

# **Simple, Quick Analysis of Dioxins, PCBs & PBDEs in Vegetable Oils and Fats**

Fluid Management Systems  
Billerica MA



# Introduction

- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organics Pollutants 2004.
- Compounds of interest: polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (PCDDs), furans (PCDFs), biphenyls (PCBs) and poly brominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs).
- Known toxicity.
- Strict environmental regulations in force in most countries.
- US EPA and EU methods and regulations; other countries have their own.



# Challenges of POPs Sample Prep

- Labor intensive, prone to error
- Compliance with regulatory procedures and accreditation (lengthy method validation)
- Strict QA/QC requirements
- Sample matrix complexity
- Native background and interferences (sometimes orders of magnitude higher than analytes)
- Pico-/femto-gram analyses require ultra-pure extract and excellent instrument sensitivity

# Manual Sample Prep

## Advantages of Manual Sample Prep

- Flexibility
- Low initial Capital equipment Cost
- Easier to implement
- No electronics or mechanical failure  
No down time due to system failure
- No service contract cost

## Disadvantages of Manual Sample Prep

- Human Error
- Less Efficiency
- Increased workload
- Inconsistency
- Risk of Cross contamination
- Human Exposure to Chemical
- Lack of Traceability
- Difficult to Scale up

# Automated Sample Prep

## **Advantages Automated Sample Prep**

- Efficiency & Speed
- Accuracy & Consistency
- Repeatability & Reproducibility
- Reduction of Manual Labor
- Documentation & Traceability
- Less exposure to Hazardous
- Cleaner Background Interference
- Simpler QA/QC & Accreditation

## **Disadvantages Automated Sample Prep**

- High Initial Cost
- Maintenance & Service contract Cost
- Technical Knowledge required
- System Limited Flexibility
- Down time due to failure
- Sample size limitation



# Design of the Ideal Sample Clean-up

## Combining The Best Features of Manual & Automated

### Advantages of Manual Sample Prep

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- Low initial Capital equipment Cost
- Easier to implement
- No electronics or mechanical failure  
No down time due to system failure
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### Advantages Automated Sample Prep

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- Reduction of Manual Labor
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- Less exposure to Hazardous
- Low Background Interferences
- Simpler QA/QC & Accreditation

## Features:

- Rapid Turn Around Time: 45 to 60 Minutes for 6 Samples
- Simple to operate Resemble Manual Sample Clean-up
- Cleaner Background Interferences: Closed Loop System
- Quality Results: Certified Pre-packaged Columns
- Green Technology: Low solvent and power use
- QA/QC & Accreditation Requirements: Easy to manage
- Reliable Little electronic or Electro-Mechanical to fail
- Affordable Automation: Low cost

## **Combine Best Features (EzPrep Family and Fully Automated Systems)**

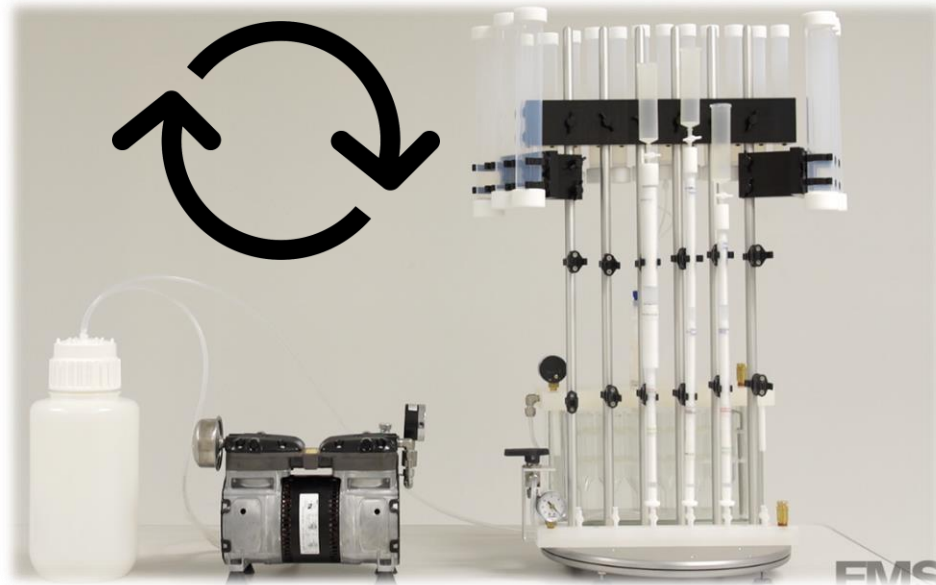
Combine both features:

- Fast: 30-40 min
- Simple to run, touch screen programming
- Closed loop system with clean background, low detection limits
- Use certified pre-packaged columns
- Green technology, uses multi-pump to do cleanup
- Low solvent volumes
- Economical column kits, five choices of low fat to high fat column kits
- Low capital equipment cost
- Little electronics or mechanical equipment to fail
- Little cleaning and no cross-contamination
- Minimal downtime





## Design of EzPrep Using Vacuum Pump



## Sample Concentration Using FMS SuperVap



# Cycle Time EzPrep

## Processing 6 Samples

	<u>Automated</u>	<u>Manual</u>
• <b><u>Set up time:</u></b>		
• Assemble & Install acidic silica-carbon-alumina columns on column rack		
• Place samples cartridges on top of acidic silica columns , Add Solvents to solvent reserve		- 20 min
• <b><u>Program 1:</u></b>		
elute hexane through all three columns ; apply nitrogen to push hexane onto the columns to waste	- 20 min	
• Disassemble the column set, install carbon and alumina columns on top of manifold		-10 min
• <b><u>Program 2:</u></b>		
• Dispense Toluene through alumina & Carbon and collect PCBs & Dioxins	-10 min	

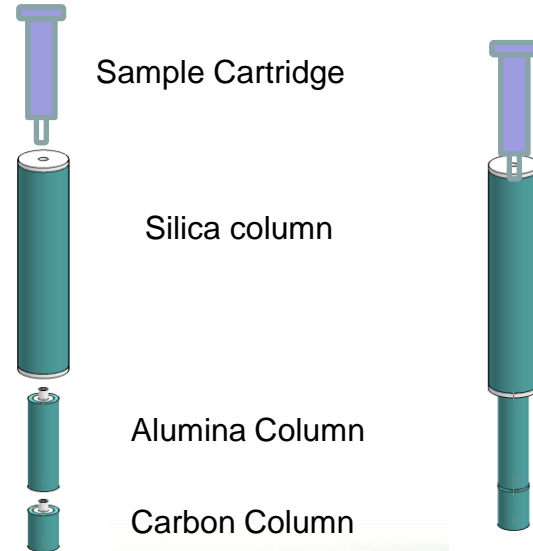
**Total Cycle Time 60 min**

## FMS Certified Snap-In columns:

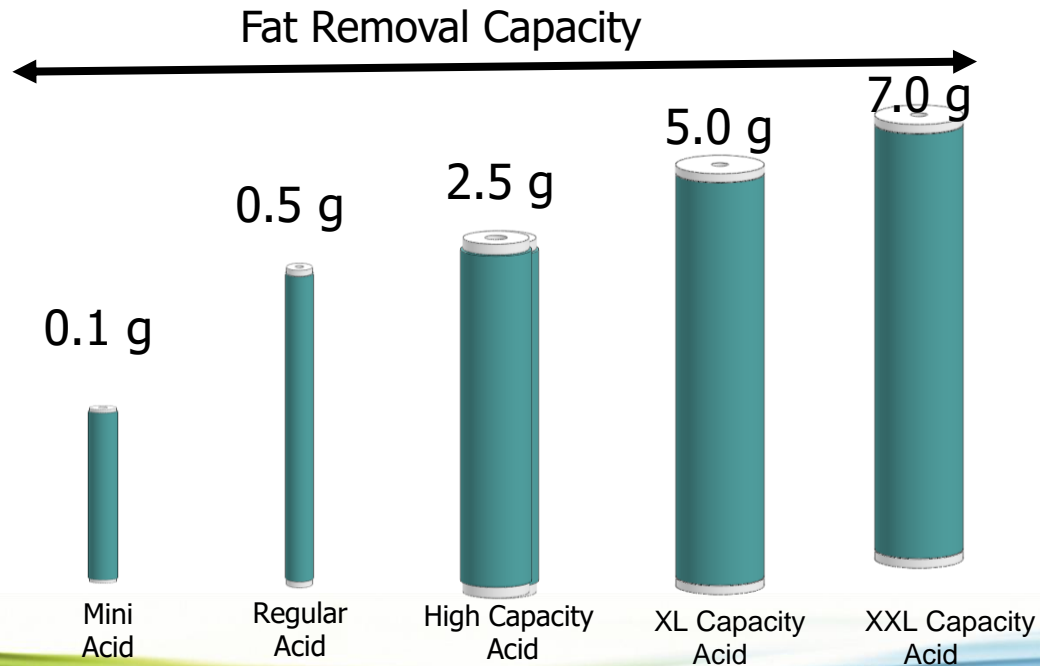
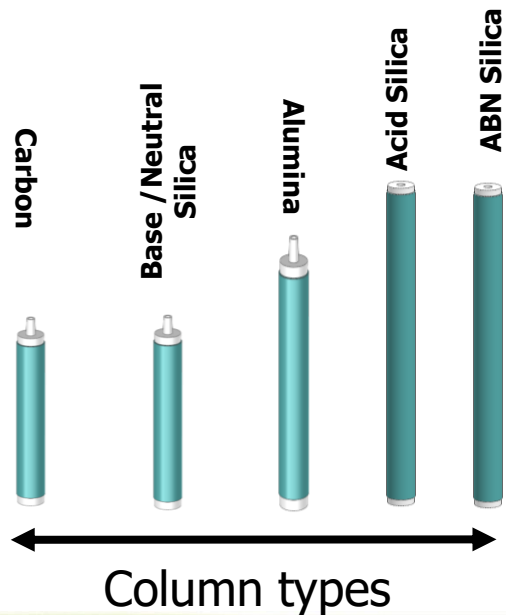
- Easy to connect
- NO fittings
- Designed for easier flow
- Different size for different fat capacity from 0.2 up to 7 gm of Fat

### Disassembled

### Assembled



## Columns/ Fat Removal Capacity



## **Features:**

- Programmable Flow rate and Volume
- Pressure indicator and over pressure alarm
- Real time read-out for dispensed volume and pressure
- Ability to select from 1 to six samples
- Can accommodate up to 4 solvents
- Economical & less expensive automation

# Automated EzPrep/ + Sample Clean-up

## Benefits:

- Rapid Turn Around Time: 30 to 45 Minutes for 6 Samples
- Simple Programming: Just Select Solvent, Set Flow & Volume
- High Throughput: Process up to 48 samples per day
- Cleaner Background Interferences: Closed Loop System
- Quality Results: Certified Pre-packaged Columns
- Green Technology: Low solvent and power use
- QA/QC & Accreditation Requirements: Easy to manage
- Reliable: Minimal Electronics & Electro-Mechanical



# Attributes EZPrep/+

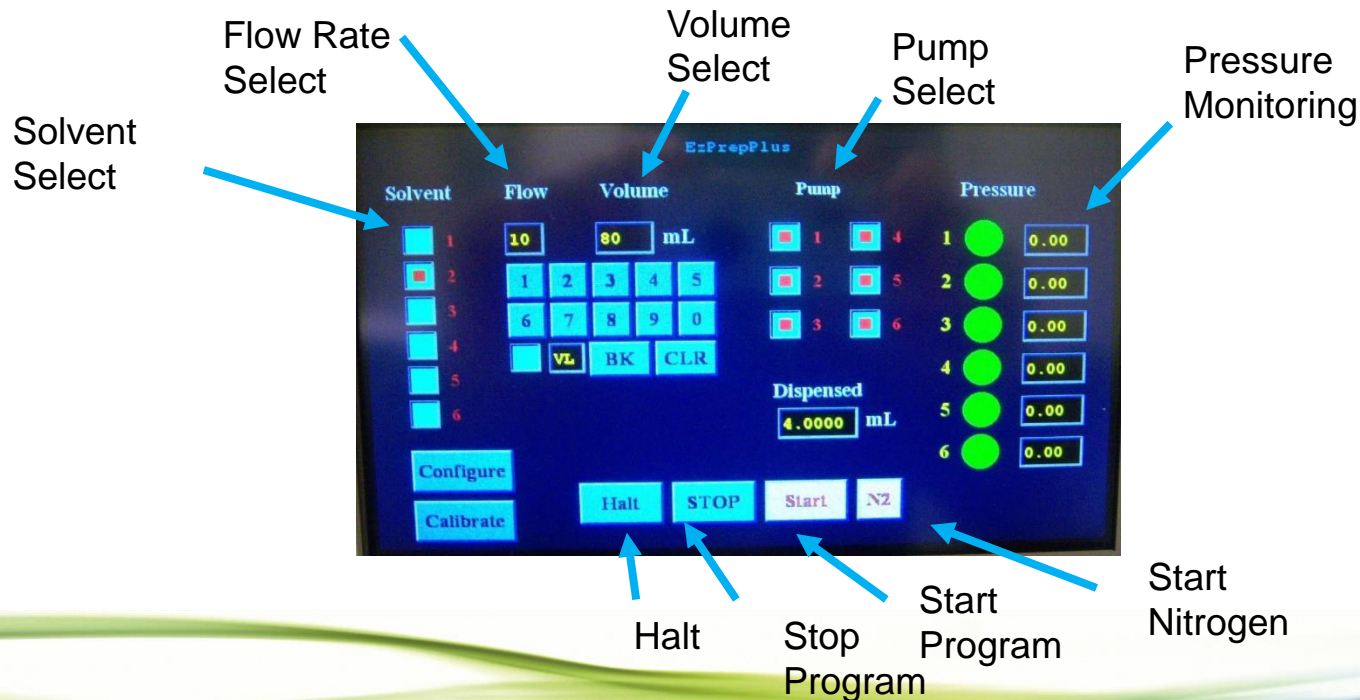
- **Closed loop system, eliminates background contaminants & exposure to chemicals**
- **Optimized for solvent reduction while obtaining highest possible recoveries**
- **Certified disposable Columns with guarantee Low contaminants background and Excellent Recoveries**
- **Quick connect SNAP columns simplifies system set up**
- **Multi pump Solvent Delivery system brings convenient automated solvent selection & dispense with controllable flow & volume**
- **EzPrep/+ designed with Minimum number of electronics and Electromechanical valve to lower cost and simplify the maintenance**



## Automated EZprep/+

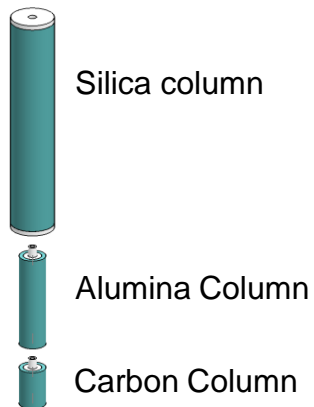


# EzPrep /+ Control Panel



# How It Works System set up

## Unpack column



## Assemble Snap Columns



## Add Samples



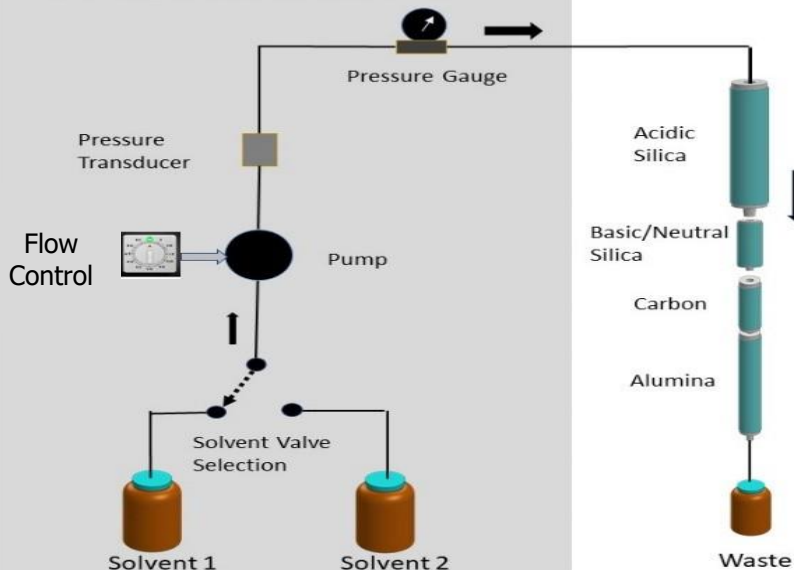
## Install Columns



# How It Works

## Run Sample loading and Elution

Automated Solvent Delivery System



### EzPrep – Stage 1

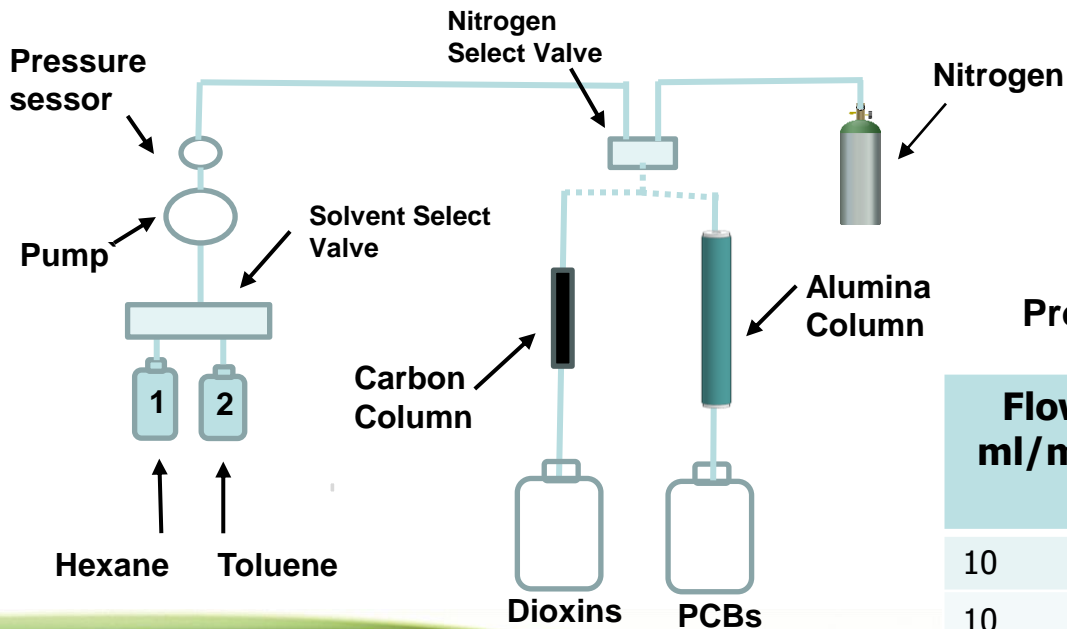
#### Program1:

- Load Samples
- Elute Dioxins & PCBs

Flow ml/min	Volume ml	Solvent	Description
10	160	1	Load sample
			Elute Dioxins & PCBs

# How It Works

## Elute Dioxins & PCBs



### Program2: Dioxins & PCBs, Fractionation

Flow ml/min	Volume ml	Solvent	Description
10	40	2	Collect Dioxins
10	40	2	Collect PCBs

# Cycle Time EzPrep/ +

- |  | <u>Automated</u> | <u>Manual</u> |
|--|------------------|---------------|
| • <b><u>Set up time:</u></b>   |                  |               |
| • Assemble & Install acidic silica-carbon-alumina columns on column rack                         |                  |               |
| • Place samples cartridges on top of acidic silica columns                                       |                  | - 10 min      |
| • <b><u>Program 1:</u></b>   |                  |               |
| elute hexane through all three columns ; apply nitrogen to push hexane onto the columns to waste | - 16 min         |               |
| • Disassemble the column set, install carbon and alumina columns on top of manifold              | -10 min          |               |
| • <b><u>Program 2:</u></b>   |                  |               |
| Dispense Toluene through alumina & Carbon and collect PCBs & Dioxins                             |                  | -10 min       |

**Total Cycle Time 46 min**

# Combine best features (EZPrep Family)

Features	EzPrep	EzPrep/+
System run time for 6 samples	45 ~60 min	30 ~ 40 min
Fat Removal Capacity	.1 ~ 5g	.1 ~7g
Programmability	Minimal	Fully programmable
Pumping method	Vacuum	Pressurized
Use of certified pre-pack column	yes	yes
Use of electronics, electromechanical valve	No	Minimal
Labor required time to run 6 samples	30~60 min	20 ~ 30 min
Cross contamination	No Tubing	No Tubing



## Comparison of Manual, Automated vs EzPrep Family

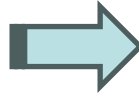
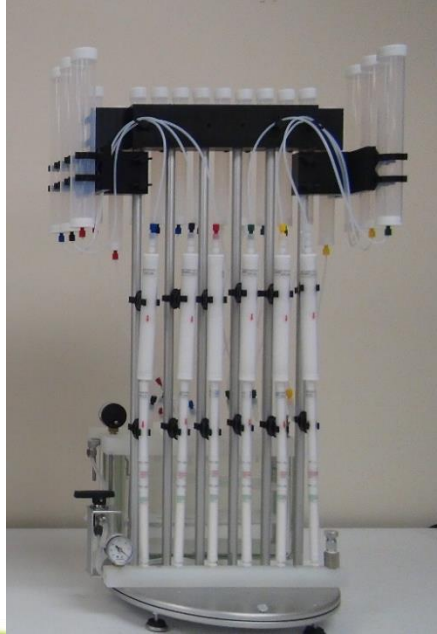
Task	Manual Sample Prep	Automated Sample Prep	EzPrep Semi-Automated	EzPrep/ + Automated
Labor Time	Hours	1 Hour	1 Hour ( up to 2.5g fat) 2 Hour ( 2.5 to 5.0 g fat)	Less than 1 Hour
Accreditation	Slow	Fast	Fast	Fast
Accuracy & Precision	Varies	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Matrix	Dependent	Many	Many	Many
Instrument Maintenance	None	Required	Minimal	Minimal
Instrument Down Time	None	Some Times	none	Minimal
Fat Removal Capacity gram	Minimal	0.1 ~ 7.0 Gram	0.1 to 5.0 gram	0.1 to 7.0 g
Human Exposure	High	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal
Cost	5 x	50 x	10 x	25x



## Automated EZprep expandable to EzPrep/+



## EzPrep Expandable to EzPrep/+



# SuperVap 12 Concentrator 50 mLs

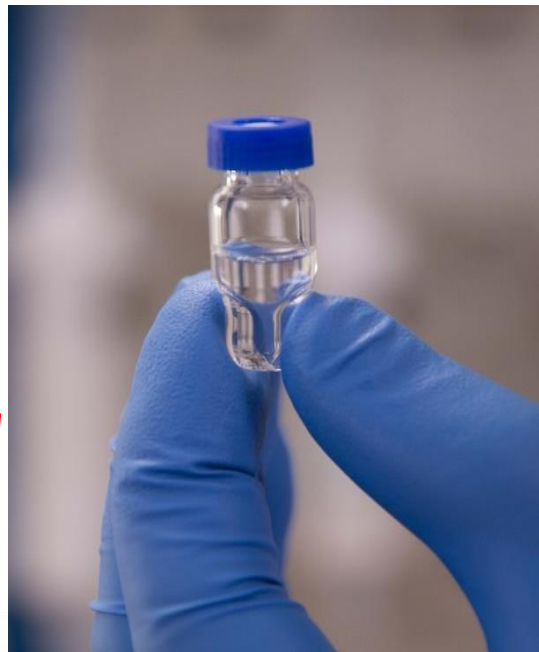


# SuperVap Concentration/Evaporation

- System pre-heated to 50 °C.
- Samples evaporated at stable T under 8 psi nitrogen (sensor).
- 1 mL extract vial transferred to GC vial (can have direct-to-vial feature).
- Recovery standards added (nonane/dodecane).
- Extract taken to 10 uL volume with a gentle stream of nitrogen at ambient temp.



# Direct-to-Vial



GC vial



# Sample Analysis Work Flow



**PLE Extraction**

45 Min

+



**Concentration**

30 Min

+



**Sample Cleanup/  
Concentration**

120 MIN

+



**Vial  
Concentration**

45 Min

→



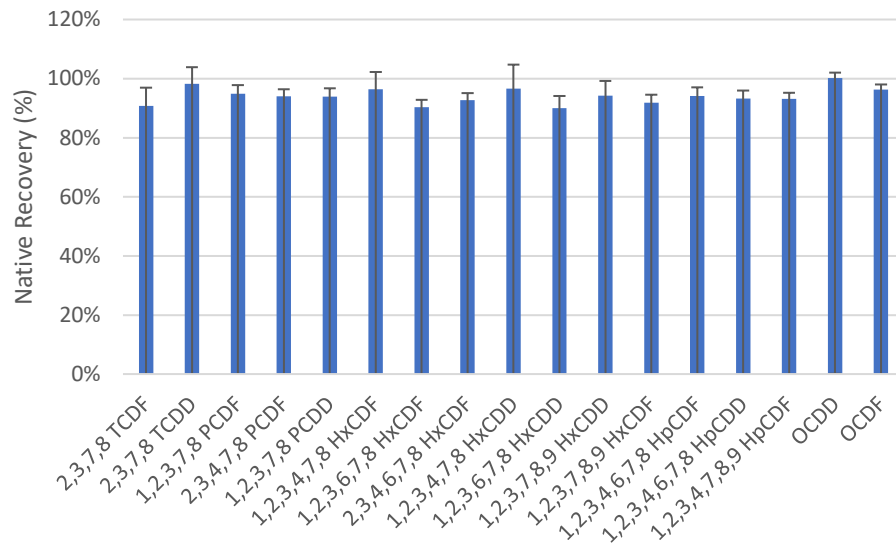
**Triple  
Quad**

**Total Sample Prep Time = 4 hours per batch of 6 samples**

# Direct to GC/MS or Triple Quad



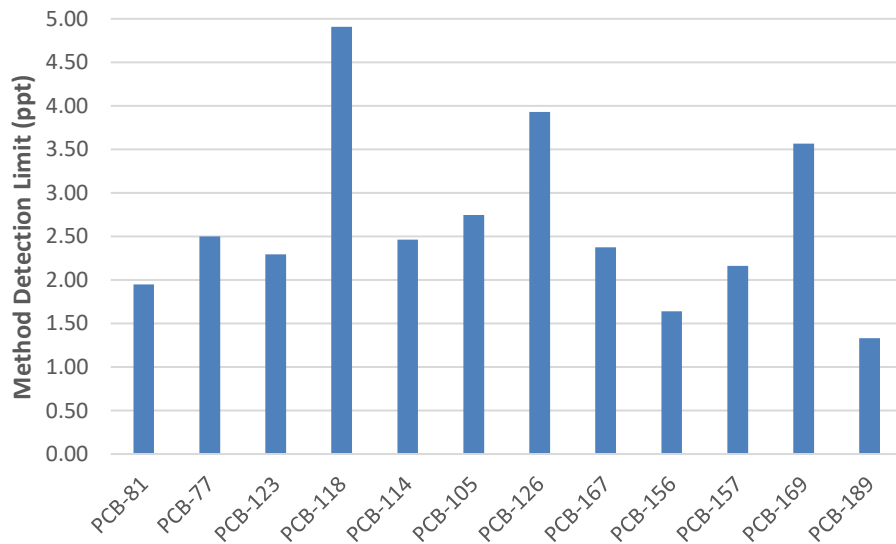
# Native PCDD/F IDC



PLE-EZP-conc,  
400-4000 pg,  
n=6

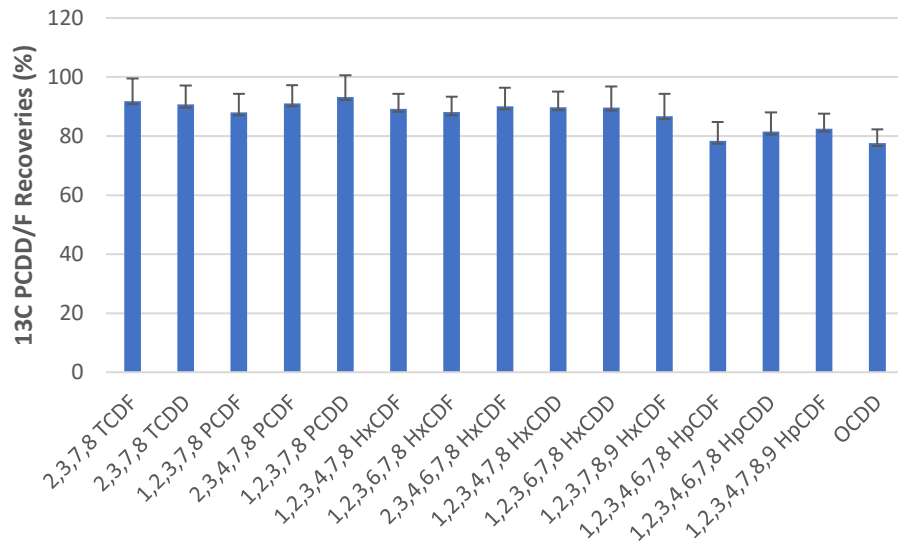


# Native PCB MDL



MDL, PLE-EZP-  
conc, 10 ppt spike,  
n=7

# $^{13}\text{C}$ PCDD/F recoveries no matrix



PLE-EZP-conc,  
Ottawa Sand  
matrix, n=6

# Native PCBs in oil

	Cod Oil		Pumpkin oil		Corn oil	
Natives in pg	Channel-1	Channel-2	Channel-3	Channel-4	Channel-5	Channel-6
<b>PCB-81</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>PCB-77</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0
<b>PCB-123</b>	787.0	854.0	182.0	196.0	26.0	19.0
<b>PCB-118</b>	5858.0	5451.0	150.0	178.0	17.0	13.0
<b>PCB-114</b>	161.0	102.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>PCB-105</b>	2027.0	1939.0	66.0	73.0	6.0	4.0
<b>PCB-126</b>	7.0	5.0	8.0	0.0	2.0	5.0
<b>PCB-167</b>	3579.0	3409.0	27.0	33.0	0.0	0.0
<b>PCB-156</b>	1261.0	1199.0	11.0	15.0	15.0	23.0
<b>PCB-157</b>	259.0	244.0	38.0	76.0	24.0	9.0
<b>PCB-169</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
<b>PCB-189</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

EZP - conc, 2.5  
g oils

# Native PCDD/Fs in oils

	Cod Oil		Pumpkin oil		Corn oil	
Natives in pg	Channel-1	Channel-2	Channel-3	Channel-4	Channel-5	Channel-6
T 2,3,7,8 TCDF	3.3	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.1
T 2,3,7,8 TCDD	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2
T 1,2,3,7,8 PCDF	0.5	1.0	0.1	0.2	0.6	1.6
T 2,3,4,7,8 PCDF	1.4	1.1	0.4	0.4	0.6	1.9
T 1,2,3,7,8 PCDD	0.7	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.8
T 1,2,3,6,7,8 HxCDF	2.1	0.2	2.2	0.6	0.2	1.8
T 1,2,3,4,7,8 HxCDF	2.0	0.2	2.1	0.6	0.2	1.7
T 2,3,4,6,7,8 HxCDF	2.0	0.7	1.5	0.7	0.2	1.8
T 1,2,3,4,7,8 HxCDD	2.3	1.2	1.0	0.4	1.2	2.6
T 1,2,3,6,7,8 HxCDD	2.2	1.2	0.9	0.4	1.1	2.4
T 1,2,3,7,8,9 HxCDD	2.2	1.2	0.9	0.2	0.9	2.4
T 1,2,3,7,8,9 HxCDF	2.1	1.1	0.6	0.2	0.2	2.2
T 1,2,3,4,7,8,9 HpCDF	1.1	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.7	1.1
T 1,2,3,4,6,7,8 HpCDF	0.9	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.3	1.6
T 1,2,3,4,6,7,8 HpCDD	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.1	1.0
T OCDF	0.4	2.4	2.0	0.4	1.0	4.2
T OCDD	1.2	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.1

EZP-conc, 2.5  
g oils

# $^{13}\text{C}$ PCDD/F recoveries in oils

13C recoveries (%)	Cod Oil		Pumpkin oil		Corn oil	
	Channel-1	Channel-2	Channel-3	Channel-4	Channel-5	Channel-6
2,3,7,8 TCDF	95	87	83	91	79	98
2,3,7,8 TCDD	101	94	89	99	84	106
1,2,3,7,8 PCDF	92	84	81	93	75	92
2,3,4,7,8 PCDF	99	89	88	101	81	106
1,2,3,7,8 PCDD	97	87	87	101	80	105
1,2,3,4,7,8 HxCDF	80	72	74	92	74	89
1,2,3,6,7,8 HxCDF	99	91	90	88	86	96
2,3,4,6,7,8 HxCDF	96	85	84	91	80	89
1,2,3,4,7,8 HxCDD	85	76	74	79	70	85
1,2,3,6,7,8 HxCDD	104	95	93	110	87	95
1,2,3,7,8,9 HxCDF	96	85	84	94	82	86
1,2,3,4,6,7,8 HpCDF	82	75	71	79	74	75
1,2,3,4,6,7,8 HpCDD	83	76	75	88	76	95
1,2,3,4,7,8,9 HpCDF	82	73	73	86	76	94
OCDD	74	71	74	77	72	91

EZP-conc, 2.5  
g oils

# $^{13}\text{C}$ PBDES recoveries in fish oil

	Fish oil
	<b>1g</b>
BDE-28	66
BDE-47	72
BDE-99	80
BDE-100	81
BDE-153	78
BDE-154	78
BDE-183	81
BDE-209	61

# Conclusions

- **EzPrep family of products designed to combine the advantages of Manual & Automated Sample prep**
- **EzPrep family of products designed to eliminate disadvantages of Automated and Manual system**
- **EzPrep/+ designed for ease of use, and lowering cost by using a minimum number of electronics and Electromechanical valves**
- **EzPrep family of products uses certified proprietary consumables design to speed up the sample prep workflow**
- **EzPrep family of products process 6 sample Clean-up per hour & 48 samples per day**
- **Combining EzPrep family of products with PLE (pressurized Liquid Extraction) allows laboratories to perform up to 48 samples from samples to vial**

# Conclusions ...

- **Closed loop system, eliminates background contaminants & exposure to chemicals**
- **Optimized for solvent reduction while obtaining highest possible recoveries**
- **Certified disposable Columns with guarantee Low contaminants background and Excellent Recoveries**
- **Multi pump Solvent Delivery system brings convenient automated solvent selection & dispense with controllable flow & volume**
- **Little washing needed**
- **No cross-contamination**





# Questions?

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