A person with blonde hair, wearing safety glasses and a white lab coat, is looking down in a laboratory setting. The background is blurred, showing laboratory equipment and shelves. The entire image has a blue overlay.

**Advancements in high matrix neutralization  
SPE automation for preparation of surface,  
ground, and wastewater samples.**

2025 NEMC



# Outline

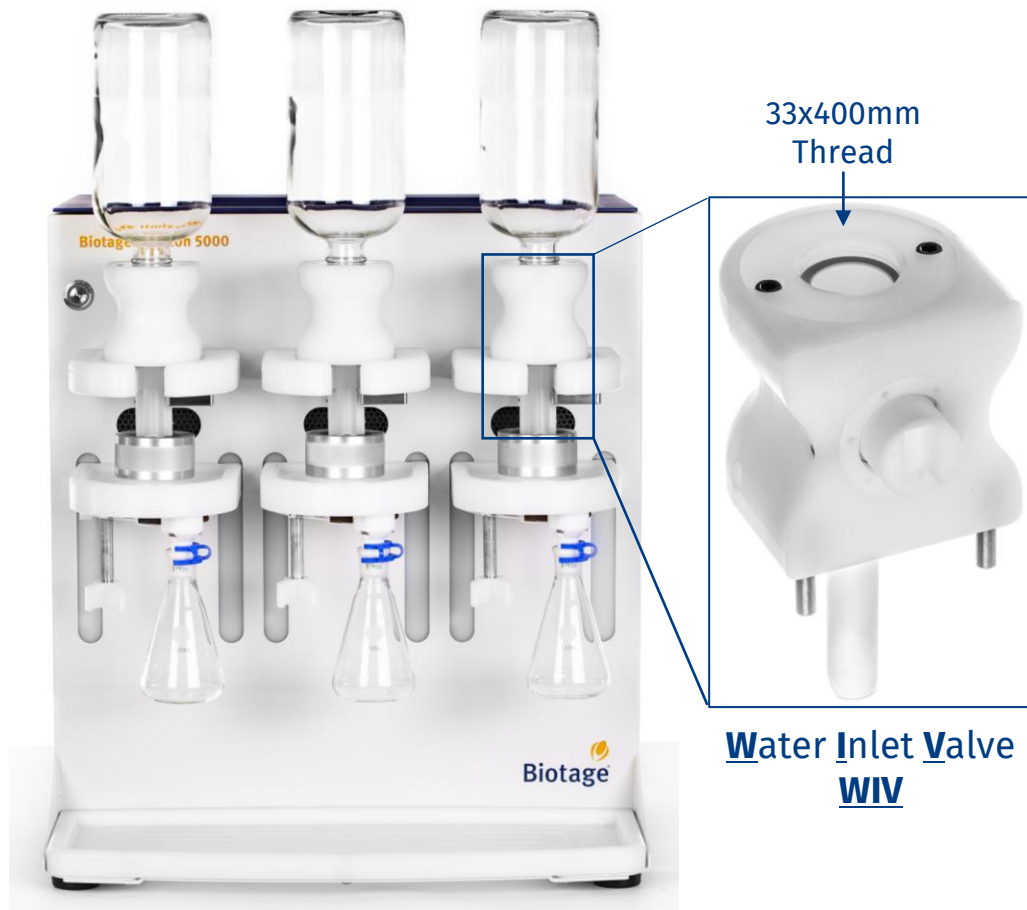
## Advancements in High Matrix Neutralization SPE Automation



- Automated SPE processing for Surface, Ground, & Wastewater samples
- Novel SPE Format for High Matrix Neutralization
- Sample Processing Performance & Data Quality SVOC Analysis
- Final Conclusions

# Sample Bottle Adaption

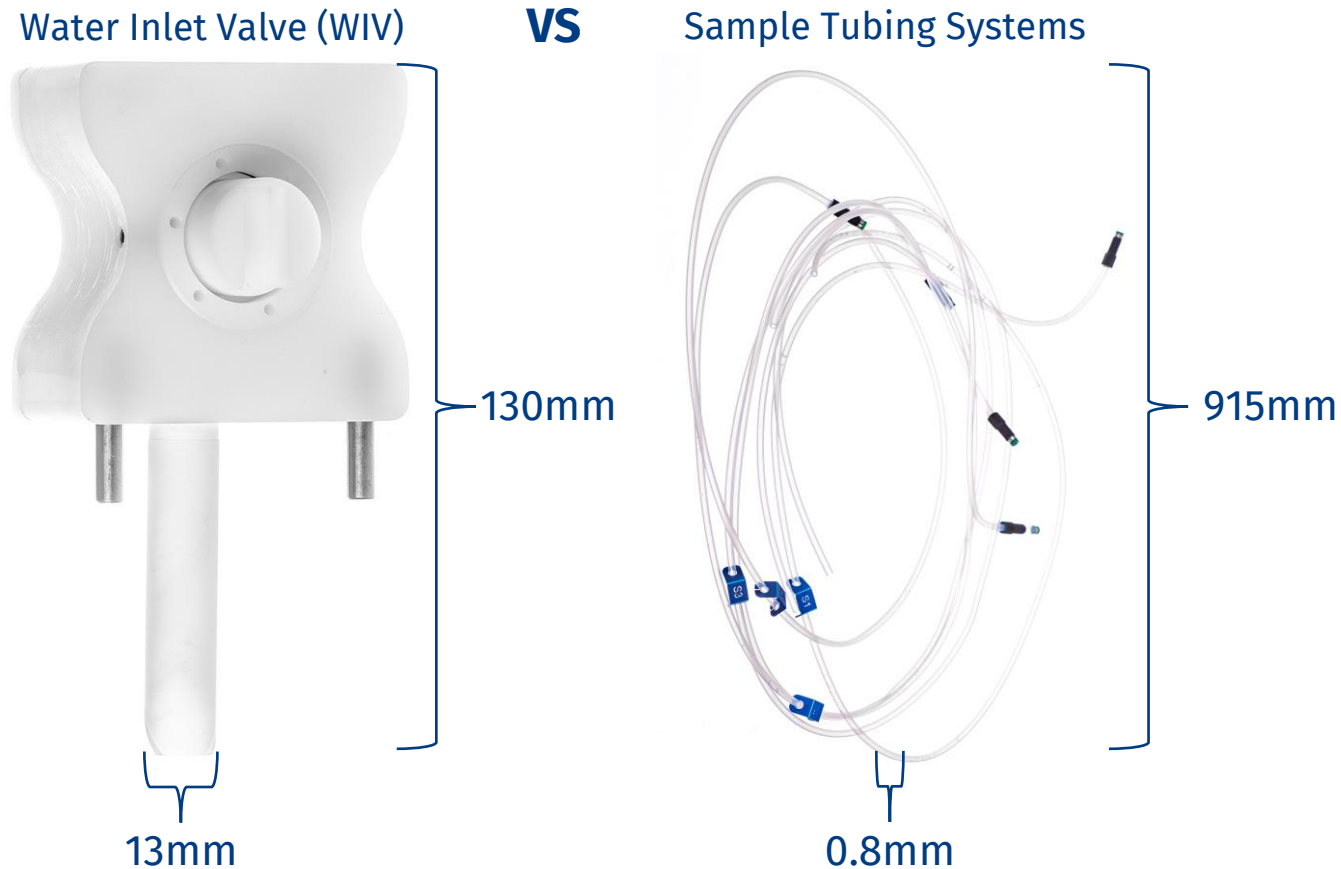
## Processing Surface, Ground, & Wastewater



- Glass Bottles
- VOA Vials
- Plastic Bottles



# WIV Sample Processing Streamlined Fluid Path



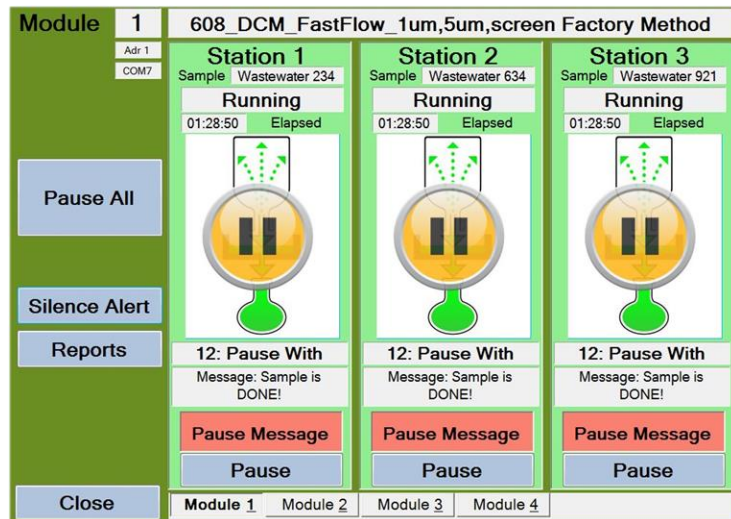
- Short Fluid Path
  - **~7x shorter** than tubing systems
- Wide Fluid Path
  - **~16x wider** than tubing systems



# WIV Sample Processing

## Extracting the Entire Sample

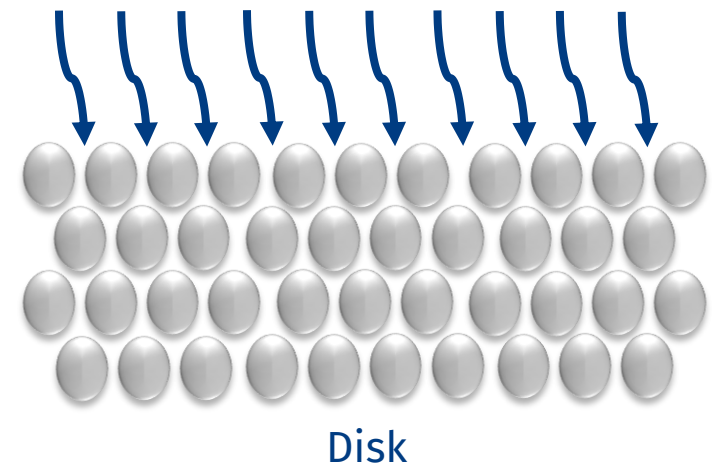
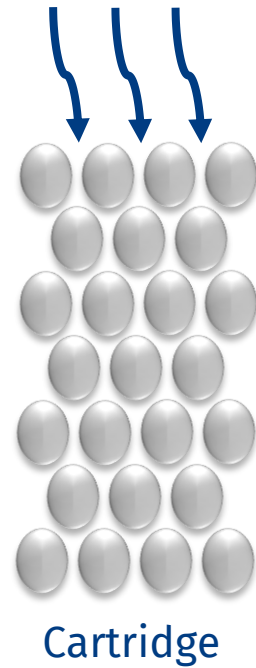
- **Direct** Load of Entire Sample
- **Powerful** Bottle Rinsing
- **Quick & Easy** Cleaning



# SPE Formats

## Sample Volume Consideration

- Determined by Sample Volume
  - **Cartridge Volumes:**  $\leq 250\text{mL}$ 
    - Load Rate: 5 - 30mL/min
  - **Disk Volumes:** 100mL – 4 L
    - Load Rate: 30 – 500mL/min



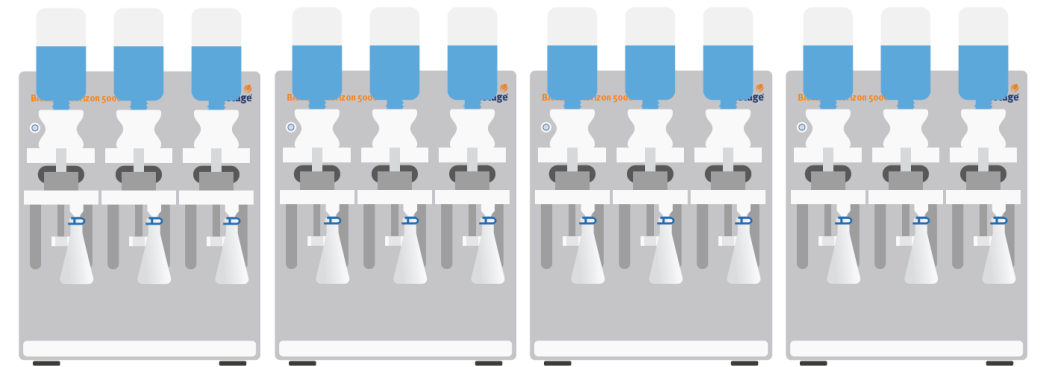
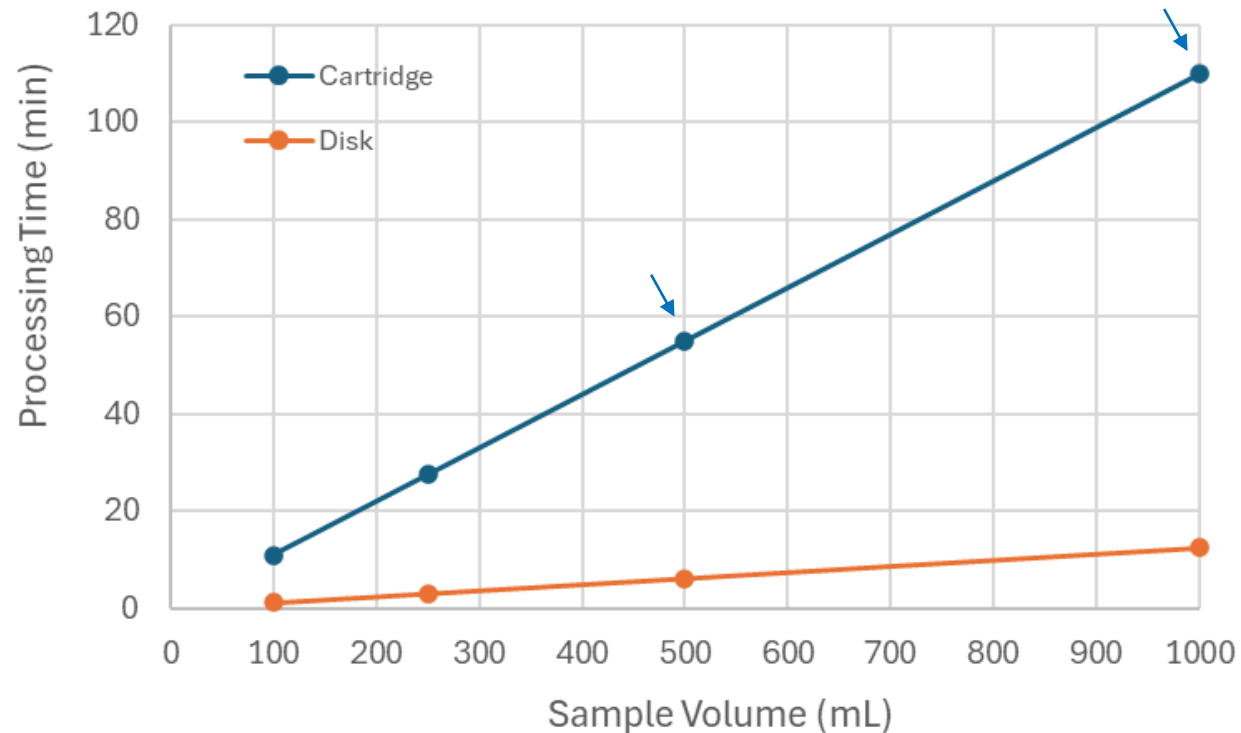
Samples can be loaded  
**~10x Faster** on SPE disks



# SPE Formats

## Sample Volume Consideration

- Determined by Sample Volume



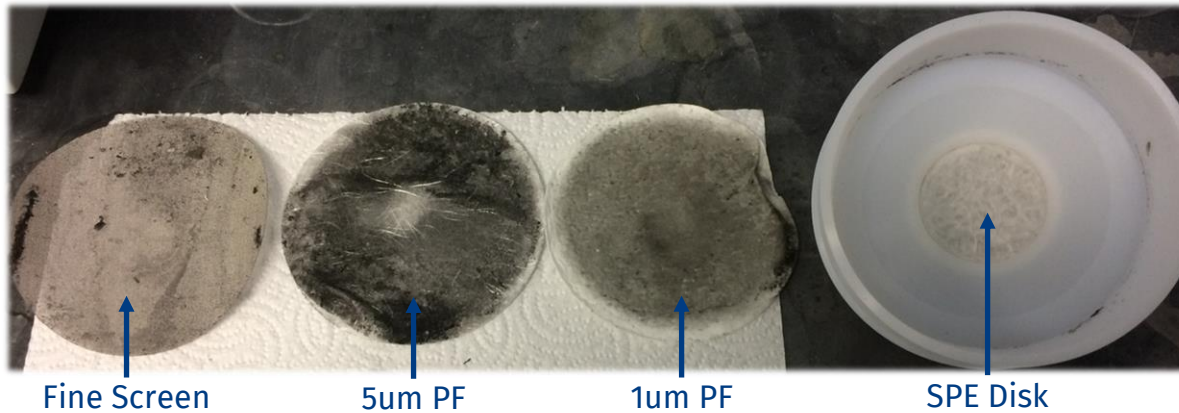
1L Sample Load Time*	Cartridge (Hours)	Disk (Hours)
12 Samples	1.9	0.3
24 Samples	3.9	0.6
48 Samples	7.8	1.3
96 Samples	15.6	2.6

\*Note: Estimates for sample load time only. Additional SPE steps not included

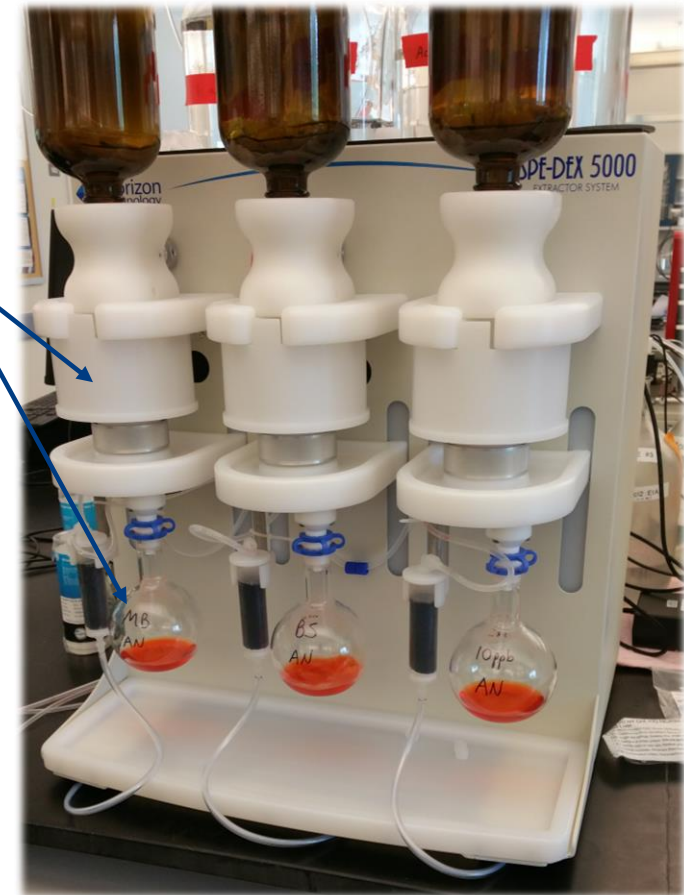
# SPE Formats

## Sample Type Considerations

- Determined by Sample Type
  - **Cartridge:** Low Particulate
    - Drinking Water
  - **Disk:** Low & High Particulate
    - Drinking, Ground, Surface, & Wastewater



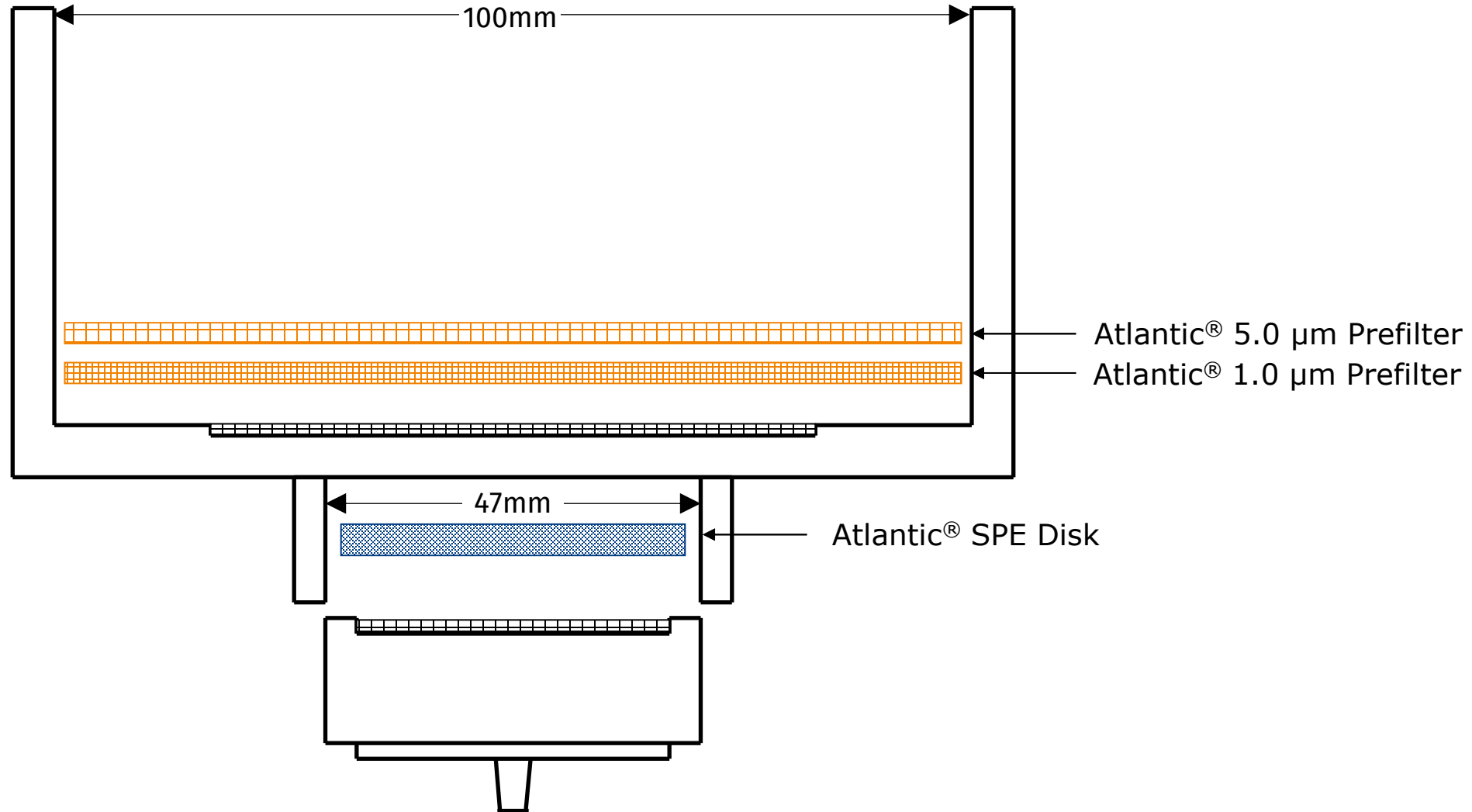
Fast Flow Disk Holder (FFDH)





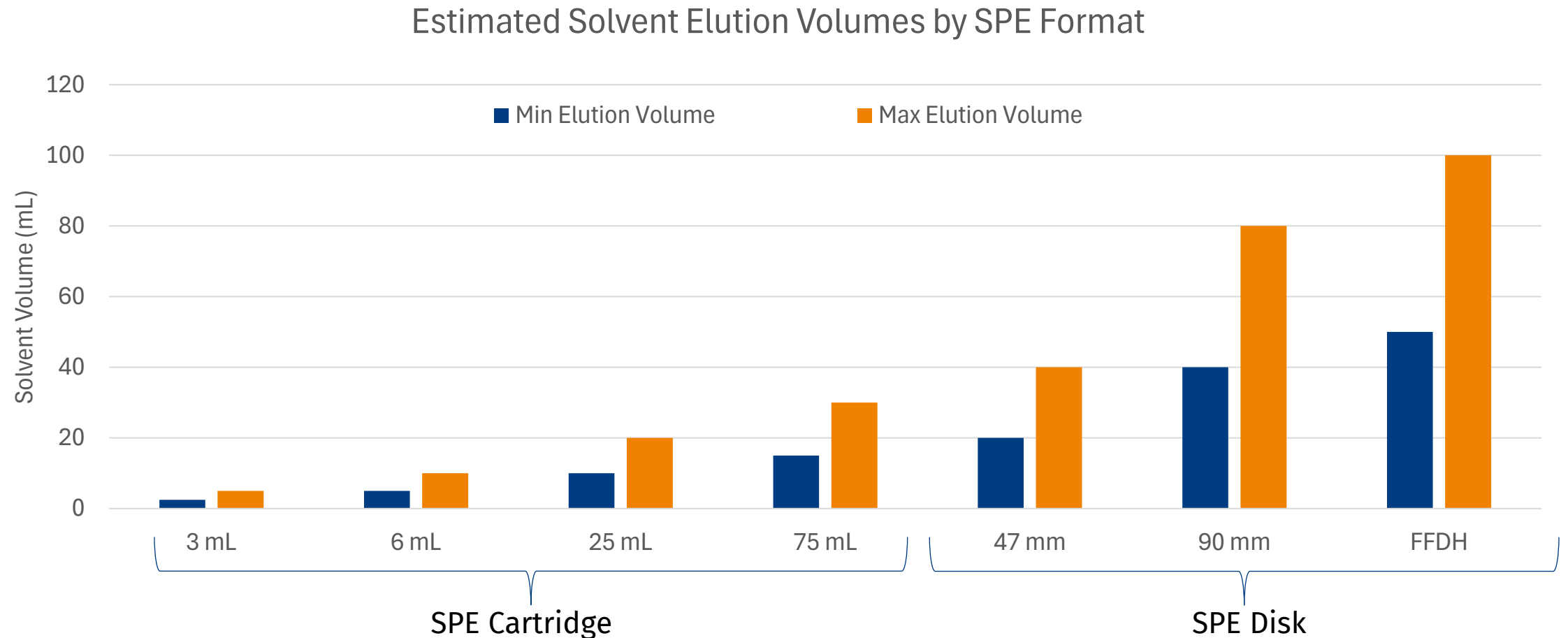
# Fast Flow Disk Holder

## SPE & Filtration Components



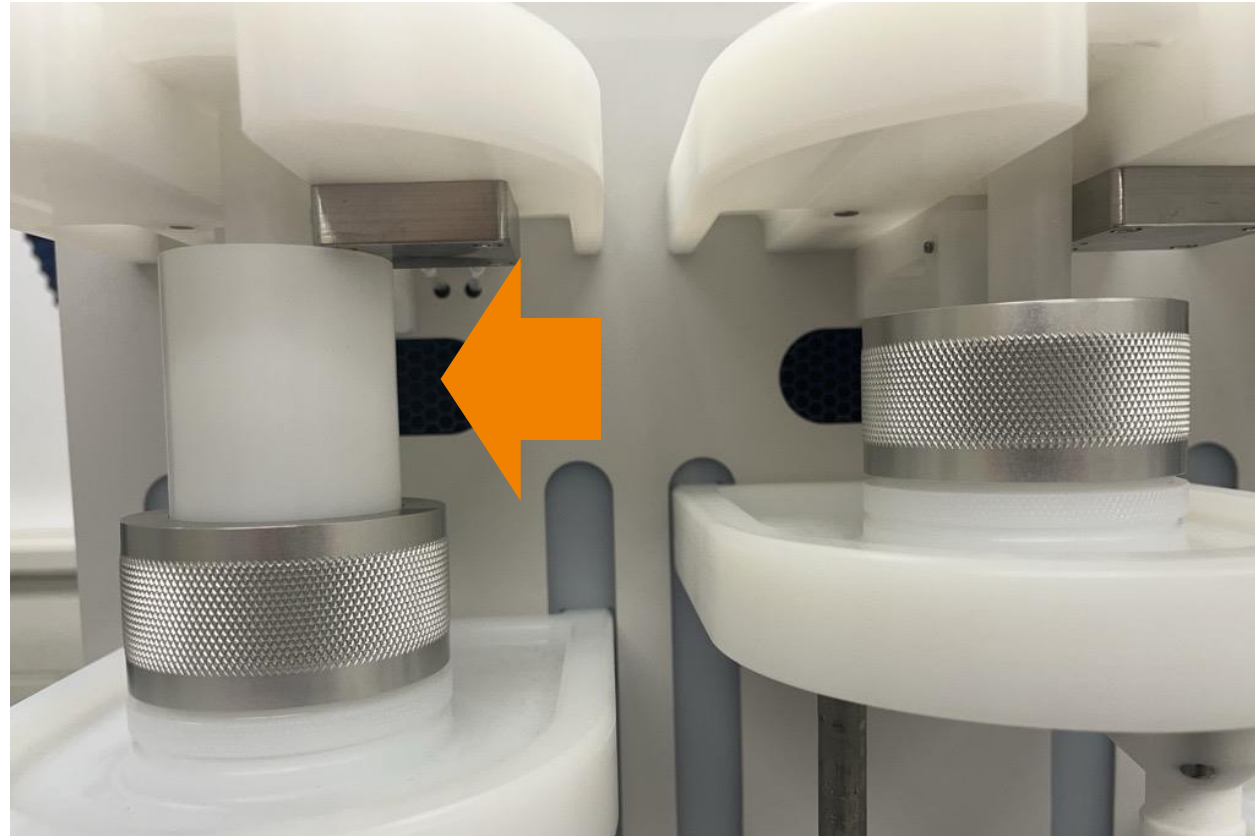
# SPE Formats

## Downside of Disk Based SPE



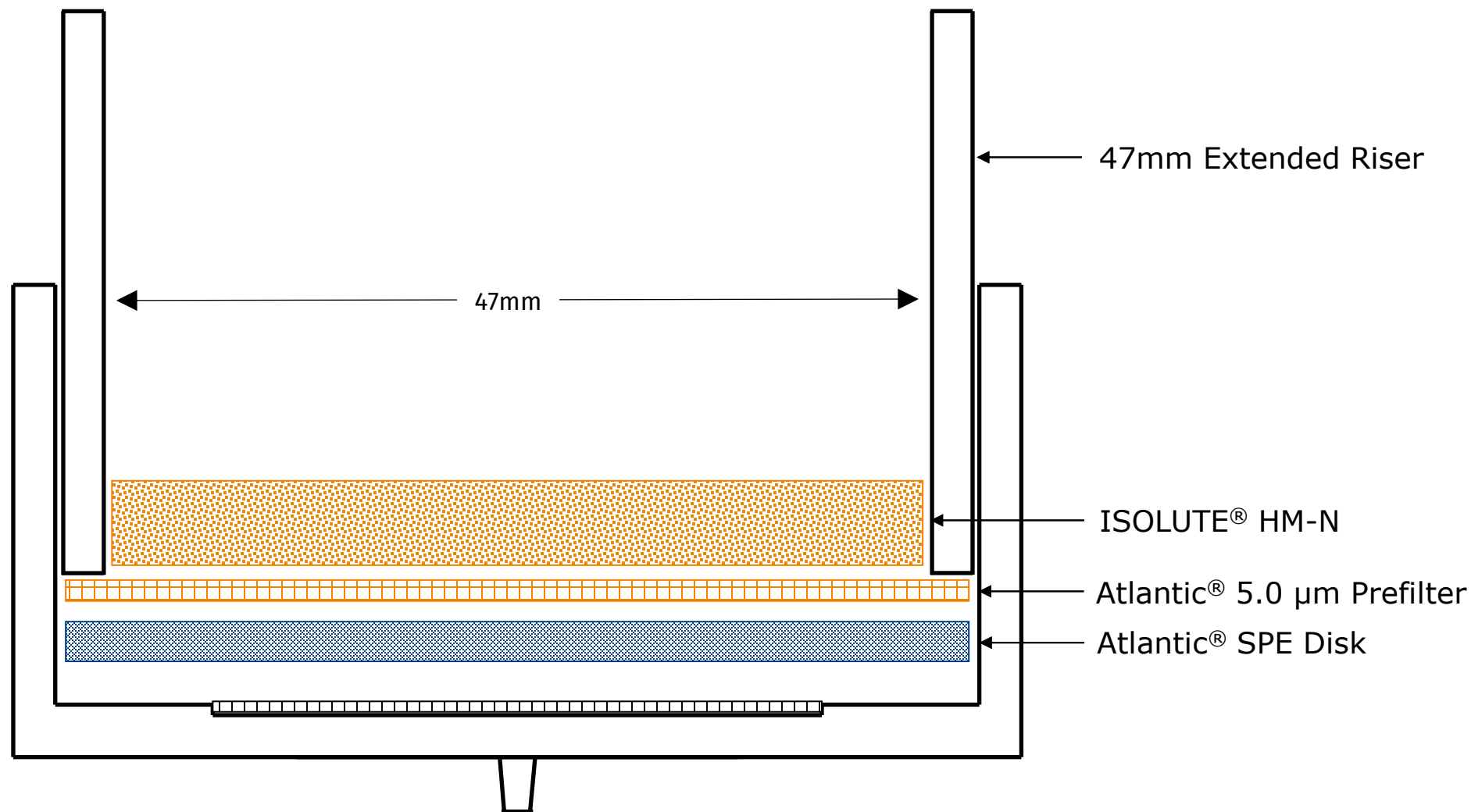
# Novel SPE Format

## 47mm Extended Disk Holder



# 47mm Extended Disk Holder

## ISOLUTE® HM-N (High Matrix - Neutralization)



# ISOLUTE® HM-N

## Chemical & Physical Properties

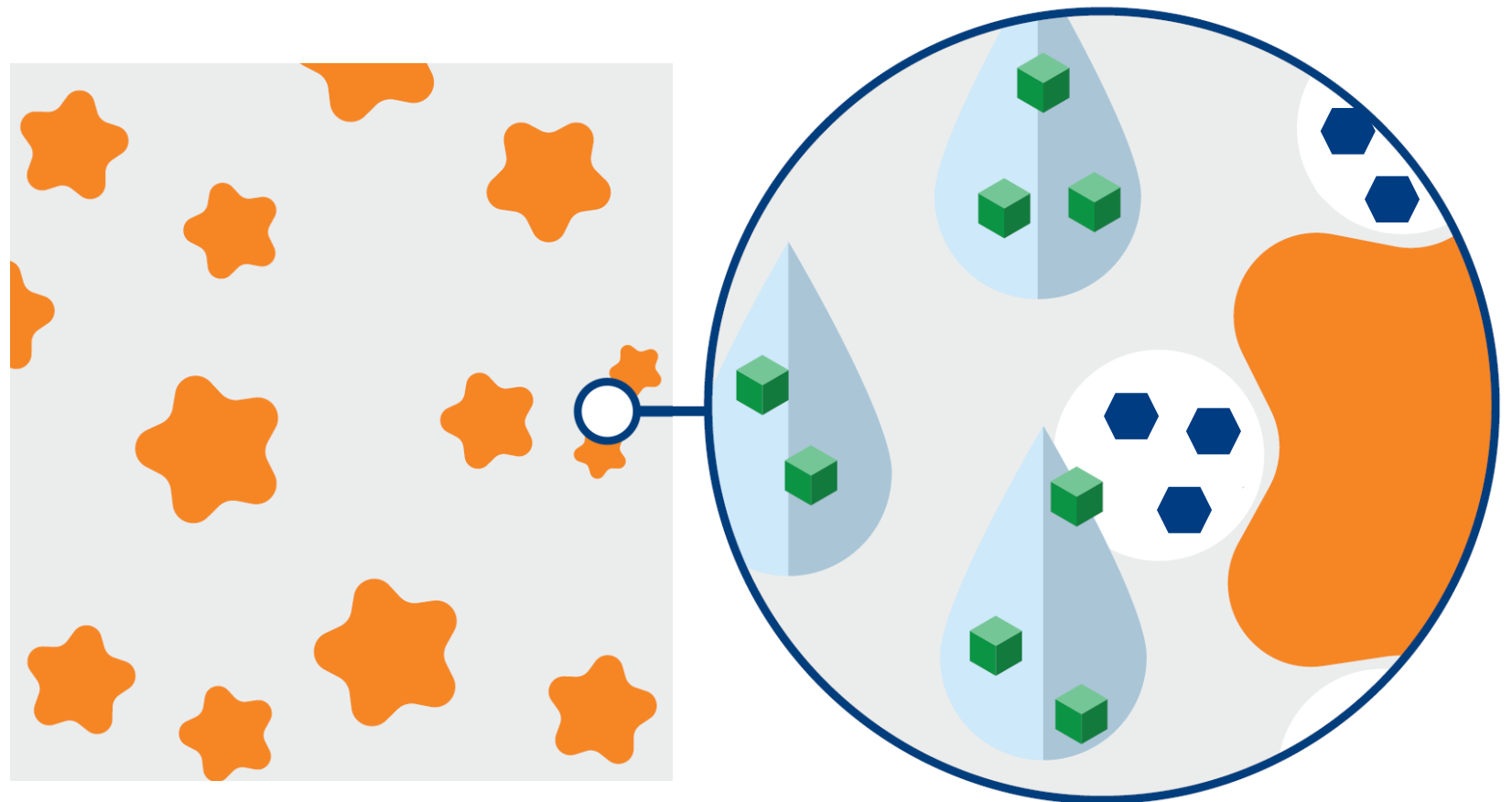
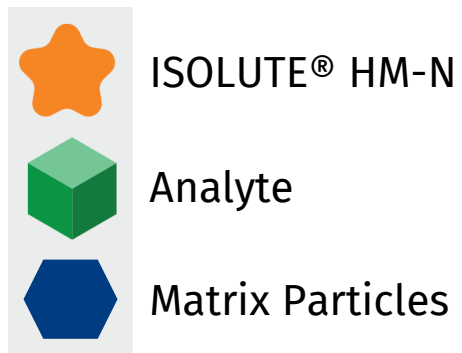
ISOLUTE® Product	HM-N	SLE+
Synonyms	Filter Agent, Celite®	
Diatomaceous Earth	≤ 50%	≥ 90%
Silicon Dioxide	50 – 100%	1 – 10%
Quartz	≤ 4%	1 – 10%
Average Particle Size	150 – 1400 Micron	≤ 180 Micron





# ISOLUTE® HM-N

## High Matrix – Neutralization



# In-House Processing Performance

## 47mm Extended Disk Holder + ISOLUTE HM-N

- Samples Ran in Triplicate
- 10 g Soil Added to 1L RW
- Processing Time < 10 mins



# On-Site Processing Performance

## EPA 625.1

- Laboratory transitioning from CLLE to SPE
- Significant Solvent Reduction
  - CLLE > 400mL DCM
  - SPE = 135 mL DCM
- Significant Time Savings
  - CLLE = 36 Hours
  - SPE < 1.5 Hours
- SPE Results Equivalent to CLLE Technique





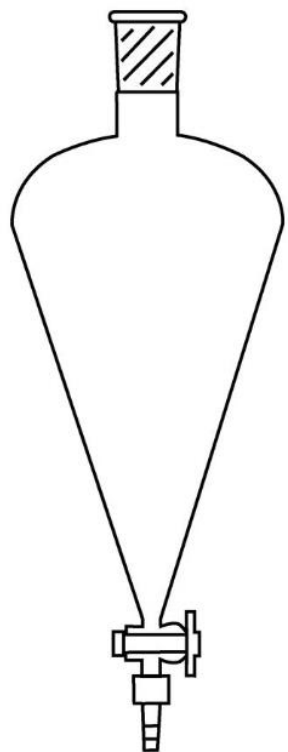
# EPA 625.1/8270 Surrogate Performance

## Case Study LLE vs. Horizon 5000 SPE

Liquid-Liquid  
Extraction (LLE)

vs

Horizon 5000 (SPE)

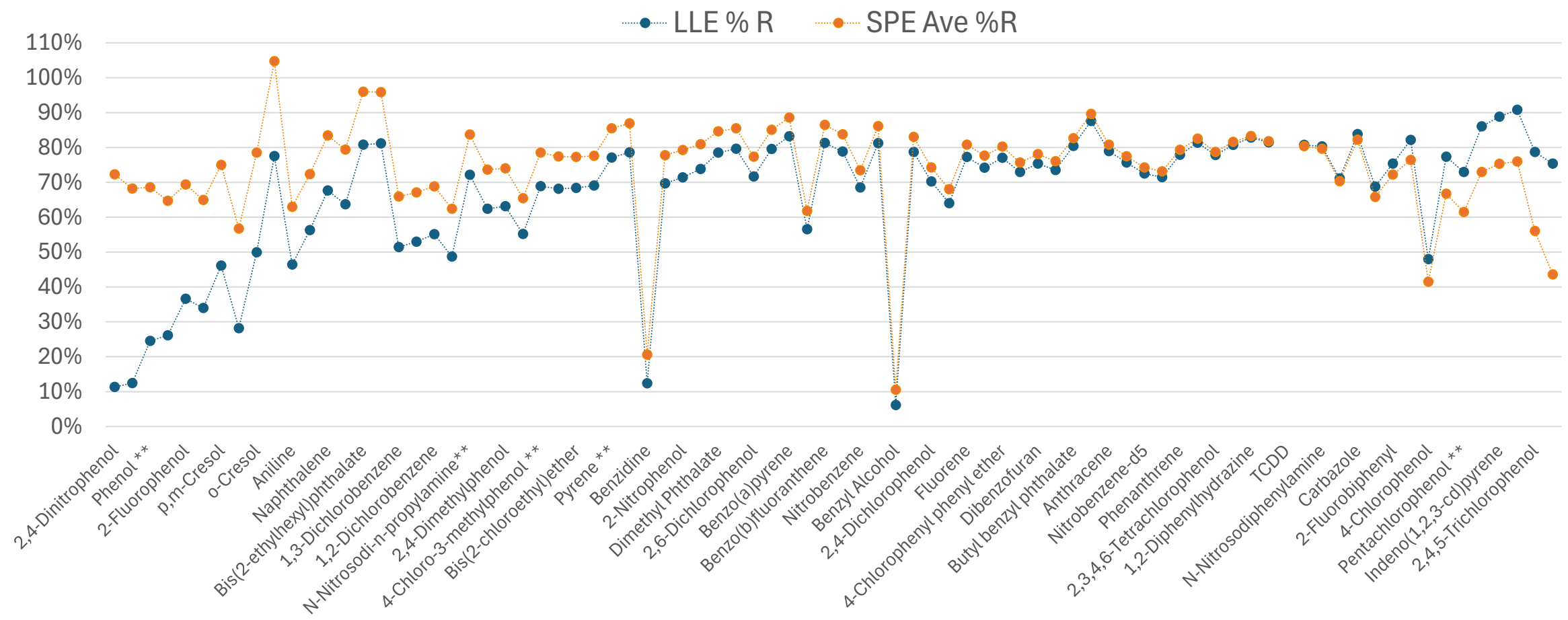


Surrogates*	Spike Concentration (ug/L)	LLE % Recovery	SPE % Recovery
2-FLUOREPHENOL	80	17	80
PHENOL-D5	80	10	69
NITROBENZENE-D5	40	35	80
2-FLUOROBIPHENYL	40	38	74
2,4,6-TRIBROMOPHENOL	80	55	99
TERPHENYL-D14	40	63	87

Surrogate – A compound unlikely to be found in a sample, and which is spiked into sample in a known amount before extraction or other processing, and is quantitated with the same procedures used to quantify other sample components. **The purpose of the surrogate is to monitor method performance with each sample.**

# EPA 625.1/8270 Target Performance

## Case Study LLE vs. Horizon 5000 SPE





# On-Site Processing Performance

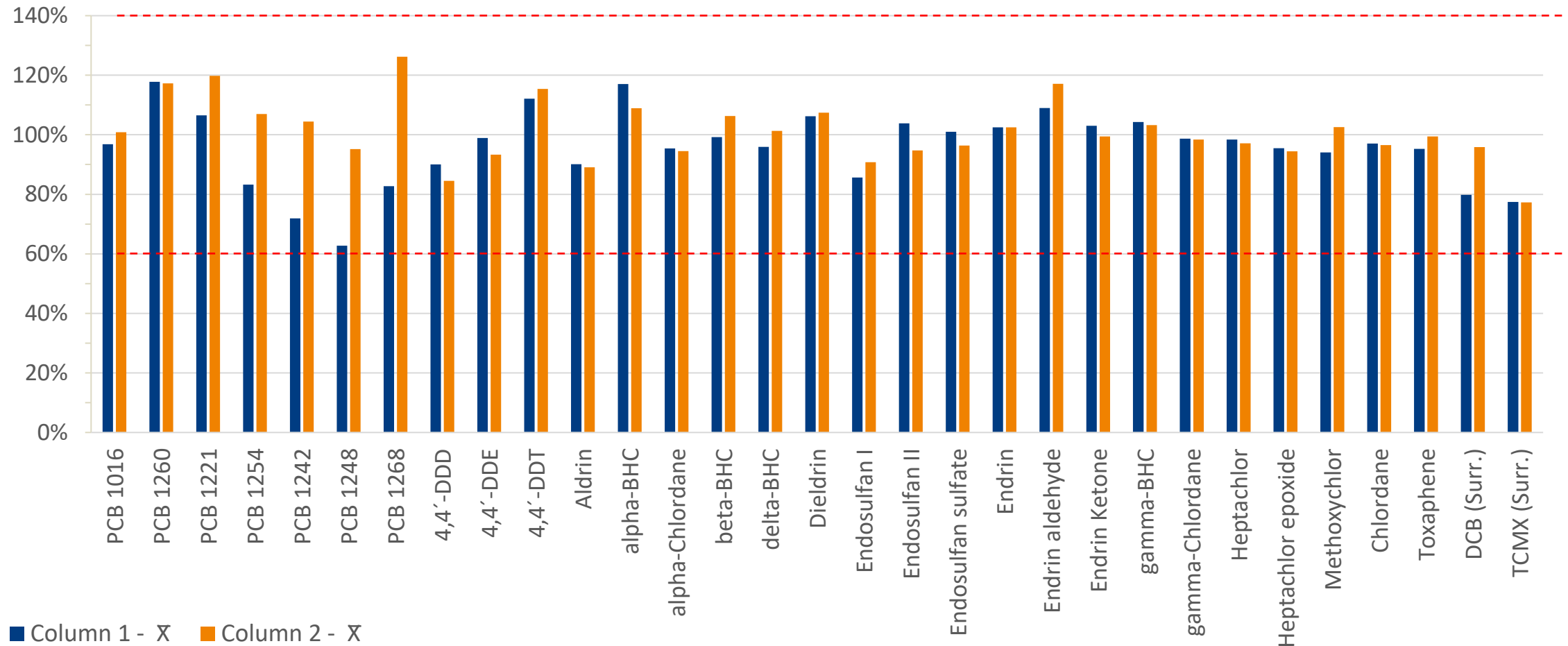
## EPA 625.1 & 608.3

- Laboratory running SPE for both 625.1 & 608.3
- SPE Solvent Use by Method
  - EPA 625.1 = 135mL DCM
  - EPA 608.3 = 45 mL DCM
- Run Times by Method
  - EPA 625.1 = 1.5 hours
  - EPA 608.3 = 45 minutes
- New disk format worked for 90% of samples



# EPA 608.3 Target Performance

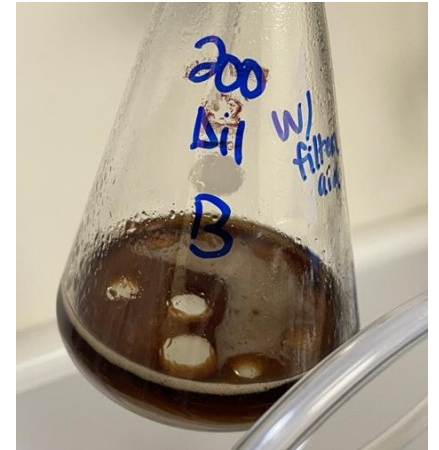
## Horizon 5000 SPE



# Extremely Challenging Samples

## 47mm Extended Disk Holder + ISOLUTE HM-N

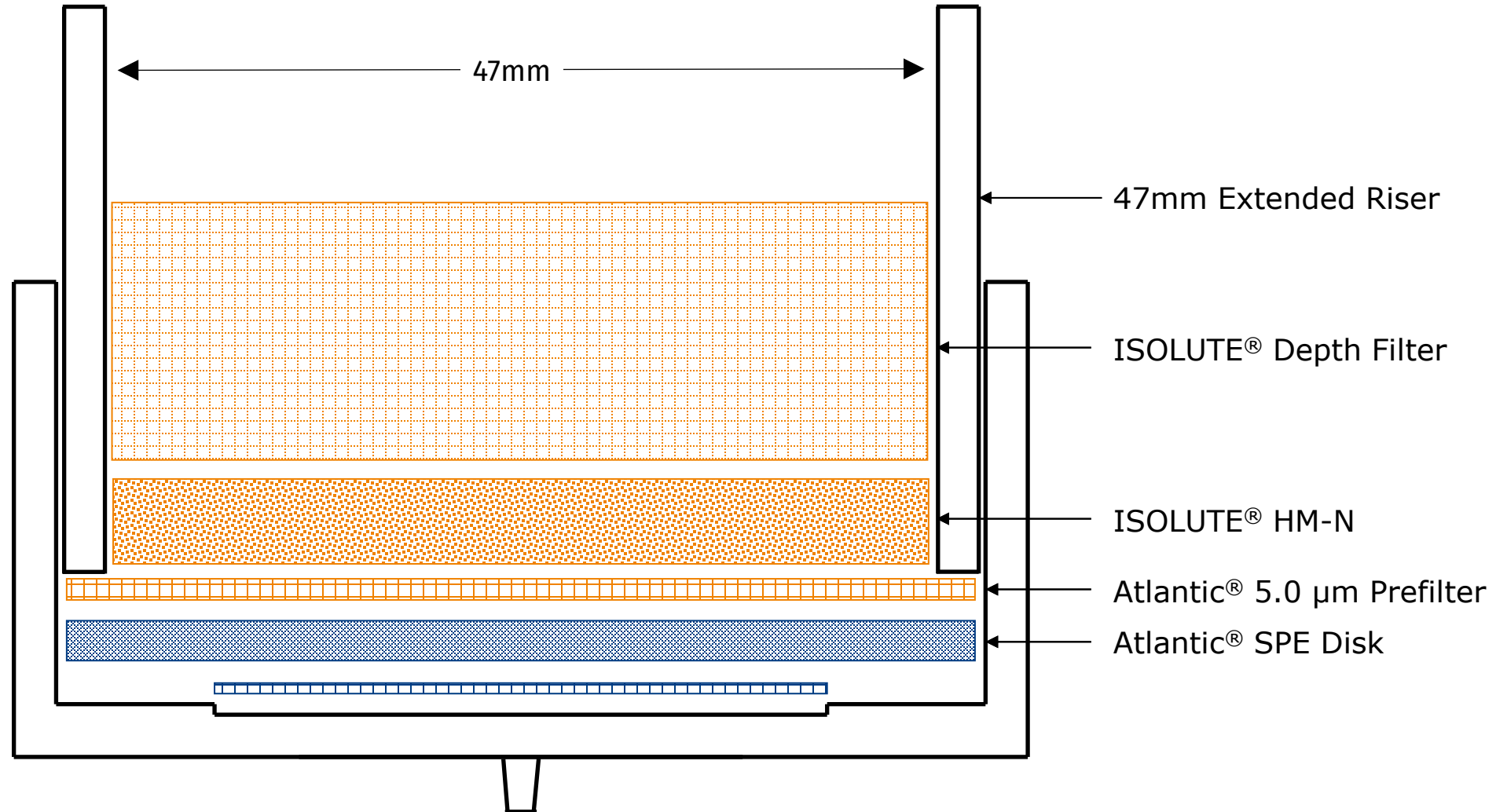
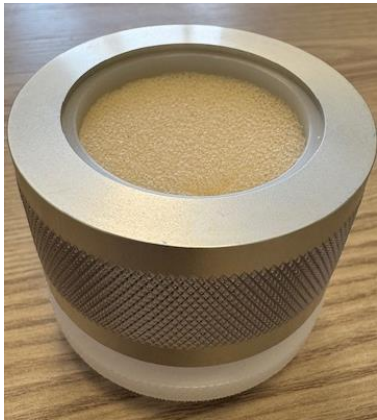
- A few cases of extreme samples from gas wells, leachate, & asphalt waste could not fully process at 1 L volumes
- New format could still process worst case sample volumes ranging from 125mL – 500 mL
- Horizon 5000 proved easy to clean, with no carry over on blanks run after worst case samples
- Future work will evaluate two options for extreme sample processing
  - New 47mm Depth Filtration
  - Reduced Sample Volume Extraction





# New 47mm Depth Filtration

## Improve Processing Extreme Samples



# Final Conclusions

## Advancements in High Matrix Neutralization SPE Automation

- Horizon 5000 is an ideal SPE system for processing **large volume** aqueous samples & **challenging matrices**
  - Water Inlet Valve (WIV) Provides:
    - Flexible Sample Bottle Adaption
    - Direct SPE Sample Feed
    - Powerful Sample Bottle Rinsing
    - Quick & Easy Cleaning
    - Minimal Carryover Potential from Challenging Matrices
- Horizon 5000 station platform adapts to a **variety of SPE formats**
- New 47mm extended disk holder format **greatly reduces solvent** use while **increasing physical capacity** for processing large volumes of challenging matrices
  - Able to handle samples that were once only applicable to Fast Flow Disk Holder (FFDH)
  - Proven to meet performance criteria for EPA methods 625.1, 8270, 608.3, 8081, 8082
- Incorporation of new 47mm depth filter will expand processing capabilities for even the most extreme sample matrices



# Thank you

