



Rights and responsibilities in SKUP evaluations

Precautions

SKUP evaluations are under continuous development. In some cases, it may be difficult to compare earlier protocols, results and reports with more recent ones.

If the requesting company is not able to deliver the necessary equipment for the evaluation at the time agreed upon, SKUP is not bound by the initial date that was set for completing the report. If a delay in equipment delivery causes considerably changes in SKUP's fixed evaluation program, an economic compensation will be considered.

SKUP will contact the requesting company if any technical problems occur with the equipment during the evaluation. If possible, SKUP will notify the requesting company at an early stage if the analytical quality turns out to be unexpectedly poor, and cooperate trying to find the reason for the problem. The evaluation can be stopped if SKUP and the requesting company agree. The evaluation can also be stopped if technical problems cannot be solved, or if a conflict between SKUP and the requesting company cannot be solved.

SKUP takes no responsibility for any indirect effect, as for example loss of business profit, caused by the results or assessments in the SKUP report.

Raw data and report

SKUP files the original print outs of raw data for four years. The raw data are owned by both SKUP and the requesting company. Attachments with raw data are included in the final report received by the requesting company.

SKUP is responsible for the processing of data and writing the report. Processing of data begins directly after the practical work has ended. During the evaluation, all results are confidential.

The report is written in English and the summary will be translated into Danish, Norwegian and Swedish. The report will be submitted to the requesting company for comments in a first consultative round of 14 days. SKUP will consider any proposed alterations and make accepted changes to the report. If the requesting company disagrees with SKUP's interpretation of the results, the requesting company has the opportunity to add an attachment to the report. Depending on the content of this enclosure, there may be a response from SKUP as well. The requesting company's contribution must only deal with the results and assessments in the report, and cannot be a marketing of the evaluated measurement system. Results from other studies cannot be commented on or included in the attachment. The requesting company gets the opportunity to give detailed feedback about the evaluation through a client contentment survey made by SKUP.

The requesting company must complete total processing of the report within a month. After this deadline, the requesting company loses further opportunity for commenting on the report. In special cases, and in consultation with SKUP, this period may be

extended. After receiving and processing of the requesting company's response, SKUP will finish the report. Raw data is not a part of the public report unless it is required for interpretation of the results.

Publishing

SKUP and the requesting company have the ownership of the raw data and the right to publish them. After permission from the SKUP Steering Committee, the data from a published SKUP evaluation may also be used in research projects.

If the system is already marketed in Scandinavia, the evaluation will first be listed as "ongoing" at www.skup.org, and finally the summary and the final report will be published on the website. SKUP summaries might be translated into Italian by Centre for Metrological Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (CIRME), and published at <http://users.unimi.it/cirme>. SKUP as an organisation has no responsibility for publications of SKUP results on other websites than www.skup.org.

The report may be kept confidential as long as the system is not launched in the Scandinavian market.

Every SKUP evaluation is allocated a unique evaluation number. If the SKUP name is used in marketing, there should always be a reference to www.skup.org and the report code in question. For this purpose the company can use a logotype containing the report code, which will be available for the requesting company together with the final report.