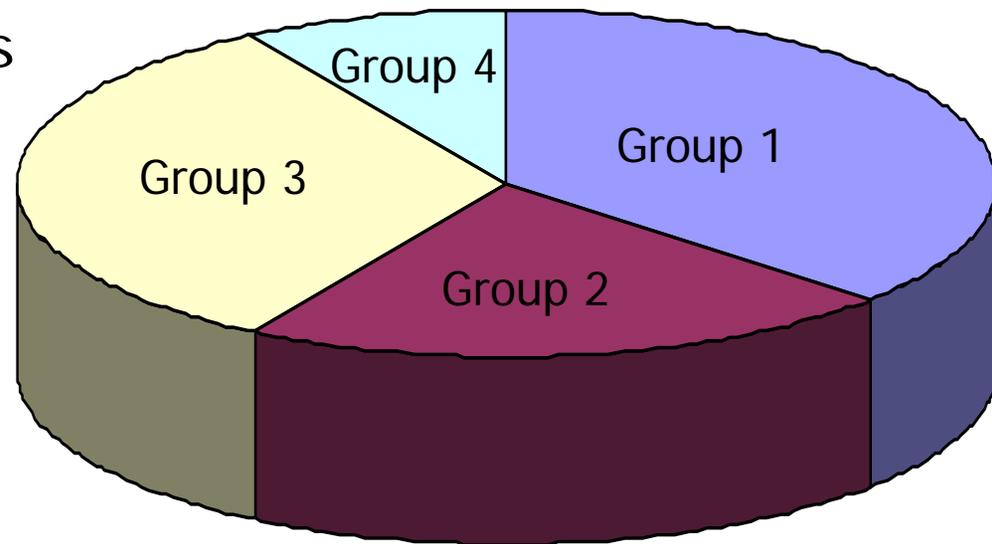
Exams distribution



# More Statistics (through November 2010)

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- QSTI approvals
  - >1150 approvals
  - >460 individuals
  - ~100 different organizations
- QSTO approvals
  - 8 individuals



Methods Group Approvals Distribution



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Any QSTIs or QSTOs here?

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