

Pilot Testing

Once all the controllable variables in your test method have been considered and addressed in the standard, it is strongly recommended that a pilot test be conducted. Before investing considerable laboratory time and expense in the full-scale ILS, it is usually wise to conduct a pilot run in at least two laboratories, with one or two material(s) for several reasons:

- to ensure that the study directions are clearly understood
- to uncover any weaknesses in the protocol
- results of pilot testing may potentially be used to generate a repeatability statement, which is a requirement of all standard test methods
- to provide the committee an opportunity to refine the method prior to conducting the full ILS