ISO 18475:2023-10 (E)

Environmental solid matrices - Determination of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) by gas chromatography - mass selective detection (GC-MS) or electron-capture detection (GC-ECD)

Contents

Page

Foreword ..... **v**

Introduction ..... **vii**

1 Scope **1**

2 Normative references **1**

3 Terms and definitions **2**

4 Principle **3**

5 Interferences **4**
5.1 Interference with sampling and extraction 4
5.2 Interference with GC 4

6 Safety remarks **5**

7 Reagents **5**
7.1 General 5
7.2 Reagents for extraction 5
7.3 Reagents for clean-up 5
7.3.1 Clean-up A using aluminium oxide 5
7.3.2 Clean-up B using silica gel 60 for column chromatography 6
7.3.3 Clean-up C using gel permeation chromatography (GPC) 6
7.3.4 Clean-up D using Florisil® 6
7.3.5 Clean-up E using silica H_2SO_4/silica NaOH 7
7.3.6 Clean-up F using benzenesulfonic acid/sulfuric acid 7
7.3.7 Clean-up G using TBA sulfite reagent 7
7.3.8 Clean-up H using pyrogenic copper 7
7.3.9 Clean-up I using silica/silver nitrate 8
7.4 Gas chromatographic analysis 8
7.5 Standards 9
7.5.1 General 9
7.5.2 Calibration standards 9
7.5.3 Internal and injection standards 9
7.6 Preparation of standard solutions 10
7.6.1 Preparation of calibration standard solutions of PCBs 10
7.6.2 Preparation of internal standard solution 11
7.6.3 Preparation of injection standard solution 11

8 Apparatus **11**
8.1 Extraction and clean-up procedures 11
8.2 Gas chromatograph 12

9 Sample storage and preservation **12**
9.1 Sample storage 12
9.2 Sample pre-treatment 13

10 Procedure **13**
10.1 Blank test 13
10.2 Extraction 13
10.2.1 General 13
10.2.2 Extraction procedure 1: Samples using acetone/petroleum ether or hexane-like solvent and agitation or sonication 14

10.2.3 Extraction procedure 2: Samples using Soxhlet or pressurized liquid extraction ... 15
10.2.4 Extraction procedure 3: Samples using acetone/petroleum ether or hexane-like solvent/sodium chloride and agitation ... 15
10.3 Concentration ... 16
10.4 Clean-up of the extract ... 16
10.4.1 General ... 16
10.4.2 Clean-up A – Aluminium oxide ... 17
10.4.3 Clean-up B – Silica gel ... 17
10.4.4 Clean-up C – Gel permeation chromatography ... 17
10.4.5 Clean-up D – Florisil® ... 18
10.4.6 Clean-up E – Silica H_2SO_4/silica NaOH ... 18
10.4.7 Clean-up F – Benzenesulfonic acid/sulfuric acid ... 18
10.4.8 Clean-up G – TBA sulfite reagent ... 19
10.4.9 Clean-up H – Clean-up using pyrogenic copper to remove elemental sulfur and some other organic sulfur compounds ... 19
10.4.10 Clean up I – $AgNO_3$/silica ... 19
10.5 Addition of the injection standard ... 19
10.6 Gas chromatographic analysis (GC) ... 19
10.6.1 General ... 19
10.6.2 Setting the gas chromatograph ... 19
10.7 Mass spectrometry (MS) ... 20
10.7.1 Mass spectrometric conditions ... 20
10.7.2 Calibration of the method using an internal standard ... 20
10.7.3 Measurement ... 21
10.7.4 Identification ... 22
10.7.5 Check on method performance ... 22
10.7.6 Calculation ... 23
10.8 Electron capture detection (ECD) ... 24
10.8.1 General ... 24
10.8.2 ECD conditions ... 24
10.8.3 Calibration of the method using internal standards ... 24
10.8.4 Measurement ... 24
10.8.5 Identification ... 24
10.8.6 Check on ECD method performance ... 24
10.8.7 Calculation ... 25

11 Performance characteristics ... 25

12 Precision ... 25

13 Test report ... 26

Annex A (informative) **Repeatability and reproducibility data ... 27**

Annex B (informative) **Examples for gas chromatographic conditions and retention times of PCBs ... 32**

Annex C (informative) **Calculation method for the estimation of total PCB content ... 33**

Bibliography ... 40