# Development of Voluntary Consensus Standards and Measurement Support for NORM / TENORM Applications

### **Evgeny Taskaev**

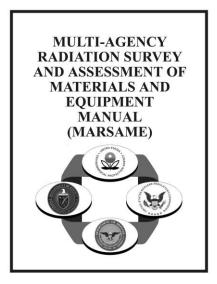
evgeny.taskaev@ezag.com, Eckert & Ziegler Analytics (EZA) Inc.

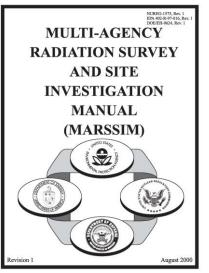
#### **Donivan Porterfield**

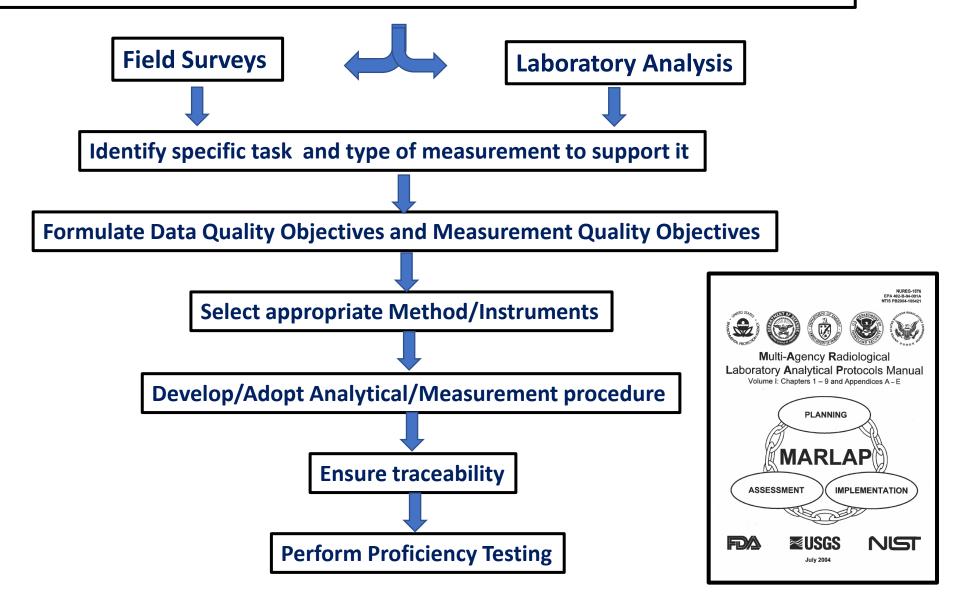
dporterfield@lanl.gov, Los Alamos National Laboratory



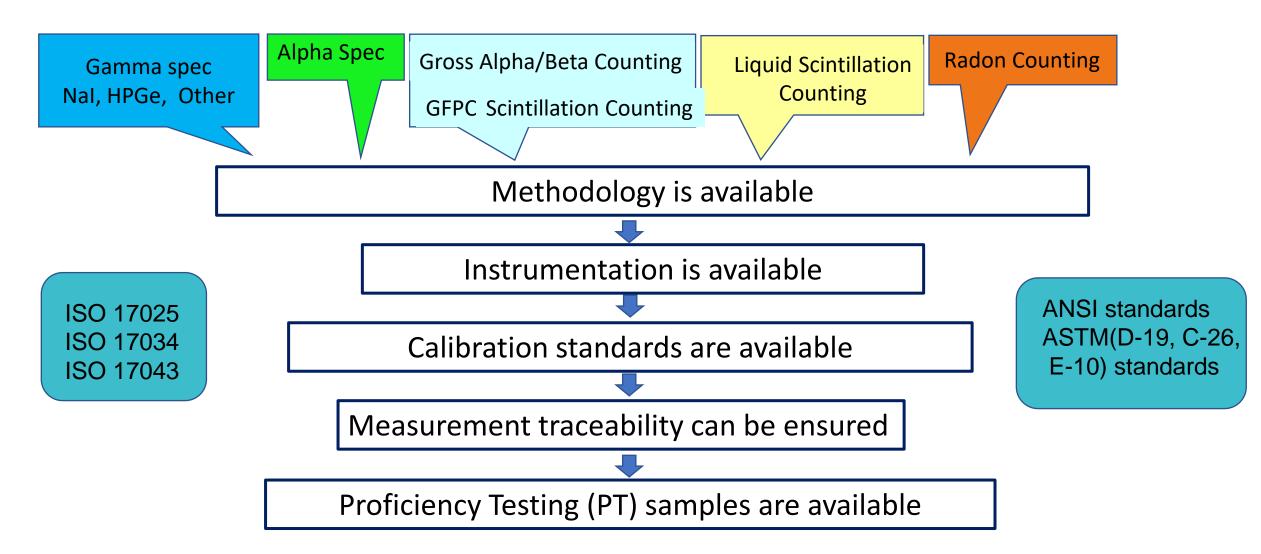
#### Part of (TE)NORM ANALYSIS – determination of concentration of radionuclides



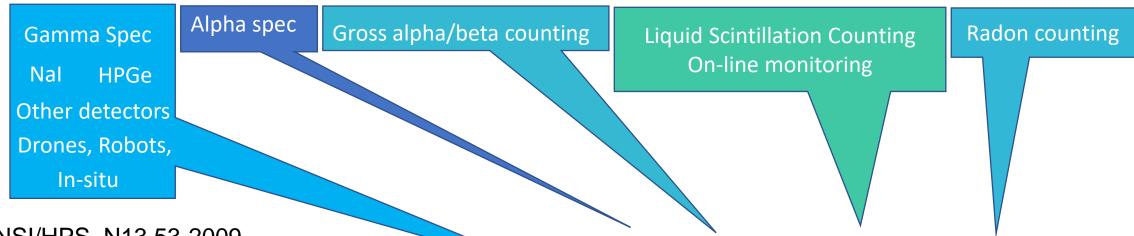




### Laboratory Analysis Can be performed with or without a radiochemical separation



### Field Surveys and Analysis



ANSI/HPS N13.53-2009

**Control and Release of Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (TENORM)** 

Survey: A systematic evaluation and documentation of the radiological characteristics of areas, items, or materials using calibrated instrumentation or laboratory radio-analytical techniques that meet data quality objectives established for the survey. Data quality objectives define the appropriate type of data, specify tolerance levels for decision errors, and establish the quality and quantity of data needed to support the decision process when evaluating results.

Methodology, Instrumentation, Calibration Standards and Proficiency Testing (PT) samples are somewhat available



Implementation of measurement practices is not consistent, measurement traceability and survey results can be questionable and unreliable

What is the role of field survey? Can it be used for obtaining quantitative results and significantly reduce time and cost of analysis?

To answer "yes" several issues need to be addressed and resolved:

- standardized practices and procedures should be adopted or developed for specific applications.
- critical part of each procedure should be the calibration of the instruments. Calibration must be specific for each application and must established relation between the count rate and activity. Some calibration procedures should address state of equilibrium between parent and daughter radionuclides. Procedures for in-situ analysis, including drone and vehicle-based surveys, should include landscape variations. Historical data or laboratory analysis should be used to better simulate the isotopic composition.
- capabilities should be developed to provide Performance Testing samples or the possibility to do the Performance Testing measurements for the specific procedures, allowing verifications and demonstration of competence

### Example of "Calibration" certificate, that is no more than functionality check

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## EZA capabilities to support (TE)NORM analysis and surveys

- All (TE)NORM isotopes are available, including uranium-238 and thorium-232 in equilibrium with their decay products.
- EZA pitchblende material is analyzed at Oak Ridge National Laboratory for uranium content, uranium isotopic abundance and trace element content.
- Manufacturing capabilities for solid and liquid Calibration Standards and PT samples for common and custom geometries and isotope composition.
- Flat source manufacturing up to 1m x 1m for potential use for In-Situ measurements and in-pipe and other simulations.
- Solid matrices for the preparation of calibration standard, reference materials (bulk standards) and PT samples are available in 0.5-3.5 g/cm<sup>3</sup> density range, including Olivine, low NORM material ( $\Sigma$  NORM isotopes < 12 mBq/g).
- Potential capability for in-house instrument calibration service and Performance Testing for in situ measurements, using realistic simulations.