

Ruggedness Testing

Prior to running a full interlaboratory study (ILS) that may be costly and time consuming, ruggedness testing is often used to pinpoint the variables that are associated with the performance of a standard test method and that impact the variability of the precision. If a ruggedness test is not performed prior to the actual interlaboratory study, the participants in the study may not be aware of the variables that directly impact the results of performing the method. The ruggedness test should be confined to a single laboratory to maximize the visibility of any variables. Examples of variables to consider include: sampling, conditioning, pressure, temperature, and relative humidity.