

was not available in the database, preliminary identification on-site could not have been possible. However, an indication alone of the presence of a Schedule 1 chemical would have required the samples to be sent to two designated laboratories for confirmatory analyses.

Unambiguous identification of the Schedule 1 compound would require the use of two or more independent spectrometric techniques. The unambiguous identification may also require the synthesis of a authentic standard for comparison which may increase the time required for a complete report to the Technical Secretariat.

With sophisticated instruments skilled analysts can identify almost any chemicals present in the samples in minute quantities if reference data is available. Therefore, to protect confidential business information use of "blinded" instruments on-site and sending of coded samples to off-site laboratories are recommended.

The nature of the Schedule 1 chemicals in this round-robin exercise also emphasized the requirement for proper sampling methods, means for sample stabilization during transport, and rapid transport of the samples to designated laboratories.