

## Best Practices in EXFOR Compilation

(B. Pritychenko, 2015-03-12, Memo CP-C/437)

Dear all,

We all come from different countries, represent very different cultures and we have to effectively collaborate on the same project. In United States we embrace our privacy and individualism while in other countries the preference is given to more collective approaches. Consequently, I suggest more selective rules of interaction in each area of compilation. In particular, I find redundant when comments on submitted compilations are distributed to large lists instead of particular center. I believe that such feedback should be directly sent to the responsible center. More personal and direct approach is always more effective. Preliminary transmissions should be distributed to the network compilers; however, replies should be personal.

A related issue is with the distribution lists: the comments on preliminary transmissions should not be sent to people who are not directly involved in compilation process because it clogs their Email boxes and friendly comments/suggestions from other compilers could be misinterpreted by less-experienced people as serious problems with compilations.

Finally, I would like to analyze the excessive corrections and length submission process of EXFOR compilations and their impact on an overall speed of the database update. We have to find a balance that would produce a reasonable number of compilations with good quality. Increasing quality always comes at the expense of quantity.

It is important to get essential data correct: correct REACTION coding, data headings and units for all required variables, the numbers themselves, and the bibliographic reference to find the data. The rest should be added at the compiler discretion. Compiler may restrict corrections to a reasonable amount instead of using all options which are allowed in the format. It is the compiler's job to decide what is useful in a certain entry and what is not (which requires good judgment and familiarity with a particular experiment).

Best regards,

Boris Pritychenko