Generating Samples

The Cargotester.com system allows for the recording of sampling information during the job nomination process or at any point before the job is canceled or closed. Sampling information is job oriented but sample logs and search/lookup features allow for the review of information on samples from multiple jobs.

Sample Types

All samples are created as one of many standard sample types. In general, samples are either non-location dependent, location dependent or multi-location dependent. All samples contain a *product* or a mixture of products, and may be assigned a product *grade*. Samples are labeled with sample *tags* or ID's, and much additional information on the sample can be saved. The sampling *method/location* can also be chosen from one of the standard method types.

Sample Collecting

Sampling assignments are made initially during the job nomination process and their collection confirmation is entered through the job data menus. The sampler, sampling date, tag and seal numbers, and sampling method/location can all be noted. The tag number and collection date are saved to confirm the collection of the sample, at which point the sample can no longer be deleted from the job.

Sample Retain

Samples are often stored in a sample storage area called *retain*, and held for a period of time before their disposal. To keep track of the samples in a facility's retain area, the system allows for data entry of retain information, including the location of the sample and the retain date. The sample logbook feature can then be used to track all samples in retain. The system has the ability to print and use barcodes for labels.

Sample Disposal

Samples are held for a while in retain and then disposed of. The system can keep track of the disposal of samples including the disposal date, disposal method and disposal vendor. The sample logbook can then be referenced for sample disposal information. Sample disposal information can still be entered into a system after a job has been completed.

Procedures, Samples and Laboratory Results

There are several potential reasons to collect samples, but the most obvious reason is for the purpose of performing laboratory analysis on the contents of the sample. Thus, all laboratory procedures for a job are assigned to the job's samples and all lab results are associated with these assigned procedures. It is not required that every procedure be assigned to every sample (any number, including no procedures at all, can be assigned to a sample), nor that results be entered for every assigned lab procedure (in fact, more than one result can be entered per procedure). However, product specific procedures can only be assigned to samples containing the sample product. The results of a slate of tests run on a sample can be *confirmed* or locked by users of the system to prevent the results from being modified or deleted.