



ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND LABORATORY SERVICES

ERT (Scotland) Ltd's survey teams are supported by specialist in-house laboratories covering analytical chemistry and benthic biology. This allows full control over project management from initial survey design through to analysis and interpretation of results.

OUR EXPERTISE

Analytical Chemistry Laboratory

Our analytical chemistry laboratory specialises in the analysis of marine environmental samples and employs a team of chemists with over fifty years of combined experience in this field. ERT is established as the UK leader in the field of oil spill fingerprinting and provides specialist support to a wide range of clients including government and non-government agencies and oil companies.



The laboratory performs analyses on a wide range of sample types:

- Water
- Sediment
- Aquatic biota
- Effluents
- Oil samples
- Industrial materials

for a wide range of analytical parameters, including:

- Hydrocarbons (eg 'total' hydrocarbons, aliphatics, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, n-alkanes and geochemical biomarkers)
- PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls)
- Sediment characteristics including particle size distribution
- Heavy metals (via subcontract partner)
- Radionuclides (via subcontract partner)

ERT's laboratory facilities are fully equipped with modern instrumentation, including:

- Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry systems
- Gas chromatographs fitted with FID and ECD detectors
- Fourier Transform-Infrared spectrometer
- Laser diffraction particle size analyser

Biological Laboratory

Our biological laboratory offers a full range of skills relating to survey and monitoring in coastal, offshore and deep sea environments. Services include:

- Marine biological consultancy
- Habitat mapping
- Marine benthic macrofaunal taxonomic expertise
- Biological sample sorting and identification
- Data compilation and statistical processing
- Survey data interpretation and presentation



ERT environmental scientists are skilled in data analysis and can provide fully interpretative reports. This expertise is also fed into EIA and environmental management studies.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

ERT's laboratories participate in a number of national and international laboratory performance studies, most notably QUASIMEME for chemical analyses and NMBAQC for biology.