

Luke Acosta

QA/QC Technician

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SUMMARY

QA/QC Technician with eight years supporting **chemical manufacturing**, regulated laboratory operations, product release, and **quality assurance**. Performs testing on raw materials, intermediates, and finished products using chromatographs, viscometers, and titrators. Maintains accurate LIMS records, batch documentation, **Good Documentation Practices**, and Microsoft Office workbooks that help production teams make timely decisions. Reviews SPC trends, investigates deviations and non-conformities, supports CAPA, and prepares evidence for **ISO 9001** and cGMP audits. Works closely with production, laboratory, management, and EHS partners to resolve complaints, improve methods, reduce waste, and protect safe operations. Brings practical knowledge of REACH, SDS, OSHA, chemical handling, laboratory hygiene, and waste management. Ready to contribute dependable testing, clear communication, and disciplined compliance support within Northstar Formulations LLC.

EXPERIENCE

QA/QC Technician

Clearwater Specialty Chemicals 📅 January 2023 - Present 📍 Joliet, IL

Owns daily quality testing and release support across three manufacturing lines, connecting laboratory results, production decisions, audit readiness, and safe chemical operations.

- Directed raw-material, in-process, and finished-product testing across three manufacturing lines.
- Verified chromatograph, viscometer, and titrator readiness before entering results into **LIMS**.
- Reviewed **SPC** trends for viscosity, assay, moisture, and appearance before production impact.
- Investigated out-of-specification results through retesting, batch review, and **CAPA** documentation.
- Prepared ISO 9001 and **cGMP** audit evidence under **Good Documentation Practices**.
- Partnered with production and EHS teams on sampling, housekeeping, and waste segregation improvements

Quality Control Analyst

Redstone Industrial Materials 📅 July 2020 - December 2022 📍 Morris, IL

Supported controlled laboratory workflows for coatings and specialty **intermediates**, combining analytical testing, documentation review, investigation support, and regulatory information management.

- Executed sample receipt, preparation, instrument checks, and LIMS result entry for coatings.
- Verified product identity through chromatographic, titration, and viscosity methods.
- Compared **process parameters** with SPC trends during reviews with manufacturing supervisors.
- Supported non-conformance investigations using specifications, certificates, batch records, and retained samples.
- Organized customer questionnaires, audit files, **SDS** updates, and **REACH** product information.
- Revised controlled worksheets after method reviews, reducing transcription issues across laboratory shifts

Laboratory Technician

PrairieSolv Manufacturing 📅 September 2018 - June 2020 📍 Elgin, IL

Performed scheduled quality checks for solvents, blends, and incoming materials while maintaining instrument records, controlled results, chemical storage, and safe laboratory workflows.

- Performed quality checks on solvents, blends, and incoming materials under controlled protocols.
- Prepared standards and samples for titration, viscosity, and chromatographic analysis.
- Entered results, instrument observations, and **corrective actions** into LIMS and Excel.
- Compared atypical results with historical trends before notifying analysts and production contacts.
- Maintained calibration and service records, preventing use of unverified laboratory equipment.
- Improved bench organization and waste labeling through 5S housekeeping practices

Quality Control Laboratory Intern

Midwest Chemical Research Center 📅 June 2018 - August 2018 📍 Downers Grove, IL

Completed supervised laboratory testing and documentation work for water-based formulations and raw materials, gaining practical experience with safety, traceability, and sample tracking.

- Completed supervised testing of formulations and **raw materials** using titration and viscosity methods.
- Recorded observations and results on controlled worksheets under **Good Documentation Practices**.
- Prepared standards, labeled samples, and verified glassware and instrument readiness.
- Compared results with specifications and escalated discrepancies to the supervising analyst.
- Organized SDS files and chemical storage areas for laboratory safety checks.
- Presented sample-tracking recommendations with clearer labels and **1/3** standardized review checklist

PROJECTS

Sample Tracking Workflow Review 2018

Worked with laboratory staff to review sample handoffs, clarify status labels, and suggest a shared checklist that made review ownership easier to see.

Laboratory Waste Segregation Improvement 2021

Partnered with laboratory and EHS colleagues to clarify waste labels and storage points, supporting safer daily handling and cleaner work areas.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Quality Improvement Recognition, Clearwater Specialty Chemicals, 2025
- Safety Champion Award, Redstone Industrial Materials, 2021
- Dean's List, Northern Illinois University, 2017

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry

Northern Illinois University GPA: 3.7 2018 DeKalb, IL

Coursework: Analytical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Instrumental Analysis, Chemical Safety

CERTIFICATIONS

- OSHA 30-Hour General Industry Safety 2024
- Internal Auditor: ISO 9001:2015 2023
- Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) Certificate 2022
- Chemical Hygiene and Laboratory Safety Certificate 2018

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Analytical Instruments: Chromatographs, Viscometers, Titrators
- Laboratory Systems: LIMS, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Office Suite
- Quality Systems: QMS, SPC, CAPA
- Quality Standards: ISO 9001, cGMP, Good Documentation Practices
- Regulatory Requirements: REACH, SDS, OSHA
- Chemical Testing: Raw Materials, Intermediates, Finished Products
- Investigation Methods: Deviation Investigations, Non-Conformities, Customer Complaints
- Audit Activities: Internal Audits, External Audits, Audit Evidence
- Safety Practices: Chemical Handling, Laboratory Hygiene, Waste Management
- Documentation Controls: Batch Documentation, Specifications, Corrective Actions

SKILLS

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|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------|
| • Quality Control | • Chromatography | • Microsoft Excel | • cGMP |
| • Quality Assurance | • Viscometry | • QMS | • REACH |
| • Chemical Manufacturing | • Titration | • SPC | • SDS |
| • Laboratory Testing | • LIMS | • ISO 9001 | |

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Laboratory Safety Committee Member, Clearwater Specialty Chemicals, January 2023 - Present
- Volunteer Mentor, Northern Illinois University Chemistry Alumni Network, 2022 - Present
- Student Affiliate, American Chemical Society, 2016 - 2018

LANGUAGES

- English (Native)
- Spanish (Intermediate)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST