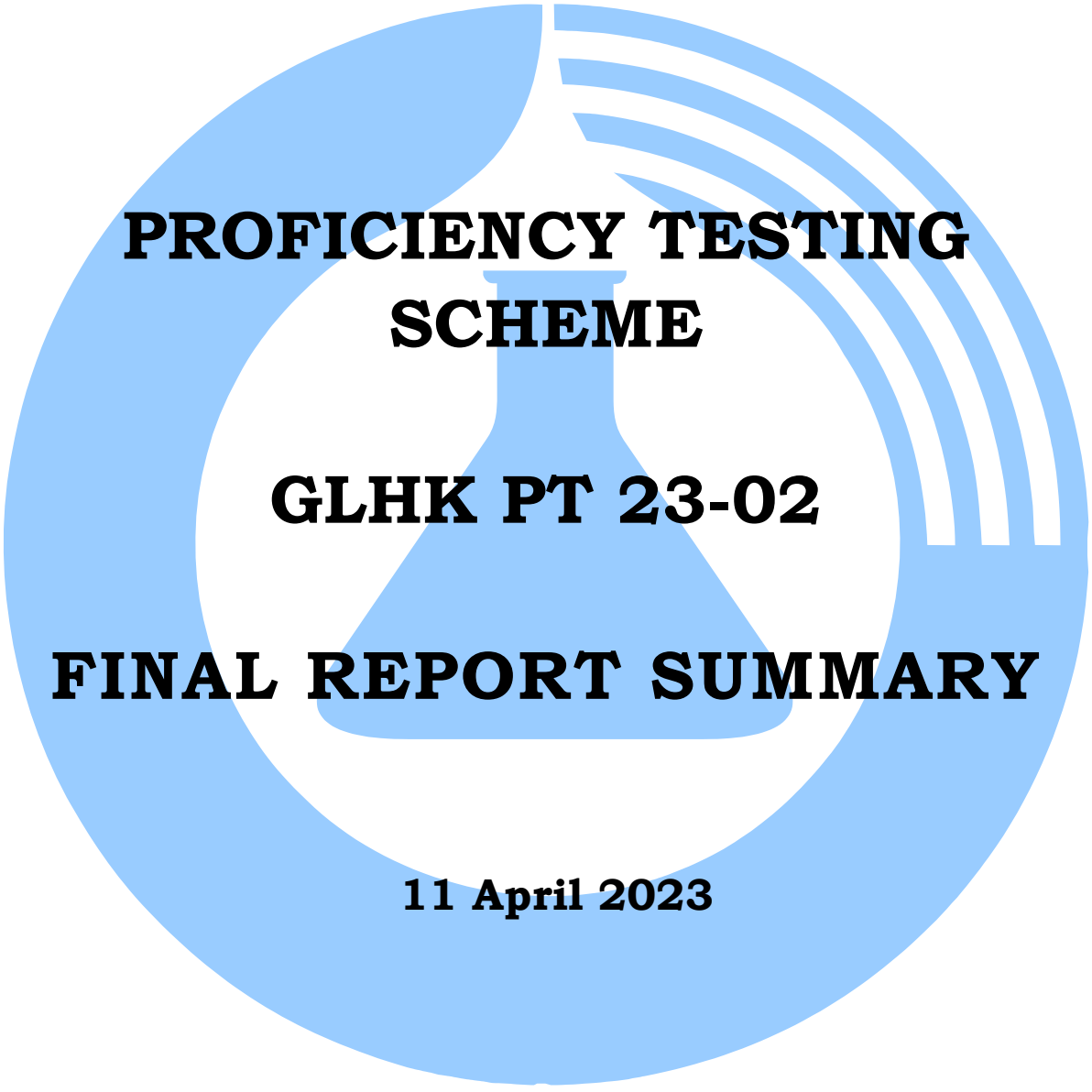


PROPIONIC ACID IN FLOUR CONFECTIONERY



**PROFICIENCY TESTING
SCHEME**

GLHK PT 23-02

FINAL REPORT SUMMARY

11 April 2023



Government Laboratory
Proficiency Testing Scheme (GLHK PT 23-02)
Propionic Acid in Flour Confectionery

Summary of Results

1. This proficiency testing (PT) scheme (GLHK PT 23-02) was organised by Government Laboratory of the HKSAR Government (GLHK) and aimed at providing a platform to evaluate the testing capability of participating laboratories in analysing propionic acid in flour confectionery.
2. A total of 11 laboratories in Hong Kong were enrolled in the PT scheme and 10 of them returned the analytical results to the organiser on or before the deadline for the result submission.
3. The assigned value was determined by GLHK using isotope dilution gas chromatography – tandem mass spectrometry. The standard deviation for proficiency assessment was derived from the Horwitz Equation. Individual laboratory performance was expressed in terms of z-scores.
4. The z-scores of the participants are summarized as follows:

z-score	Number of participants (Percentage)
$ z \leq 2.0$	9 (90%)
$2.0 < z < 3.0$	1 (10%)
$ z \geq 3.0$	0 (0%)
Total:	10 (100%)