EUROPEAN COOPERATION

ECSS

FOR SPACE STANDARDIZATION

Space product assurance

Detection of organic contamination of surfaces by infrared spectroscopy

ECSS Secretariat
ESA-ESTEC
Requirements & Standards Section
Noordwijk, The Netherlands

Foreword

ECSS is a cooperative effort of the European Space Agency, national space agencies and European industry associations for the purpose of developing and maintaining common standards. Requirements in this Standard are defined in terms of what shall be accomplished, rather than in terms of how to organize and perform the necessary work. This allows existing organizational structures and methods to be applied where they are effective, and for the structures and methods to evolve as necessary without rewriting the standards.

This Standard has been prepared by the ECSS-Q-ST-70-05C Rev.2 reviewed and approved by the ECSS Technical Authority.

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Change log

ECSS-Q-70-05A 31 August 2005	First issue Transforming ESA PSS-01-705 into an ECSS Standard
ECSS-Q-70-05B	Never issued
ECSS-Q-ST-70-05C 6 March 2009	Second issue
ECSS-Q-ST-70-05C Rev.1 15 October 2019	Second issue Revision 1
ECSS-Q-ST-70-05C Rev.2 1 July 2024	Second issue Revision 2 Major changes between ECSS-Q-ST-70-05C Rev.1 (15 October 2019) and this version are: • Implementation of Change Requests • Term "washing" replaced by the term "rinsing" that is also used in other ECSS Standards • Clause 5.4.3.5 "Limit of detection" replaced by clause 5.4.3.6 "Limit of detection for direct method" and clause 5.3.3.7 "Limit of detection and transfer efficiency of the indirect method" • Addition of new informative **Annex J** "Establishing Limit of Detection in Direct Method" • Addition of new informative **Annex K** "Establishing Limit of Detection in Indirect Method" **Detailed Change Record:** Deleted requirements: 5.4.3.3d, e; 5.4.3.5a to e. Added requirements: 5.1.2.2b; Figure 5-1; 5.3e; 5.4.3.6.2a to k; 5.4.3.7.2a to f; 5.4.3.7.3a to I; 5.4.3.7.4a to o; A.2.2b. Modified requirements: 5.1.2.2a; 5.1.4a Note; 5.1.5.1c Note; 5.1.6a; 5.2.2a; 5.2.3.1a; 5.2.3.2a, b, d Note; 5.2.3.3b, d Note, f, g, h; 5.3a Note added, b, c, d; Table 5-1; 5.3.4.1g, h, j, 5.4.3.2c; 5.4.3.3f, g; 5.4.5.3a.

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Introduction

One or more of the following organic substances can contaminate spacecraft materials and hardware, as well as vacuum chambers:

- Volatile condensable products of materials out-gassing under vacuum.

- Volatile condensable products of off-gassing materials.

- Back-streaming products from pumping systems.

- Handling residues (e.g. human grease).

- Residues of cleaning agents.

- Non-filtered external pollution.

- Creep of certain substances (e.g. silicones).

There are several methods for identifying organic species, such as mass spectrometry, gas chromatography and infrared spectroscopy, or a combination of these methods. Infrared spectroscopy, which is the most widely used, is a simple, versatile and rapid technique providing high resolution qualitative and quantitative analyses. The technique is therefore baseline for the present Standard.

1
Scope

This Standard defines test requirements for detecting organic contamination on surfaces using direct and indirect methods with the aid of infrared spectroscopy.

The Standard applies to controlling and detecting organic contamination on all manned and unmanned spacecraft, launchers, payloads, experiments, terrestrial vacuum test facilities, and cleanrooms.

The following test methods are covered:

- Direct sampling of contaminants

- Indirect sampling of contaminants by rinsing and wiping

Several informative annexes are included to give guidelines to the following subjects:

- Qualitative and quantitative interpretation of spectral data

- Calibration of infrared equipment

- Training of operators

- Use of molecular witness plates

- Collecting molecular contamination

- Contact test to measure the contamination transfer of materials

- Immersion test to measure the extractable contamination potential of materials

- Selection criteria for test equipment

This standard may be tailored for the specific characteristics and constraints of space project in conformance with ECSS-S-ST-00.

2
Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this ECSS Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revision of any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this ECSS Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the more recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

ECSS-S-ST-00-01	ECSS system – Glossary of terms
ECSS-Q-ST-10	Space product assurance – Product assurance management
ECSS-Q-ST-10-09	Space product assurance – Nonconformance control system
ECSS-Q-ST-20	Space product assurance – Quality assurance
ECSS-Q-ST-70-01	Space product assurance – Contamination and cleanliness control

3
Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms

3.1 Terms defined in other standards

a. For the purpose of this Standard, the terms and definitions from ECSS-S-ST-00-01 apply, in particular for:

1. acceptance

2. analysis

3. assembly

4. batch

5. cleanliness

6. cleanroom

7. component

8. conformance

9. contaminant

10. critical

11. outgassing

12. qualification

b. For the purpose of this Standard, the terms and definitions from ECSS-Q-ST-70-01 apply, in particular:

1. controlled area

3.2 Terms specific to the present standard

3.2.1 specific area

area onto which a compound is homogenously deposited, which is the same as the diameter of the infrared beam at the window location

NOTE   It is good practice that the specific area is not significantly smaller or larger than the footprint of the infrared beam at the window location.

3.2.2 wave number, $\bar{v}$

number of waves per unit length

> NOTE 1 The unit for wave number is cm^{-1}. In terms of this unit, the wave number is the reciprocal of the wavelength, λ (where λ is expressed in cm).
>
> NOTE 2 The wave number is normally used as the X-axis unit of an IR spectrum.

[adapted from ASTM-E-131]

3.3 Abbreviated terms

For the purpose of this Standard, the abbreviated terms from ECSS-S-ST-00-01 and the following apply:

Abbreviation	Meaning
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
ATR	attenuated total reflection
AU	absorbance unit
DOP	dioctylphthalate, synonym bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate
DRIFT	diffuse reflection infrared Fourier transform
DTGS	deuterated triglycine sulphate IR detector
ECHA	European Chemicals Agency
ESD	electrostatic discharge
FTIR	Fourier transform infrared (spectrometry)
IES	Institute of Environmental Sciences
IPA	isopropyl alcohol
IR	Infrared
IUPAC	International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
LOD	limit of detection
MCT	mercury cadmium telluride IR detector
NVR	non-volatile residue
PTFE	Polytetrafluoroethylene
QCM	quartz crystal microbalance
REACH	Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (European Regulation)
RI	refractive index
S/N	signal to noise ratio
UV	Ultraviolet
VCM	volatile condensable material

3.4 Conventions

a. The term "transmittance" used in this standard is the ratio of the radiant power transmitted by the sample to the radiant power incident on the sample.

3.5 Nomenclature

The following nomenclature applies throughout this document:

a. The word "shall" is used in this Standard to express requirements. All the requirements are expressed with the word "shall".

b. The word "should" is used in this Standard to express recommendations. All the recommendations are expressed with the word "should".

> NOTE   It is expected that, during tailoring, recommendations in this document are either converted into requirements or tailored out.

c. The words "may" and "need not" are used in this Standard to express positive and negative permissions, respectively. All the positive permissions are expressed with the word "may". All the negative permissions are expressed with the words "need not".

d. The word "can" is used in this Standard to express capabilities or possibilities, and therefore, if not accompanied by one of the previous words, it implies descriptive text.

> NOTE   In ECSS "may" and "can" have completely different meanings: "may" is normative (permission), and "can" is descriptive.

e. The present and past tenses are used in this Standard to express statements of fact, and therefore they imply descriptive text.

4
Principles

Infrared qualitative analysis is carried out by functional group identification, or by comparison of the IR absorption spectra of unknown materials with those of known reference materials, or both. It is therefore possible to determine structural information about the molecules of contaminants. In some cases, the source of the contamination can be detected.

Infrared quantitative analysis of levels of contaminants is based on the Lambert-Beer's (henceforth referred to as Beer's) law and requires calibration.

Infrared spectroscopy monitoring is used to verify that the stringent contamination and cleanliness controls applied to spacecraft materials and associated equipment are met. The most common methods for measuring contamination are:

- Direct methods
  IR-transparent windows used as witness plates (e.g. CaF_2, ZnSe, ZnS, Ge) are placed in situ, for example, inside a vacuum facility, cleanroom or spacecraft. Contamination of the windows is then analysed (without further treatment) using an IR spectrophotometer.

- Indirect methods
  The contaminants on the surface to be tested are collected by means of a concentration technique, for example by rinsing or wiping a larger surface. Such a surface can also be a witness plate, which is removed after exposure and treated in the same way. The resultant contaminated liquid or tissue is then processed, and finally an IR-transparent or a reflective window containing the contaminants is analysed with the aid of an IR spectrophotometer.

The direct method has demonstrated higher reliability because the sample does not require transfer from the witness plate and therefore reducing the error for quantification. The indirect method allows sample concentration and can therefore provide higher sensitivity. Nevertheless, the overall sensitivity and the possible lower LOD depends on the overall cleanliness level of the rising liquid and liquid handling tools, the size and cleanliness of a wipe, and the ratio of the analysed to the total volume of the rinsing solution.

5
Requirements

5.1 Preparatory activities

5.1.1 Hazard, health and safety precautions

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540001

a. Unavoidable hazards to personnel, equipment and materials shall be controlled by risk management procedures and kept to a minimum.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540002

b. Hazardous substances, items and operations shall be isolated from other activities.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540003

c. Items and controls shall be located in order to prevent personnel to be exposed to hazards.

> NOTE Typical hazards are electric shock, cutting edges, sharp points, and toxic atmospheres.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540004

d. Warning and caution notes shall be included in instructions for operation, storage, transport, testing, assembly, maintenance and repair.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540005

e. Hazardous items, equipment or facilities shall be clearly marked to instruct personnel to take the necessary precautions.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540006

f. Before starting any operation, safety hazards shall be identified, and the necessary precautions taken to minimize risks.

> NOTE For example, use of protection devices when chloroform is used.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540007

g. Operations requiring safety suits and protection devices shall be initiated after the personnel involved have the required protection, including any specific protection devices available at the work-place.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540098

h. Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate used as reference standard in Table 5-1 shall only be utilised if the specific use has been authorised or it is exempted from authorisation.

> NOTE 1 Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (EC number 204-211-0, CAS number 117-81-7) is on the REACH authorisation list with a sunset date 21st February 2015.
>
> NOTE 2 REACH applies to the European Economic Area.
>
> NOTE 3 The use of DOP for the purpose of this standard is considered exempted from REACH authorisation (see Annex I).
>
> NOTE 4 Other hazardous substances can be affected by the REACH regulation imposing actions for legal compliance or the risk of obsolescence. Background information about the REACH regulation as well as general guidelines to manage obsolescence of Materials, Mechanical Parts and Processes are provided in ECSS-Q-HB-70-23.

5.1.2 Facilities

5.1.2.1 Cleanliness

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540008

a. The work area shall be clean and free of dust.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540009

b. Air used for ventilation shall be filtered to prevent contamination of the work pieces.

5.1.2.2 Environmental conditions

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540010

a. The environmental conditions for the test, process and work areas shall be

1. Room temperature (22 ± 3) °C and,

2. Relative humidity (55 ± 10) %.

> NOTE Additional conditions can be imposed for critical operations.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540100

b.   In case the environmental conditions of requirement 5.1.2.2a cannot be met, a demonstration of no influence of these conditions on the quality of MOC measurements shall be provided to the customer.

5.1.3   Materials

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540011

a.   Materials used in the process shall be stored in a controlled area in conformance with clause 5.1.2.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540012

b.   Limited-life materials shall be labelled with their shelf lives and dates of manufacture.

5.1.4   Handling

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540013

a.   It shall be demonstrated that no additional contamination is introduced during the handling process.

> NOTE 1   Contamination can be avoided by using tweezers and clean gloves, and ensuring that gloves and chemicals are compatible.

> NOTE 2   Typically used gloves are of powder-free nylon, nitrile, lint-free cotton.

5.1.5   Equipment

5.1.5.1   Infrared spectrophotometer

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540014

a.   The spectrometer shall have the following specification:

1.   Spectral range: At least, $4\,000\ cm^{-1} - 600\ cm^{-1}$ ($2,5\ \mu m$ - $16,7\ \mu m$).

2.   Resolution: $4\ cm^{-1}$.

3.   Absorbance of 0,0001 as detection limit for transmission methods.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540015

b.   Interferences of environmental components shall be eliminated

> NOTE   Major environmental interferences are caused by H_2O and CO_2. Elimination of H_2O and CO_2 is possible by flushing with the proper gases or applying a vacuum.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540016

c.   Plates of infrared-transparent material shall be available.

NOTE 1   Typical materials are NaCl, MgF_2, CaF_2, ZnSe, ZnS, or Ge.

NOTE 2   An ATR-attachment to the spectrophotometer can be used for direct analysis of the surfaces of materials.

NOTE 3   The results of the ATR infrared spectrophotometer technique are dispersed and can therefore only be used for qualitative purposes.

5.1.5.2   Alignment of the sample holder

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540017

a.   The sample holder in the sample compartment of the infrared spectrometer shall be aligned for obtaining quantitative information.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540018

b.   The sample holder shall be aligned so that the infrared beam is positioned in the centre of the IR transparent window.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540019

c.   For alignment the following steps shall be performed:

1.   A mask plate is made with an aperture of (1 – 2) mm diameter.

2.   This mask is placed in the window holder and pointed in the sample compartment of the spectrometer.

3.   The aperture of the instrument is set to 1 mm.

4.   By adjusting the position of the sample holder across the IR beam, the optimum position is determined.

5.   The sample holder is fixed at this position along the line of the IR-beam.

6.   Once the sample holder is aligned, the diameter of the beam is measured.

7.   Step 5.1.5.2c.6 is repeated from bottom, left and right.

8.   A square is formed on the holder, which marks the area where the IR beam passes through without touching the tape.

9.   The size of the square is measured and used in further calculations.

NOTE 1   to item 5: It is important to keep the sample holder at this position because in most equipment the focal point of the IR-beam is set to be in the sample compartment. This means that the beam diameter can be different if this position is changed.

NOTE 2   to item 6: The measurement of the diameter of the beam is performed by masking the window holder, using tape, from the top until the tape absorbs IR light

5.1.6   Miscellaneous items

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540020

a.   The following items shall be used for acquiring and preparing the samples:

1.   Pre-cleaned standard filter paper of 70 mm diameter.

2.   Piece of pre-cleaned foam rubber, approximately (50×30) mm.

3.   A PTFE film can be used to protect the foam rubber.

4.   Clean, powder-free and lint-free gloves.

5.   Spectral grade solvents.

6.   Petri dishes ranging in diameter from (50 - 70) mm.

7.   Glass rod or micro-syringe.

8.   Glass syringe.

9.   Tweezers made of material compatible with solvent.

10.   Infrared lamp.

NOTE 1   to item 1: For orientation on the cleaning process see F.2.3.

NOTE 2   to item 2: See F.2.3.

NOTE 3   to item 9: for example, tweezers from stainless steel or PTFE.

5.2   Procedure for sampling and analysis

5.2.1   Summary

A summary of the procedures contained in this clause is given in Figure 5-1.

5.2.2   Direct method

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540021

a.   The following steps shall be performed for the determination of organic contamination by the direct method:

1.   Record the spectrum of the cleaned, non-exposed window and retain for use as a background measurement.

2.   Position the infrared-transparent windows at or near critical locations.

3.   Verify that the witness plate is subjected to the same conditions that the location to be monitored.

4.   Immediately after exposure, analyse the infrared-transparent windows with the IR spectrophotometer.

   NOTE 1   to item 1: For example, inside the compartment, the chamber or the cleanroom to be monitored.

   NOTE 2   To item 2: For a representative measurement these conditions are crucial, e.g. identical temperature and pressure.

   NOTE 3   to item 4: A waiting period after exposure can cause false results due to creeping of some kinds of contaminants (e.g. silicones).

5.2.3   Indirect method

5.2.3.1   Preparatory activities

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540022

a.   Surfaces shall be rinsed and wiped with solvents and tissues that are compatible with and do not damage the surface to be analysed.

   NOTE 1   For example, solvation and swelling of any material that is not regarded as a contaminant.

   NOTE 2   Scratching of the surface.

   NOTE 3   IPA and chloroform ($CHCl_3$) are the most widely used solvents.

5.2.3.2   Rinsing process

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540023

a.   For the rinsing process the following steps shall be applied:

1.   Place the contaminated solvent in a Petri dish, and evaporate it in a slightly tilted position until only a few droplets remain.

2.   Transfer the droplets to the IR-transparent window.

3.   Distribute the contaminant over the specific area.

   NOTE 1   to item 2: To avoid contamination and facilitate the work, a glass rod or a micro syringe is normally used for the transfer. Excessive touching of the surface of the window can lead to scratches which can lead to degradation of the measurements

   NOTE 2   to item 3: The term "specific area" is defined in 3.2.1.

   NOTE 3   to item 3: This step is also appropriate for contaminants or substances of low surface

tension, which tend to concentrate in small spots (e.g. silicones). Concentration into small spots can lead to a local saturation of the IR signal and thus to a subsequent underestimation of the overall concentration.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540024

b.   The window shall then be left undisturbed until the solvent evaporates leaving a thin film of contaminant on the window.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540025

c.   For quantitative transfer, the transfer process shall be repeated three times.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540026

d.   Finally, the window shall be fitted to the IR spectrophotometer and aligned such that the beam of the IR spectrophotometer covers the contaminated area of the window

> NOTE 1   For details of the alignment process see 5.1.5.2.
>
> NOTE 2   For details of the rinsing process, see Annex F.

5.2.3.3   Wiping process

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540027

a.   The tissue shall be pre-cleaned.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540028

b.   A blank analysis shall be performed in conformance with 5.2.3.3f and 5.2.3.3g until a background level of less than 5×10^{-7} g for hydrocarbons and esters and less than LOD for siloxanes for any tissue size is obtained.

> NOTE   Cleaning can be performed by Soxhlet extraction or immersion in chloroform.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540029

c.   The cleaned tissue shall be stored/kept in a clean container.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540030

d.   The surface to be analysed shall be wiped eight times, twice in each of four directions, with either a wet or dry wipe, turning the tissue each time a little after each wiping direction.

> NOTE 1   Dry wiping is characterised by lower transfer efficiencies than wet wiping.
>
> NOTE 2   Dry wiping is typically adapted when MOC is visible by eye.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540031

e. Depending on the chosen type of wiping process (wet or dry), the following steps shall be performed:

1. For a wet wipe process

(a) Fold with tweezers the pre-cleaned tissue in order to use it as a little "sponge";

(b) Wet with spectral grade IPA or chloroform;

(c) Hold the folded tissue with curved point tweezers;

(d) Store the tissue after wiping, when the solvent is evaporated in the transport container.

2. For a dry wipe process, cover the foam or rubber tube with a standard filter paper and a pre-cleaned tissue.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540032

f. The tissue to be analysed shall be immersed for 10 minutes to 15 minutes in a known quantity of spectral grade solvent contained in a suitable container.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540033

g. During the immersion time, the suitable container shall be covered in order to avoid evaporation of the solvent.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540034

h. Handling it with tweezers, the tissue shall be rinsed with 0,5 ml of solvent on each side.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540035

i. The Petri dish containing the contaminated solvent shall be processed in conformance with 5.2.3.2.

NOTE For details of the wiping process see Annex F.

Direct Method

1. Record the spectrum of the cleaned, non-exposed window and retain for use as a background measurement. See 5.2.2.

2. Position the infrared-transparent windows at or near critical locations. See 5.2.2.

3. Complete exposure of the witness window.

4. Analyse the witness window containing MOC layer. See 5.2.2, Annex A, and Annex D.

Indirect Method

1. Rinse surface with solvent and collect the liquid in a Petri dish. See 5.2.3.2.

2. Evaporate the solvent until a few droplets remain. See 5.2.3.2a.1.

Rinse Petri dish (three times). See 5.2.3.2c

3. Transfer the liquid onto a IR-transparent window using a glass rod or micro-syringe. See 5.2.3.2a.2.

4. Control area of droplets such that the only specific area is covered. Evaporate remaining solvent leaving film of contaminants on window. See 5.2.3.2a.4 and 5.2.3.2b

5. Transfer the window to a spectrophotometer. Align the position of the window such that the specific area is centrally covered by the IR beam. See 5.2.3.2d.

6. Analyse the obtained spectra. See Annex D.

1. Pre-clean tissues in fresh solvent until background level is below 5×10^{-7} g for hydrocarbons and esters, and below LOD for siloxanes for any tissue size. See 5.2.3.3a and 5.2.3.3b.

2. Store tissues in a clean container. See 5.2.3.3c.

3. Wipe contaminated surface eight times, with wet or dry wipe. See 5.2.3.3d and 5.2.3.3e

4. Immerse tissue in Petri dish containing solvent. See 5.2.3.3f.

5. Remove the tissue and process the Petri dish containing contaminated solvent in line with rinsing pocess. See 5.2.3.2.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540101

Figure 5-1: Sampling and analysis procedure flow chart

5.3 Reporting of calibration and test data

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540036

a. Calibration and test data shall be documented in conformance with Annex A – DRD.

> NOTE   While not explicitly required, it has been a long-standing practice of suppliers to provide the "total MOC" value as a summation of MOC values measured for hydrocarbons, esters, methyl siloxanes and methyl-phenyl siloxanes.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540037

b. The reported surface area for the direct method shall be the same as the specific area, as defined in 3.2.1.

> NOTE   In cases where the configuration of the exposed window allows for deposition of MOC on both sides, the reported surface concentration may have to be divided by the factor of two.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540038

c. For indirect methods the reported surface area shall correspond to the surface area rinsed or wiped.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540039

d. For contact or immersion tests, the reported surface area shall correspond to the contact surface of the sample.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540102

e. For wipe and rinse method the reported values shall take into account the transfer efficiency, as specified in 5.4.3.7.4.

5.4 Quality assurance

5.4.1 Data

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540040

a. Quality assurance records and log sheets shall be retained for ten years after they have been established.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540041

b. Log sheets shall include the following information:

1. Trade names and batch numbers of the materials under test.

2. Name of the manufacturer or supplier through whom the purchase was made.

3.   Summary of the preparation and conditioning schedule including the cleaning procedure.

4.   Any noticeable incident observed during the measurement.

5.   The obtained results.

5.4.2   Nonconformance

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540042

a.   Any nonconformance that is observed during the measurement procedure shall be dispositioned in conformance to ECSS-Q-ST-10-09.

5.4.3   Calibration and limits of detection

5.4.3.1   General

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540043

a.   Equipment shall be calibrated for obtaining quantitative information.

   NOTE   Calibration methods are described in Annex C.3.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540044

b.   Equipment shall be calibrated after alignment.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540045

c.   The supplier shall calibrate any measuring equipment to traceable reference standards.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540046

d.   The supplier shall record any suspected or actual equipment failure as a project nonconformance report in conformance to ECSS-Q-ST-10-09.

   NOTE   This is to ensure that previous results can be examined to ascertain whether or not re-inspection and retesting is necessary.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540047

e.   The standard materials used for the IR analysis as described in Table 5-1 shall be used.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540097

Table 5-1: Standard materials used for the IR analysis

Standard [a]	Chemical nature	Characteristic peaks (cm^{-1})
Paraffin oil [b]	Long chain aliphatic hydrocarbon	2920
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DOP) [c]	Aromatic ester	1735
Poly(dimethylsiloxane)	Methyl silicone	1260, 805
Poly(methylphenylsiloxane)	Methyl phenyl silicone	1260, 1120, 790

[a] Standard materials should be of highest grade available, examples are given in Annex B.3.

[b] The ratio of peak heights (peak to baseline) between CH$_2$ (2 925 cm^{-1}) and CH$_3$ (2 955 cm^{-1}) should be between 0,60 – 0,65.

[c] See Annex I for REACH exemption from authorisation.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540048

f.   If different types of contaminants are frequently found, individual calibration curves for each type of contaminant shall be made upon customer's request.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540049

g.   In case where the calibration curve that is produced using the direct method is used for indirect method the associated transfer efficiency shall be taken into account.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540050

h.   The transfer efficiency shall be determined by requirements given in clause 5.4.3.7.4.

> NOTE   Depending on the operator's experience the transfer efficiency can be significantly less than 1. Operators are for this reason evaluated annually.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540051

i.   The standards materials used for the calibration lines shall be of high purity.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540052

j.   Chloroform, or another customer approved solvent, used shall be of spectroscopic grade, having a non-volatile residue (NVR) < 5 µg/g.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540053

k.   The absorbance level of the NVR shall be lower than 0,000 1 AU in order to minimize disturbances.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540054

l.   NVR absorbance shall be determined by evaporating 10 ml of chloroform and recorded by means of IR spectroscopy.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540055

m.   The standards materials shall be conserved in a cool and dark area and the evaporation of chloroform limited by sealing the measuring flask.

5.4.3.2   Calibration method

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540056

a.   The calibration shall be performed covering the required concentration range.

> NOTE   Typical range is 5×10^{-8} g/cm² to 5×10^{-6} g/cm².

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540057

b.   Measurements shall be performed by transferring a defined volume from the standard stock solution directly onto the IR-window.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540058

c.   The following steps shall be followed:

1.   The gas-tight syringe is filled with a defined volume from the standard stock solution.

2.   The droplets from the syringe are positioned in the centre of the IR-window, within the specific area.

3.   The IR-window is positioned in the sample compartment of the spectrometer.

4.   The spectrum is recorded and the transmission loss for the respective standards is measured at the following wave numbers (see also Table 5-1):

(a)   2920 cm^{-1} for hydrocarbons,

(b)   1735 cm^{-1} for esters,

(c)   1260 cm^{-1} or 805 cm^{-1} for methyl silicone,

(d)   1260 cm^{-1}, 1120 cm^{-1} or 790 cm^{-1} for methyl phenyl silicones.

> NOTE 1   to item 1: Example of stock solution range as given in Table C-1.
>
> NOTE 2   to item 1: A typical process for the preparation of standard solutions is described in C.3.2.
>
> NOTE 3   to item 2: "Specific area" is defined in 3.2.1.
>
> NOTE 4   to item 2: The window is placed above a circular mask that corresponds to the size of the IR beam, and viewed from above the window.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540059

d.   Each point shall be measured at least three times, possibly with different windows in order to eliminate systematic errors.

5.4.3.3   Calibration curve

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540060

a.   The peak quantification shall be performed by measuring peak height or peak area.

> NOTE   An example of such measurement is given in C.3.3.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540061

b.   The calibration curve shall have a correlation coefficient higher than 0,98 for six sample points.

> NOTE   A typical calibration curve is shown in C.3.3.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540062

c.   The same method of quantification shall be used for the measurement of the contaminant to be analysed.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540063

d.   <<deleted>>

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540064

e.   <<deleted>>

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540065

f.   For the direct method, the detection limit shall be calculated using methodology given in 5.4.3.6.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540066

g.   For the indirect methods, the detection limits shall be calculated using the methodology given in 5.4.3.7.

5.4.3.4   Calibration results

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540067

a.   Contamination levels shall be expressed in terms of the contribution of the following four main group equivalents: hydrocarbons, esters, methyl silicones, and phenyl silicones.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540068

b.   The calculation shall be performed using their characteristic group frequencies in conformance with Table 5-1, and the peak maximum of the same vibration mode as for deriving the calibration curve.

> NOTE 1   Unless the contaminant matches the calibration standard, quantification is always relative to the reference material and thus semi-quantitative.
>
> NOTE 2   A different chemical environment from a functional group (e.g. substitution, or neighbouring group effects) can lead to shifts in the frequency of the respective vibration modes.

5.4.3.5   <<deleted and replaced by new clauses 5.4.3.6 and 5.4.3.7>>

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540069

a.   <<deleted>>

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540070

b.   <<deleted>>

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540071

c.   <<deleted>>

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540072

d.   <<deleted>>

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540073

e.   <<deleted>>

5.4.3.6   Limit of detection for direct method

5.4.3.6.1   Overview

The following clause provides a set of requirements for determination of the limit of detection for direct method. The goal of these requirements is a reliable determination of the limit of detection of the direct method of MOC measurements which supports the generation of reliable MOC measurement data.

5.4.3.6.2   Limit of detection for direct method – Requirements

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540103

a.   For the direct method, the detection limit shall be three times the signal to noise (S/N) ratio.

> NOTE   The calculation of the S/N ratio and of the limit of detection is defined in the set of requirements below.

b.   At least three independent clean witness windows shall be used for detection limit determination.

c.   Each window shall be independently measured twice to generate two spectra: $T_{clean,\,1}$ and $T_{clean,\,2}$.

> NOTE   These measurements will yield two independent FT-IR spectra for each window without visible quantifiable signals. Annex J shows an example of a spectrum acquired in line with the requirement.

d.   In case where a visible quantifiable signal is present in any spectrum the windows shall be cleaned and the exercise be repeated.

e.   For each witness window a spectrum, $T(\nu)$, shall be calculated as follows:
$$T(\nu) = T_{clean,1}/T_{clean,2}$$

> NOTE   This operation will produce three FT-IR spectra.

f.   The following four spectral areas of interest shall be analysed independently:

1. $(2900 - 3000)$ cm^{-1} - hydrocarbons,

2. $(1700 - 1800)$ cm^{-1} – esters

3. $(1200 - 1300)$ cm^{-1} – methyl silicones

4. $(1100 - 1200)$ cm^{-1} – methyl-phenyl silicones

g.   The spectrum in each spectral region shall be fit with a quadratic function of the form:

$$F_i(\nu) = a_i\nu^2 + b_i\nu + c_i$$

where:

a_i, b_i, and c_i are constants and subscript i is a running number from 1 to 4 highlighting four separate quadratic equations – one for each spectral region of interest.

> NOTE   Annex J provides examples of baseline fitting using quadratic functions.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540110

h.   The calculated fit function, $F_i(v)$, shall then be subtracted from the experimental spectrum $T(v)$ in the appropriate spectral regions:

$$noise_i = T(v) - F_i(v)$$

NOTE   These operations will yield four noise spectra, one for each spectral region of interest. Examples of such noise spectra are shown in Annex J. On the example of hydrocarbons, the calculated fit function $F_1(v)$ should be subtracted from the experimental spectrum $T(v)$ in the range 2900 cm^{-1} – 3000 cm^{-1}.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540111

i.   The standard deviation shall be calculated for each noise spectrum with the use of the equation below:

$$stdev_i = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_v noise_{i,v}^2}{n-1}}$$

where:

noise$_{i,v}$ is the value of noise function i at frequency v

n   is the number of data points in the spectral window.

NOTE   These calculations will produce four values of standard deviation, one for each spectral region of interest. Annex J shows examples of the *stdev* in comparison to spectral noise.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540112

j.   The procedure specified by the requirements given in this clause 5.4.3.6.2 shall be performed for each $T(v)$ spectrum acquired for the three independent witness windows.

NOTE   This treatment will result in three independent standard deviation values for each spectral range of interest.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540113

k.   The limit of detection shall be calculated using the following equation:

$$LOD_i = f_{cal,i}\left(log \frac{1}{1 - 3 \times stdev_i}\right)$$

where:

fcal,i   is the calibration function for ith region of interest, which relates absorbance value to the surface concentration expressed in g/cm^2

stdevi   is the highest value of standard deviation found for three different windows for ith region of interest calculated using the methodology described in this paragraph.

5.4.3.7 Limit of detection and transfer efficiency of the indirect method

5.4.3.7.1 Overview

The approach towards the establishment of the LOD in the indirect method is conceptually different from that used for the direct method, particularly for hydrocarbons and esters. These two chemical species are expected to be present in each blank measurement, thus effectively worsening the LOD. This effect is especially pronounced in the case of wipe method, which relies on hydrocarbon- and ester-containing tissues. As a result, an analysis of noise and signal is not applicable in this case. Rather, the standard deviation of the measured surface concentration of blank measurements, together with the efficiency of transfer, are used to derive LOD for hydrocarbons and esters. Since methyl silicones and methyl-phenyl silicones are not expected to be present in blank measurements, the indirect-method LODs for these species are derived from the direct-method LOD and from transfer efficiency. Annex K provides a detailed description of the approach used herein to derive the LOD for the indirect method. The set of requirements below provide a set of guidelines for data collection and calculations of the LOD of the indirect method.

5.4.3.7.2 Limit of detection and transfer efficiency of the indirect method – Requirements

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540114

a. LOD shall be derived and reported based on measurements done on a typically requested sample-surface area and be specific to the most used solvent.

> NOTE 1 The nominal surface area that is probed using the indirect method, including both rinse- and wipe method, is 100 cm^2.
>
> NOTE 2 The "most used solvent" can vary between suppliers. In practice, chloroform and isopropyl alcohol are often used. Note that the LOD and transfer efficiency depend heavily on the solvent.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540115

b. In cases where the customer request includes indirect-method measurements of an area different from the area for which LOD was derived, such that different methodology is used, a separate set of measurements and calculations shall be performed in order to derive the LOD.

> NOTE The LOD cannot be simply scaled with the sample surface area. Rather, different surface area samples are expected to be characterized by completely different LOD, the values of which are dependent on the details of the methodology used for probing the surface.

Indeed, the method for probing surfaces of different areas may be significantly different from each other. For example, the volume of solvent necessary to perform wiping and/or the size of a wipe tissue may be significantly different for a large-area sample when compared to a small-are sample.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540116

c.   As a minimum, a nominal LOD for the wipe method and rinse method for a specific solvent shall be reported to the customer.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540117

d.   The technical report(s) demonstrating the LOD shall be deliverable to the customer.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540118

e.   At least five independent blank measurements shall be performed for the LOD determination of the wipe method.

NOTE   Note that the indirect method involves two separate techniques, in line with **Figure 5-1**: rinse method and wipe method. The wipe method is represented by the right column in **Figure 5-1**.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540119

f.   At least five independent blank measurements shall be performed for the LOD determination for the rinse method.

NOTE   The rinse method is represented by the left column in **Figure 5-1**.

5.4.3.7.3   Blank Measurements for LOD Calculations

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540120

a.   Each blank measurement for the wipe method shall include the entire process, as presented in **Figure 5-1**, excluding the wiping of contaminated surface.

NOTE   The wiping of contaminated surface is represented by step 3 in the right column of **Figure 5-1**.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540121

b.   Each blank measurement for the rinse method shall include the entire process, as presented in **Figure 5-1**, excluding the rinse of contaminated surface.

NOTE   The rinsing of contaminated surface is represented by step 1 in the left column of **Figure 5-1**.

c.   The control of each area of droplets deposited onto a clean infrared window shall ensure that the area of deposition is the known and is the same as the size of the infrared beam.

  NOTE   This requirement is in line with 5.2.3.2a.3.

d.   The known area of deposition of droplets shall be reported in the report demonstrating LOD.

e.   The following four spectral areas of interest shall be analysed independently for each one of the five independent blank spectra:

1. $(2900 - 3000)$ cm^{-1} - hydrocarbons,

2. $(1700 - 1800)$ cm^{-1} – esters

3. $(1200 - 1300)$ cm^{-1} – methyl silicones

4. $(1100 - 1200)$ cm^{-1} – methyl-phenyl silicones

  NOTE   It is expected that only hydrocarbons and esters will be present in the spectra of blank samples.

f.   As-measured MOC surface concentrations in g/cm^2 shall be reported for each chemical group of interest for each blank spectrum.

  NOTE 1   The term "as-measured" is used here to describe the direct-method based surface concentration of a contaminant as measured on the IR window.

  NOTE 2   The wipe-method blank measurements and analysis of the spectra will yield five surface concentrations for hydrocarbons, five surface concentrations for esters, five surface concentrations for methyl silicones, and five surface concentrations for methyl-phenyl silicones.

  NOTE 3   The rinse-method blank measurements and analysis of the spectra will yield five surface concentrations for hydrocarbons, five surface concentrations for esters, five surface concentrations for methyl silicones, and five surface concentrations for methyl-phenyl silicones.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540126

g.   In cases where the measured value of surface concentration is lower than the associated LOD of the direct method, the surface concentration used for the calculations of standard deviation shall be numerically the same as the associated LOD of the direct method.

> NOTE   This requirement targets only hydrocarbons and esters, as it is expected that siloxane signals are not present in blank spectra.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540127

h.   Methyl silicones and methyl-phenyl silicones shall be below the LOD of the direct method in all five blank spectra.

> NOTE   The possible source of siloxanes in blank spectra is the entire set of tools and solvents used for sample preparation.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540128

i.   Standard deviation shall be calculated for each chemical group of interest and be based on five independent measurements ($n = 1, ..., 5$) according to equation:

$$stdev_i^{blank} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{n=1}^{5}(c_{S,i,n}^{blank} - c_{S,i,Av}^{blank})^2}{4}}$$

where:

$stdev_i^{blank}$ is standard deviation calculated for each one of the chemical groups of interest ($i = 1$ for hydrocarbons and $i = 2$ for esters)

$c_{S,i,n}^{blank}$ is the associated surface concentration ($n = 1, …, 5$)

$c_{S,i,AV}^{blank}$ is the average surface concentration for each one of the chemical groups of interest).

5.4.3.7.4   Sample Measurements for Transfer Efficiency and LOD Calculations

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540129

a.   One standard solution of a calibration compound, listed in Table 5-1, in chloroform at known concentration (in g/L) shall be prepared for each chemical group of interest.

> NOTE   It is expected that four separate standard solutions will be prepared: one chloroform solution of paraffin (for hydrocarbons), one chloroform solution of DOP (for esters), one chloroform solution of poly(dimethylsiloxane) (for methyl silicones), and one chloroform solution of poly(methylphenylsiloxane) (for methyl-phenyl silicones).

b. A sample shall be prepared by deposition of the same known volume of one standard solution onto approximately 100 cm² clean, flat, smooth glass surface with a known surface area, *A*.

> NOTE A bottom of a glass Petri dish with approximately 6 cm radius (that is, with app. 12 cm diameter) can serve as an excellent glass surface.

c. The deposited mass of the standard compound, *m*, shall be calculated and reported for each one of the ten independent depositions.

d. At least three independent samples shall be prepared for each calibration compound for each method.

> NOTE 1 This requirement imposes that a total of 12 different samples will be prepared for each method (one set for wipe method and one set for rinse method): three samples for hydrocarbons, three samples for esters, three samples for methyl silicones, and three samples for methyl-phenyl silicones.

> NOTE 2 It is expected that within a set of three samples (e.g., for hydrocarbons) the concentration of standard solution and deposition volume are the same for each sample.

> NOTE 3 There is no need to operate with 12 different Petri dishes and to prepare all 12 samples at the same time. In practice, only one Petri dish is sufficient to perform all activities efficiently. Indeed, after deposition of a known amount of a standard solution and after drying, a measurement can be performed immediately, thus freeing the Petri dish for the next sample preparation.

e. Each sample shall be analysed according to the wipe method and include the entire process, as presented in **Figure 5-1**.

f. Each sample shall be analysed according to the rinse method and include the entire process, as presented in **Figure 5-1**.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540135

g. The control of each area of droplets deposited onto a clean infrared window shall ensure that the droplets are deposited onto the specific area.

NOTE   This requirement is in line with 5.2.3.2a.3.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540136

h. The known area of deposition of droplets shall be reported in the report demonstrating LOD.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540137

i. As-measured surface concentration shall be reported for each sample as follows:

1. hydrocarbons surface concentration for samples prepared from paraffin standard solution,

2. esters surface concentration for samples prepared from DOP standard solution,

3. methyl silicones surface concentration for samples prepared from poly(dimethylsiloxane) standard solution,

4. methyl-phenyl silicones surface concentration for samples prepared from poly(methylphenylsiloxane) standard solution.

NOTE 1   It is expected that three independent surface-concentration values will be reported for each chemical group of interest. Thus, a total of 12 surface concentrations are expected for each method (wipe method and rinse method).

NOTE 2   The "as-measured" surface concentration means that no data manipulations are done (such as blank subtraction or surface-size scaling).

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540138

j. Each as-measured surface concentration, $C^{sample}_{s,i,n}$ for hydrocarbons and esters shall be within the range of the associated calibration curve and above the limit given below:

$$c^{sample}_{s,i,n} > c^{blank}_{s,i,Av} + 10 \times stdev^{blank}_i$$

where:

$c^{blank}_{S,i,AV}$ is the average blank as-measured surface concentration for hydrocarbons (i=1) and esters (i=2)

$stdev^{blank}_i$ is the standard deviation from five independent blank measurements for hydrocarbons (i=1) and esters (i=2).

NOTE 1   It is likely that multiple changes to the standard solution concentration and/or the deposition

volume are tried in order to ensure this requirement is met.

NOTE 2   The aim of this requirement is to achieve standard deviations lower than 50% in these three independent sample measurements. However, it is the operator's judgement to add more sample measurements in cases where there are clear outliers.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540139

k.   Each as-measured surface concentration for methyl silicones and methyl-phenyl silicones shall be at least 10× the corresponding direct-method LOD and be within the range of the associated calibration curve.

NOTE   It is likely that multiple changes to the standard solution concentration and/or the deposition volume are tried in order to ensure this requirement is met.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540140

l.   The average surface concentration of standard compounds collected from the glass surface, $C^{indirect}_{i, Av}$, shall be calculated using following equation:

$$c^{indirect}_{S,i,Av} = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{3} c^{sample}_{S,i,n}}{3} - c^{blank}_{S,i,Av}$$

where:

$c^{blank}_{S,i,n}$ is as-measured surface concentrations of samples (n=1,…,3)

$c^{blank}_{S,i,AV}$ is the average blank surface concentration for hydrocarbons (i=1) and for esters (i=2).

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540141

m.   In case of methyl silicones (i=3) and methyl-phenyl silicones (i=4) $C^{blank}_{S,i,Av}$ of 0 g/cm² shall be used.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540142

n.   The transfer efficiency, TE_i, shall be calculated using following equation:

$$TE_i = \frac{a_{win} \times c^{indirect}_{S,i,Av}}{m_i}$$

where:

a_{win} is the deposition area on the IR window

$c^{indirect}_{S,i,Av}$ is the average surface concentration of standard compounds deposited onto the glass surface

m_i is the average mass of a standard compound deposited onto the glass surface (i=1 for paraffin, i=2 for DOP, i=3

for poly(dimethylsiloxane), and i=4 for poly(methylphenyl-siloxane))

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540143

o.   The limit of detection of the indirect method, for either wipe or rinse method, shall be calculated according to the following equation:

$$LOD_i = \frac{3 \times a_{win} \times stdev_i^{blank}}{TE_i}$$

where:

$stdev_i^{blank}$ is blank standard deviation calculated for each one of the chemical groups of interest

TE_i is the transfer efficiency calculated for each one of the chemical groups of interest ($i = 1$ for hydrocarbons, $i = 2$ for esters, i=3 for methyl silicones, and i=4 for methyl-phenyl silicones)

a_{win} is the deposition area on the IR window, the same as specific area defined in 3.2.1.

NOTE   The LOD for the indirect method is expressed in grams, and thus represents the lowest amount of detectable mass present on a ca. 100 cm² surface area.

5.4.4   Traceability

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540074

a.   For traceability ECSS-Q-ST-20 shall apply.

5.4.5   Training

5.4.5.1   General

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540075

a.   For training ECSS-Q-ST-20 shall apply.

5.4.5.2   Specific training

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540076

a.   Trained and competent personnel shall be employed for all calibration and analysis operations.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540077

b.   A training programme shall be developed, maintained and implemented.

NOTE   The training programme is set up to provide for excellence of workmanship and personnel skills as well as for thorough knowledge of the requirements detailed in this Standard.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540078

c.   Trained personnel performing calibration and analysis shall be certified.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540079

d.   The certification of personnel shall be based upon objective evidence of reproducibility and accuracy.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540080

e.   Personnel shall be retrained or re-assessed annually to maintain the required skills.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540081

f.   Certification status of personnel shall be recorded and maintained.

5.4.5.3   Training procedures

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540082

a.   Operators shall be trained by preparing a hydrocarbon standard solution by the following procedure:

1.   A gas-tight syringe is filled with the standard solution containing an equivalent of 1×10^{-6} g analyte and put in the Petri dish.

2.   The sample is transferred drop-wise with the glass rod or micro-syringe from the Petri dish onto the IR-window within the area of the IR-beam.

3.   After all droplets are transferred to the window, the Petri dish is rinsed with a few droplets of fresh chloroform and transferred again according to step 2.

4.   Step 3 is repeated at least twice.

5.   The IR-transparent window is placed on the sample holder in the sample compartment of the pre-aligned spectrometer.

6.   The spectrum is recorded and the transmission loss for hydrocarbons at about 2 920 cm^{-1} is measured.

7.   Steps 1 to 6 are repeated 10 times.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540083

b.   All 10 measurements shall be within 20 % of the average value.

NOTE   Experienced operators are able to perform this test within 10 % of the average value.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540084

c.   Once the positioning or transfer of the solution can be performed within the accepted limits, the trainee operator shall start to produce the calibration curves.

> NOTE   For the calibration curves see Annex C.3.

5.5   Audit of measurement equipment

5.5.1   General

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540085

a.   The customer shall perform the standard audit in conformance to ECSS-Q-ST-10 clause 5.2.3 "Project PA audits".

> NOTE 1   The main purpose of this audit is to ensure the validity of test results by comparison of the test data on identical materials by different test houses.
>
> NOTE 2   The infrared spectra from test houses for the projects of the customer, obtained in the manner laid down in this Standard, are only accepted for the projects of the customer if the test house is certified to perform the relevant procedure in this Standard.

5.5.2   Audit of the system (acceptance)

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540086

a.   The customer's product assurance department shall audit the system after it has been built or purchased.

> NOTE   The audit is necessary before the system can be accepted for running qualification or quality control tests on materials for use in customer projects.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540087

b.   The initial audit shall consist of:

1.   inspecting the apparatus and associated equipment,

2.   assessing the performance of a test on a defined set of materials,

3.   reporting the non-conformances, and

4.   reporting the audit findings.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540088

c.   The customer shall issue the certificate of conformance after a successful audit or renew it every three years after a successful audit.

5.5.3 Annual regular review (maintenance) of the system

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540089

a.   The supplier shall perform an annual regular review which consists of:

1.   inspecting apparatus and associated equipment,

2.   evaluating the mutual comparability (testing),

3.   reporting the nonconformances, and

4.   reporting the audit findings.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540090

b.   For each nonconformance the supplier shall perform the following actions:

1.   determine the reasons for the nonconformance, and

2.   perform a further test in accordance with clause 5.5.2.

> NOTE   These actions are necessary before a certificate of conformance is renewed.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540091

c.   The supplier shall deliver the review report to all customers within six weeks after the end of the regular review or evaluation testing.

5.5.4 Special review

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540092

a.   The supplier shall report all modifications of the apparatus or associated equipment.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540093

b.   The customer shall audit the modifications, if deemed necessary, before utilization of the modified system for the customer's project.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540094

c.   For major modifications, the supplier shall retest apparatus as described in clause 5.5.2.

Annex A (normative)
Calibration and test results – DRD

A.1 DRD identification

A.1.1 Requirement identification and source document

This DRD is called from ECSS-Q-ST-70-05, requirement 5.3a.

A.1.2 Purpose and objective

The purpose of the document is to present calibration evidences and the analysis results with respect to detected contamination.

A.2 Expected response

A.2.1 Scope and content

<1> Calibration evidences

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540095

a. The test laboratory shall provide calibration evidence of the quantification method in terms of:
  1. date of last calibration,
  2. type and purity of standard materials,
  3. concentration ranges,
  4. detection limits,
  5. correlation coefficients of the calibration curves.

<2> Experiment results

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540096

a. The results obtained for each experiment shall be reported in terms of equivalent mass per surface area in units of $g \ cm^{-2}$ for the four main groups:
  1. hydrocarbons,
  2. esters,
  3. methyl silicones,
  4. phenyl silicones.

NOTE   For each of the four main groups, the mass always corresponds to the type of standard material used for obtaining the calibration curve.

A.2.2   Special remarks

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540099

a.   Spectral interpretation of the contamination is very beneficial for the identification of the potential sources and should be included in the report whenever possible.

ECSS-Q-ST-70-05_0540144

b.   Spectra shall be included in the report.

NOTE   This requirement ensures that raw spectra can be reanalysed. An example of a mistake in spectral interpretation is considering a peak originating from C-O stretch in esters (ca. 1270 cm^{-1}) as a C-Si stretch of silicone (ca. 1261 cm^{-1}). This mistake can be avoided by ensuring that other characteristic silicone peaks are present in the spectrum (see Figure D-3).

Annex B (informative)
Selection criteria for equipment and accessories for performing the infrared analysis of organic contamination

B.1 Infrared spectrometers

B.1.1 General

The different types of infrared spectrometers and accessories used for performing the analysis of organic contamination are described in this Annex.

B.1.2 Dispersive infrared spectrometer

The dispersive infrared spectrometer uses one of the oldest principals in infrared spectroscopy. In dispersive infrared spectrometers, the light coming from the source, a black body emitter (e.g. a Globar), is dispersed by a grating and the energy per wavelength is measured by a detector using a slit.

The advantage of this type of spectrometer is that the sample and reference beam can be measured at the same time with almost no influence of the environment on the spectra.

The disadvantage is the use of a monochromator with slits.

The slit width defines the resolution and the noise on the signal. For a better resolution the slit width can be decreased, but because this means that less light goes through, the signal to noise ratio decreases.

Therefore, there is a trade-off between resolution and signal to noise ratio. Furthermore, the time to acquire a full spectrum can take several minutes (depending on wavelength interval), because each wavelength is measured individually.

This type of infrared spectrometer is now commonly replaced by the Fourier transform infrared spectrometer.

B.1.3 Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectrometer

The Fourier transform infrared spectrometer (FTIR) became more feasible with the availability of computers. It works using an interferometer (usually a Michelson interferometer) instead of a monochromator.

The principal is that the IR beam emitted from the source, a black body emitter (e.g. a Globar), is separated by a beam splitter into two paths. One path length is fixed and defined by a standing mirror, and the other is variable and defined by a moving mirror (moving forwards and backwards).

After reflection, the two beams recombine at the beam splitter by undergoing constructive and destructive interference. The resulting modulated signal is directed through the sample compartment to the detector.

The position of the moving mirror is measured by a He-Ne laser. The signal measured by the detector is correlated in time with the position of the mirror. This results in an interferogram with the highest signal intensity in the centre when both mirrors are at an equal distance from the beam splitter.

This interferogram is transformed into a spectrum by a computer using the fast Fourier transformation. One spectrum is produced by one full movement of the mirror. A computer is necessary to collect and transform the data online, and depending on the computational power, several spectra can be recorded per second.

The advantages of this type of spectrometer over the dispersive spectrometer are as follows:

a.   All wavelengths pass through the sample simultaneously, which means that a whole spectrum can be measured quickly in one go.

b.   The noise on the spectrum is reduced by acquiring a larger number of spectra.

c.   The amount of signal going through the sample is not limited by a slit, but is limited by the detector.

d.   The resolution of the spectrum is determined by the path length of the moving mirror.

The disadvantage of the FTIR is that the reference and the sample signal are collected separately. This means that the environment can have a significant influence on the results, e.g. in the region where there is water absorption.

B.1.4 Detectors

In the mid-IR range, two types of detectors are commonly used: the DTGS and the liquid nitrogen cooled MCT.

B.1.4.1. DTGS detector

The DTGS (deuterated triglycine sulphate) is a pyroelectrical detector that generates an electric charge on its surface when the temperature is changed. The scanning speed of this type of detector compared to the MCT detector is slower, however, it has a wider dynamic range. The spectral region depends on

the material of the window used, and corresponds to 9 000 cm^{-1} - 400 cm^{-1} with KBr.

B.1.4.2. MCT detector

The MCT (mercury cadmium telluride) is a photo-conductive or photovoltaic detector and is based on the semi-conductivity of the materials used. Electrons are released when hit by photons (with energies higher than the respective band gap) and the changes in the conductivity are thus related to the intensity of the received infrared radiation. MCT detectors are cooled with liquid nitrogen.

MCT detectors have a very short response time, but the response is characterized by a gradual increase in response with increasing wavelength followed by a sudden sharp drop.

The other advantage of the MCT compared to the DTGS is the high response to lower light levels. This is the reason why MCT detectors are chosen with reflection units or accessories, because signals with low energy throughput can still be measured.

B.2 Accessories

B.2.1 Transmittance measurements

B.2.1.1. Window materials

For the mid-IR region there does not exist a "perfect" material for windows, and several trade-offs are made in terms of transmittance performance, ease of use and price. The following is a short summary of window materials that are commonly used. Table B-1 summarizes the important properties.

a.   Alkali metal halides (except fluorides): generally water soluble, low RI, and soft. Most commonly NaCl, KBr and CsI.

b.   Metal fluorides: low water solubility, low RI, most commonly CaF_2, MgF_2.

c.   Heavy metal halides: silver salts (AgCl, AgBr) are water resistant, transparent over the entire mid-IR, but weak and tend to cold flow. Thallium salts such as KRS-5 have an excellent spectral range and are very robust and have become a commonly used optical material, especially for ATR. The drawback is their high toxicity.

d.   Metal oxides: in general they represent all hard materials with a limited spectral range, e.g. MgO, α-Al_2O_2, and ZrO_2.

e.   Group II-IV chalcogenides: the two workhorses, ZnS and ZnSe are mechanically and chemically robust and for many applications (transmittive, ATR) the preferred material.

f.   Groups IV and III-V (diamond family): generally extremely hard and brittle, excellent resistance towards thermal shock. Diamond has superior

IR transmittance (except the phonon band around 5 μm) and is most suitable for high-pressure cells. Si and Ge have extremely high RI, making them interesting for ATR applications, however, because of free thermal electrons they become opaque at elevated temperatures.

Table B-1: Important properties of common window materials used for infrared spectroscopy

Material	RI $n_{5\mu m}$	Wavelength range (μm)	T_{max} (°C)	Incompatible with
NaCl	1,52	0,4 – 15	400	Water, glycols, high humidity
KBr	1,54	0,3 – 25	300	Water, alcohols, ether, humidity
CsI	1,74	0,3 – 70	200	Water, alcohols, humidity
CaF2	1,40	0,15 – 8	600	Ammonium salts, some concentrated acids
MgF2	1,34	0,15 – 8	500	Concentrated acids
AgCl	2,00	0,42 – 27	200	Oxidizers, chelators, concentrated chlorides
AgBr	~2,15	0,5 – 35	200	Oxidizers, chelators, concentrated chlorides
KRS-5	2,38	0,6 – 60	200	Methanol, chelators, strong bases
MgO	1,64	0,4 – 8	> 2 000	Concentrated acids, ammonium salts
⌀-Al2O3	1,62	0,15 – 5	1 700	Concentrated acids and bases
ZrO2	2,13[a]	0,36 – 7	> 1 000	HF, H2SO4
ZnS	2,25	0,4 – 14	300	Strong oxidizers, some acids
ZnSe	2,43	0,5 – 20	300	Acids, strong concentrated bases
Diamond	2,39	0,22 – 4,3, > 5,4	> 700	Chromosulfuric acid
Si	3,42	1,06 – 6,7, > 30	300	HF + HNO3
Ge	4,02	2,0 – 17	100	Hot H2SO4, aqua regia
[a] RI at 1 μm				

B.2.1.2.   Sampling techniques

There are several techniques for sampling gaseous, liquid, and solid materials. For further details refer to the Handbook of vibrational spectroscopy (see Bibliography).

B.2.2   Reflection accessories

There are several reflection techniques, e.g. attenuated total reflection (ATR), diffuse reflectance (DRIFT), grazing angle, integrating spheres, or microscopy. Some of these are also capable of yielding semi-quantitative information. These techniques are based on different theories and use procedures, which are not within the scope of this Standard. For further details refer to the Handbook of vibrational spectroscopy (see Bibliography).

B.3   Examples of reference compounds for calibration

The compound references and suppliers given in Table B-2 are examples; equivalent or better grades from alternative suppliers can be used.

Table B-2: Examples of compound references and suppliers

Compound	Grade	Supplier
Hydrocarbons	Paraffin liquid for spectroscopy, Ultrasolv®	Merck
Esters	bis (2-ethylhexyl)phthalate >98% [a]	Merck
Methyl silicones	poly(dimethyl siloxane), DC 200® fluid, 1000 centistokes	Dow Corning
Methylphenylsilicones	poly(methylphenylsiloxane), DC 710® fluid, 500 centistokes	Dow Corning
[a] See Annex I for REACH exemption from authorisation.		

Annex C (informative)
Calibration of infrared equipment

C.1 Theory

C.1.1 Lambert-Beer's law

Lambert's law states that for parallel, monochromatic radiation that passes through an absorber of constant concentration, the radiant power decreases logarithmically as the path length increases arithmetically.

Beer's law states that the transmittance of a stable solution is an exponential function of the concentration of the absorbing solute. If both concentration and thickness are variable, the combined Lambert-Beer's law is expressed by equation (C-1):

$$A(v) = \varepsilon(v)l\ C \qquad\qquad\text{(C-1)}$$

where

$A(\overline{v})$ is the absorbance at wave number $\overline{v}$,

$\varepsilon(\overline{v})$ is the molar absorptivity at wave number $\overline{v}$,

l is the path length,

C is the molar concentration.

To quantify organic contamination, the absorbance is expressed as the mass of a standard material per surface area unit. The trend line is calculated from the calibration curve (see C.3).

Four materials should be used as a standard for the quantification (see Table C-1). These materials are characteristic of the most common contaminants (hydrocarbons, esters, methyl silicones and phenyl silicones).

For contaminants that are unknown but are similar to the standard materials, the relation between the mass and the absorption at a specific wavelength of a standard is used for the quantification. As a result, this method provides the mass of the contaminant in terms of an equivalent amount of the standard material. A method is quantitative, when the contaminant matches the standard materials, otherwise the method is semi-quantitative.

C.1.2 Dependency of equipment and operator

When an infrared-transparent window is used as a witness plate, the measurement is done directly on the window. This method is called the direct method. The amount of organic contamination measured depends on the area analysed, which corresponds to the diameter of the infrared beam.

For the indirect method the operator:

a.   transfers the rinsed contamination from the Petri dish to the infrared-transparent window, and

b.   positions the solvent containing the contaminants in the area of the infrared beam.

The efficiency of transfer and deposition is dependant on the operator. The training scheme is specified in clause 5.4.5.

C.2   Optimization of equipment

C.2.1   Noise reduction

C.2.1.1.   Dispersive infrared

The signal to noise (S/N) ratio for a dispersive instrument is given as a function of the wavelength resolution. Low signal to noise means low resolution. This is due to the use of slits. The resolution is not the most important factor of the analysis and can be set for this type of equipment between 8 cm^{-1} and 16 cm^{-1}.

C.2.1.2.   Fourier transform infrared

For FTIR equipment there are several aspects that can influence the S/N ratio. The signal to noise ratio given by the manufacturer is commonly determined at 2 100 cm^{-1}. This is because the highest energy from the source is in this range and there is no interference of peaks from water vapour.

In most cases, a DTGS detector is favourable for high-energy measurements and it also has a wider dynamic range compared to an MCT.

The S/N is measured over three ranges:

1.   3 000 cm^{-1} - 2 800 cm^{-1},

2.   1 800 cm^{-1} - 1 500 cm^{-1},

3.   900 cm^{-1} - 700 cm^{-1}.

These three ranges correspond to lower energy levels. However, the range 3 000 cm^{-1} - 2 800 cm^{-1} contains peaks from water vapour which results in lower S/N levels than those defined by the manufacturer, but are in this case, more relevant for calculating the detection limits.

For an FTIR spectrometer, a resolution of 4 cm^{-1} is adequate; higher resolution results in more noise. The spectrum is derived from the ratio between a number of sample scans and a number of background scans. The number of sample

scans is usually equal to the number of background scans, but the S/N ratio of the background should not be lower than the one from the signal. The collected spectrum should not be smoothed to get a better S/N ratio.

When optimizing the S/N ratio the following applies:

a.   The optimum mirror speed and zero filling on.

b.   The optimum number of scans. The S/N ratio is improved by a factor of $\sqrt{number\ of\ scans}$. The limit is the stability of the equipment.

c.   The best apodization function and phase correction.

d.   The amount of energy to the detector should be kept below saturation point.

e.   If the energy to the detector is too high, the beam should not be made smaller by adjusting the aperture. This makes the spot on the sample smaller and thus makes it more difficult to position the contamination in the analysing area. Therefore, for example, germanium windows or maze filters are used to receive the optimum energy on the detector.

The manufacturer should be consulted for the optimum settings of the infrared spectrometer. The optimum protocols are stored and used for the actual measurements.

C.3   Calibration

C.3.1   General

The standard materials used for the IR analysis (see Table C-1) are used typically in a laboratory. If different types of contaminants are frequently found, individual calibration curves for each type of contaminant are made.

C.3.2   Preparation of calibration standards

The standards used for the IR-analysis are summarized in Table C-1. A typical process for the preparation of the standard is summarized below:

a.   A high purity reference material is chosen (examples are given in Table C-1.

b.   For the preparation of the stock solution, chloroform of spectroscopic grade, having a non-volatile residue (NVR) < 5 μg/g, is used. Before preparing the stock solution, the spectrum of the NVR from 10 ml of chloroform is recorded; the absorbance level is lower than 0,0001 AU.

c.   A stock solution is prepared from the reference standard with the appropriate concentration in chloroform (e.g. 25 mg in 250 ml for C = 0,1 g l^{-1}). For wider concentration ranges, more than one stock solution can be prepared (e.g. solution A: 12,5 mg in 250 ml for C = 0,05 g l^{-1}, and solution B: 25 mg in 50 ml for C = 0,5 g l^{-1}).

d.   The standards are conserved in a cool and dark area and the evaporation of the chloroform is limited by sealing the measuring flask.

NOTE   An example of recommended concentration ranges is given in Table C-1.

Table C-1: Volumes to be applied from stock solutions and respective target amounts

Stock solution	Volume (μl)	Target amount (g)
A	1,0	$5,0 \times 10^{-8}$
A	2,5	$1,3 \times 10^{-7}$
A	5,0	$2,5 \times 10^{-7}$
B	1,0	$5,0 \times 10^{-7}$
B	2,5	$1,3 \times 10^{-6}$
B	5,0	$2,5 \times 10^{-6}$
B	10,0	$5,0 \times 10^{-6}$

Note: Example volumes include a rather high volume of 10 μl, which in experience of some operators can lead to overflow if applied immediately to the window. To avoid the issue of overflow apply the volume sequentially.

Alternative calibration methods are being explored and include the use of spin-coating technique. Initial results from spin coating of films of standard ECSS calibration compounds in mixtures with perdeuterated polymer matrix show that this approach is a promising alternative to the solution-based manual calibration.

C.3.3   Calibration curve

A graph can be plotted of all the values measured, with the absorbance ($A = \text{Log}(I_0/I)$) of the standard material versus mass. An example of a calibration curve for DOP, on a double logarithmic scale, is shown in Figure C-1.
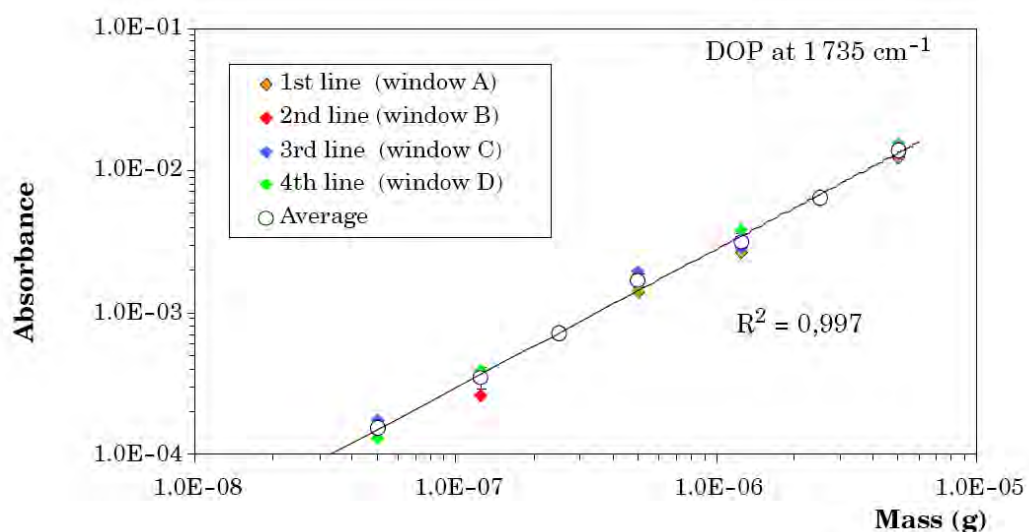
Figure C-1: Example for a calibration curve

It is important that the same method (e.g. peak height or peak area, or setting a base line) is used for the experiment and the calibration.

The best fit (usually a linear line or power curve) through the average points constitutes the calibration curve and can be used for quantification analysis.
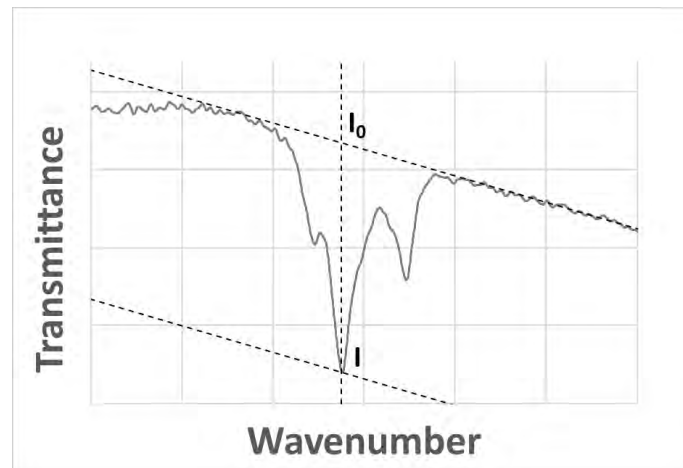
The peak height can be measured using the method indicated in Figure C-2. An alternative method is to calculate the corresponding peak area.

Figure C-2: Measurement of peak heights

As an example, Table C-2 shows the data obtained using the direct calibration method on a system with a beam diameter of 7 mm (0,38 cm²). The peaks at $1\,260$ cm^{-1} and $1\,120$ cm^{-1} were selected, to be used with CaF$_2$ windows. These calibration lines are examples and are not generally applicable. Individual calibration lines are determined for each spectrometer, transfer process and operator.

Table C-2: Example results of the direct calibration method

Standard	Equation mass (g) =	Noise level (AU)	Detection limit (10^{-7}g)	Wave number (cm^{-1})
Paraffin	$5,55 \times 10^{-4} \times$ absorbance ^{1,34}	0,000 15	0,1	2 920
DOP	$7,72 \times 10^{-4} \times$ absorbance ^{1,29}	0,000 1	0,1	1 735
DC 200	$3,66 \times 10^{-4} \times$ absorbance ^{1,14}	0,000 1	0,2	1 260
DC 710	$5,84 \times 10^{-3} \times$ absorbance ^{1,38}	0,000 1	0,3	1 120

Annex D (informative)
Interpretation of infrared spectra

D.1 Qualitative interpretation of spectra

The different types of contamination present can be determined by examining the absorption bands of the spectra obtained from the analyses. Contamination in spacecraft and vacuum chambers commonly comprises mixtures of several contaminants. This makes it more difficult to identify the type and origin of the contamination. The "Micro-VCM" materials screening method (ECSS-Q-ST-70-02) provides infrared spectra of the volatile condensable products released from the materials tested and these can be used as standards in contamination monitoring tests.

Past experience of numerous analyses has indicated that in general the contaminants can be divided into four main groups:

a.   hydrocarbons,

b.   esters,

c.   methyl silicones,

d.   phenyl silicones

See Figure D-1 to Figure D-3 for example spectra for these four main groups. The main IR absorption bands for each group are attributed in Table D-1.

The ester band at about 1 735 cm^{-1} and the confirmatory bands between 1 300 cm^{-1} and 1 100 cm^{-1} indicate the type of ester (aryl or alkyl ester of aromatic or aliphatic acid). For a phthalate ester (mostly used as a plasticizer) the typical bands are the doublet at 1 600 cm^{-1} and 1 580 cm^{-1} with intensities of about 1:11 of the 1 735 cm^{-1} band. For human grease the ester or acid doublet at 1 735 cm^{-1} and 1 710 cm^{-1} are typical. Alkyl or aryl esters have also typical bands in the hydrocarbon region as indicated in Table D-1.

Methyl and phenyl silicones have different IR spectra, but both have bands at about 805 cm^{-1}. From the ratio of the bands at 1 430 cm^{-1} and 790 cm^{-1}, the contribution of the phenyl silicones to the 805 cm^{-1} band can be calculated for defined compounds. Methyl and phenyl silicones generally do not have a band at 2 925 cm^{-1} or at 1 735 cm^{-1}.
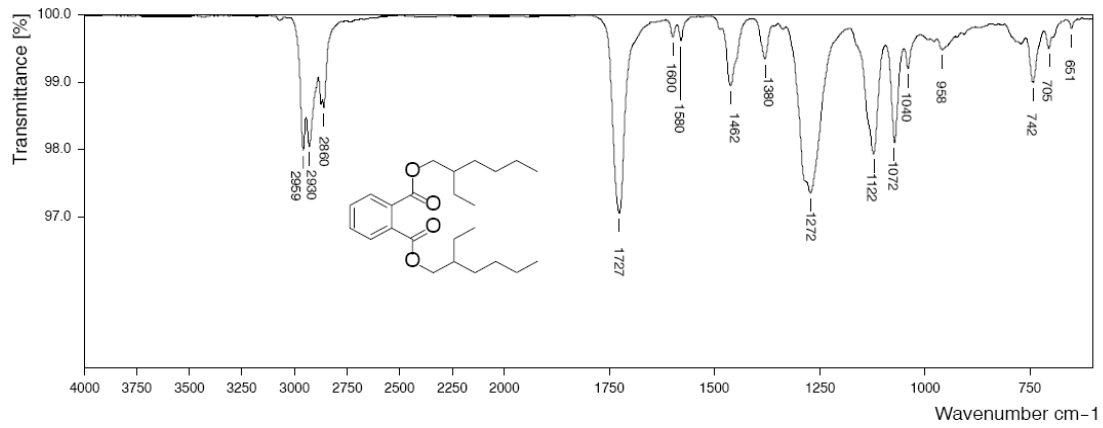
Figure D-1: Characteristic spectrum of bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate
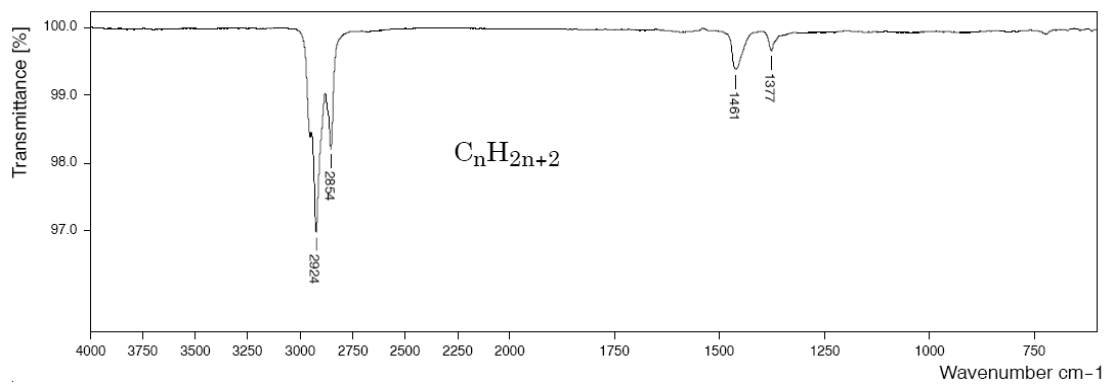
Figure D-2: Characteristic spectrum of a long chain aliphatic hydrocarbon

Figure D-3: Characteristic spectrum of poly (dimethylsiloxane)
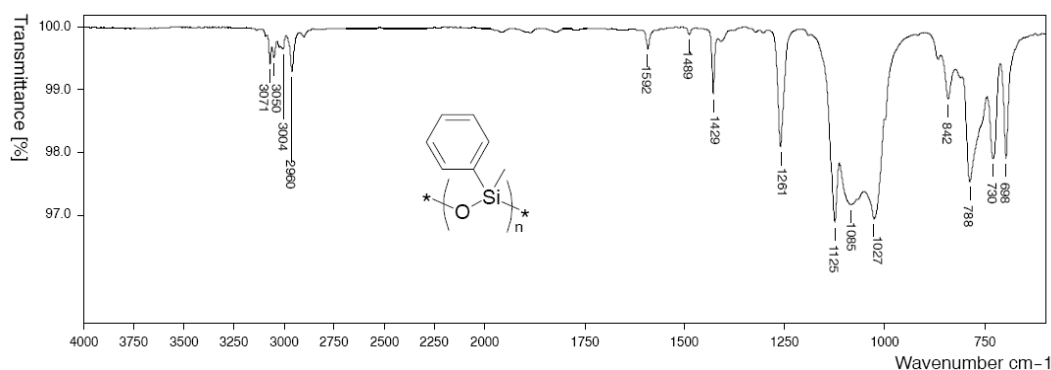
Figure D-4: Characteristic spectrum of poly (methylphenylsiloxane)

Table D-1: Assignment of infrared absorption bands for the four main groups of contaminants

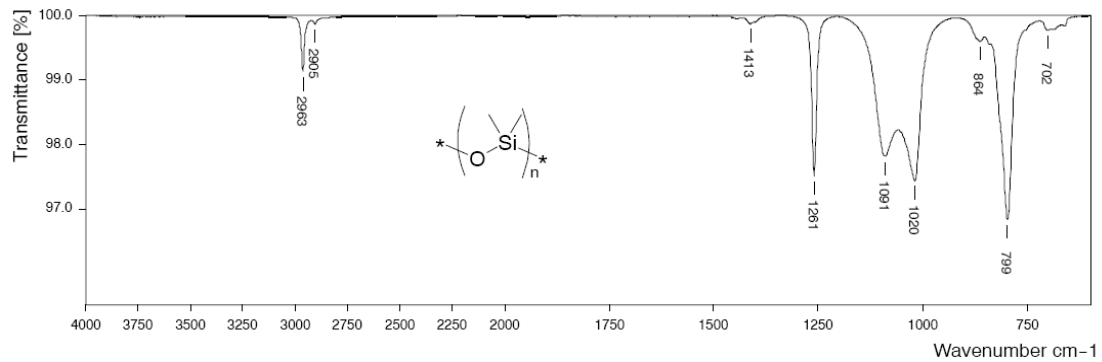| Type of contaminant	Characteristic wave number (cm⁻¹)	Functional group	Signal strength [a]	Remarks
Hydrocarbons	3 000 - 2 850	Alkanes (CH, CH₂, CH₃)	s	2 or 3 bands, stretching
	3 100 - 3 020	Alkenes	m	Stretching
	1 470 - 1 440	-CH₃	ms	Asymmetric deformation
	1 390 - 1 370	-CH₃	m	Symmetric deformation
Esters	1 750 - 1 735	C=O	s	Stretching (saturated ester)
	1 300 - 1 050	C-O	s	Stretching
Methyl silicones	1 280 - 1 255	Si-CH₃	vs	CH₃ deformation
	1 130 - 1 000	Si-O-Si	s	Asymmetric stretching
	860 - 760	Si-CH₃	vs	Si-C stretching or CH₃ rocking [b]
Methyl phenyl silicones	1 280 - 1 255	Si-CH₃	vs	CH₃ deformation
	1 130 - 1 000	Si-O-Si	s	Asymmetric stretching
	1 125 - 1 100	Si-Aryl	vs	
	860 - 760	Si-CH₃	vs	Si-C stretching or CH₃ rocking [b]

[a] Strength of signal: vs = very strong, s = strong, ms = medium to strong, m = medium.

[b] One methyl: 765 cm⁻¹; two methyls: 855 cm⁻¹ and 800 cm⁻¹; three methyls: 840 cm⁻¹ and 765 cm⁻¹.

D.2   Quantitative interpretation of spectra

The quantitative interpretation of IR spectra is not always simple. In some cases, the exact type of contamination is unknown, and insufficient material is available to make a calibration curve.

The quantification in infrared spectroscopy is based on the Lambert Beer's law, in which a relationship is made between the absorbance and the concentration of a compound at a specific wavelength (equation (D-1).

$$Absorbance = \log\left(\frac{1}{T}\right) = \log\left(\frac{I_0}{I}\right) = \varepsilon_\lambda l C \qquad (\text{D-1})$$

where

T is the transmittance

I_0 is the intensity of incident light

I is the intensity of transmitted light

ε_λ is the molar absorption coefficient at a given wavelength ($l\ mol^{-1}\ cm^{-1}$)

l is the path length (cm)

C is the molar concentration ($mol\ l^{-1}$)

To quantify organic contamination, the absorbance is expressed as the mass of a standard material per surface area unit. The trend line (ideally linear) is calculated from the calibration points.

$$Absorbance = f(Mass) \approx Constant \times Mass \qquad (\text{D-2})$$

$$Surface\ contamination = \frac{Absorbance}{Surface\ area} \qquad (\text{D-3})$$

Calibration curves are derived from pure standard materials characteristic of the four main groups of contaminants (for examples see Figure D-1 to Figure D-4) unless the contaminant matches the calibration standard, quantification is always relative to the reference material and thus semi-quantitative.

Contamination levels are expressed in terms of the presence of the four main groups: hydrocarbons, esters, methyl silicones, and phenyl silicones. Calculations are performed using their characteristic group frequencies (see the detailed procedure in Annex C), whereas the peak maximum of the same vibration mode is selected as used for deriving the calibration curve.

The selected absorbance yields the mass of the contaminant via the calibration curve (equation (D-2) in units of corresponding grams of the standard material. This is subsequently expressed in terms of mass per surface area unit (equation (D-3) for the analysed region.

If a new contaminant is encountered, it can be quantified by performing an individual calibration curve (if a standard material is available).

New calibration curves are established for each different spectrophotometer.

For highly outgassing materials, quantitative information can also be obtained from the "Micro-VCM" infrared spectra since the accuracy of the weight of the contamination can be measured to about 10 μg.

D.3   Acceptance criteria

The acceptance criteria are normally defined by the customer. General guidelines for cleanliness and contamination control are given in ECSS-Q-ST-70-01.

Annex E (informative)
The use of molecular witness plates for contamination control

E.1 General

In this Annex, the handling and use of molecular witness plates is described. It is written as a practical guide. The method used to analyse the plates corresponds to the infrared method.

E.2 Design of the witness plates

Stainless steel polished plates can be used to verify the cleanliness level of satellite hardware by being exposed adjacent to it, or they can be used to monitor the deposition of contamination in a test area such as cleanrooms and vacuum chambers.
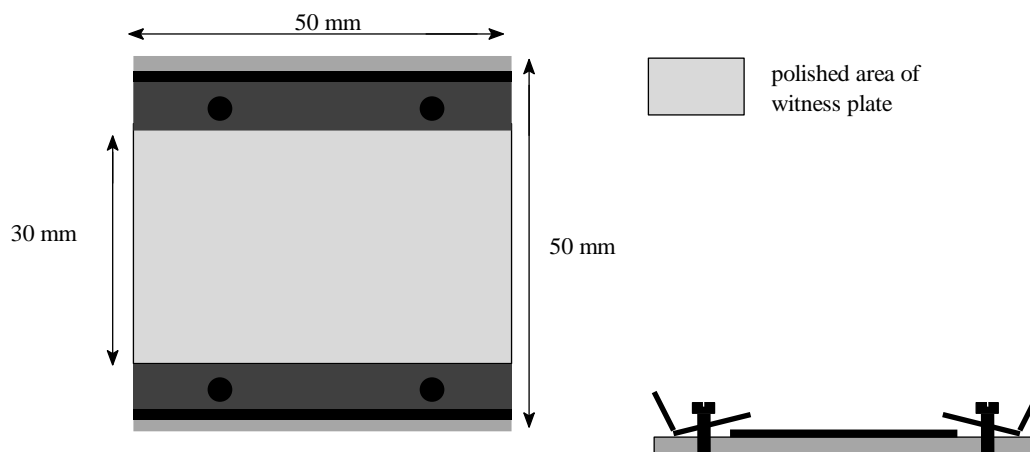
Figure E-1: Witness plate holder and witness plate used for organic contamination control

Use witness plates of (50 × 30) mm (as shown in Figure E-1) for handling, it is fixed onto a stainless steel or aluminium holder of (50 × 50) mm with fixed upstanding bolts that are used for mounting the witness plate.

E.3 Cleaning the witness plates

E.3.1 General

Witness plates are cleaned by the provider of the witness plates.

E.3.2 Materials

a. Chloroform of spectroscopic grade with NVR < 5 µg/g and stabilized with ethanol.

b. Glass Syringe: 10 ml, plunger coated with PTFE.

c. Transport container, preferably metal.

d. Tweezers.

e. Solvent resistant clean gloves.

f. Tissue, cotton, lint free.

g. Ultrasonic bath.

E.3.3 Procedure

a. Clean the polished stainless steel witness plate and holder in an ultrasonic bath with a suitable solvent, to remove excessive contamination, and rinsed with de-mineralized water or spectroscopic grade solvents. For low levels of contamination UV-O3 cleaning can be used as an alternative.

b. Clean the witness plate with a tissue and chloroform.

c. Handle the witness plate using tweezers and rinsed with chloroform three times using a syringe held at an angle of 60°.

d. The last droplet of chloroform at the bottom of the plate can be tapped off against the tissue.

e. Rinse the holder with chloroform in the same way as the witness plate (using tweezers).

f. Reassemble the holder and witness plate without touching the surface of the polished plate.

E.4 Storage and transport of witness plates

a. After cleaning, store the witness plates in a pre-cleaned box (e.g. metal).

b. Ensure that the box does not cause any detectable contamination on the witness plates.

c. Pack the box in a clean ESD bag. The bag does not contain any volatile organic processing aids, e.g. slipping agents that can cause molecular contamination.

d.   Ensure that the following criteria apply for the packaging:

1.   Absence of organic coating on the inside of the box.

2.   Absence of open holes.

3.   Tightness of the lid.

4.   If it is a lid to be taped, an adhesive tape with low out-gassing values (e.g. polyimide tape with acrylic adhesive) should is used.

5.   The contact surface between the box and the lid is not painted.

6.   The clean bag in which the box is packed is sealed or closed airtight.

e.   Transport the plates at a temperature between 10 °C and 30 °C.

f.   Ensure that the plates are not stored in the vicinity of high out-gassing materials or water.

g.   Ensure that the packaging is opened in a clean environment by qualified personnel.

E.5   Handling of witness plates

a.   Fix the witness plate onto a holder.

b.   Ensure that the surface of the witness plate is not touched and not breathed upon.

c.   Handle the witness plate holder by the upstanding edges with tweezers or with gloves of cleanroom quality.

d.   Ensure that the witness plate is not used when it is stored, unused, for more than two months, and that after such a period the witness plate is sent back to the supplier.

E.6   Exposure of witness plates

a.   Molecular contaminants consist of organic molecules that are condensable under an ambient environment. When molecules are adsorbed onto a surface, the surface temperature, the environmental pressure, as well as the vapour pressure of the contaminant, influence the time that the molecule is resident on the surface.

b.   To obtain representative results during the exposure experiment, the witness plate is subjected to the same conditions as the hardware.

c.   Witness plates should be placed in, for example, vacuum systems or cleanrooms, at locations around the hardware and near potential sources of contamination, e.g. in the vicinity of soldering or other "dirty" activities.

d.   The cleanliness acceptance levels are defined in ECSS-Q-ST-70-01. For vacuum systems the acceptance limits are given for a representative blank test over a period of at least 24 hours. The acceptance level for

cleanrooms is defined after an exposure of one week. For a continuous verification in a cleanroom, one of the following exposure sequences can be applied:

— Method 1

    (a)   Two witness plates are placed adjacent to each other at the same location.

    (b)   Plate 1, the (accumulated) witness plate, is the witness for the total exposure time. Plate 2, is replaced weekly (weekly requirements according to ECSS-Q-ST-70-01), every two weeks, or monthly.

    (c)   Plate 2 is analysed to verify the cleanliness for the exposed period (a week, two weeks, month).

    (d)   If contamination is evident from plate 2, then plate 1, the accumulated witness plate, can be analysed to confirm the results of plate 2.

    (e)   If there was no contamination problem during the total exposure time, plate 1 can be analysed to quantify the accumulated contamination levels.

— Method 2

    (a)   Two witness plates are placed adjacent to each other at the same location.

    (b)   One of the witness plates, plate 1, is analysed after exposure for one week and replaced by a new one.

    (c)   The second witness plate, plate 2, is exposed for two weeks, then analysed and replaced by a new witness plate 2.

    (d)   If there is a contamination problem, witness plate 2 can be analysed in order to confirm the results of witness plate 1.

e.   After exposure, the witness plate is packed immediately and sent as soon as possible to the laboratory that performs the analysis. The NVR should be analysed according to this Standard, not later than 4 weeks after the end of the exposure experiment.

f.   When applying long exposure times to witness plates, there is a proportional accumulation of contaminants when the contamination rate is expressed in time units, which are different from the exposure times.

E.7   Witness plate information sheet

A witness plate information sheet should be filled in and a logbook kept for all witness plates that are used for contamination detection. This information sheet is sent with the packed witness plate to the laboratory for analyses. An example of a witness plate information sheet is given in Figure E-2.

Witness plate information sheet

Project:	Specimen verified:
Cost code:	Date:
Test centre:	Chamber/Cleanroom:
Initiator:	Results to:

Description of test (number/name, conditions, time, temperatures and pressure):

Witness plate no.	Location of witness plates	Exposed (date, days, hours)

Figure E-2: Example of a witness plate information sheet

Annex F (informative)
Collecting molecular contamination from surfaces by wiping and rinsing

F.1   Introduction

F.1.1   General

Wiping and rinsing is the only method for verifying contamination levels on non-witnessed surfaces. This Annex describes the methods for cleaning, necessary tools, and the wiping and rinsing process.

F.1.2   Wiping methods

There are two wiping methods: a dry and a wet method. The dry wiping method can be used, in most cases, on painted surfaces and on plastic foils. The wet wiping method is only used on surfaces that are compatible with the solvents. Typical solvents are spectroscopic grade IPA or chloroform.

The wiping method can be used to indicate the level of contamination of a specific surface. When comparing the results of measuring contamination from wipes or using witness plates, the witness plates provide, in most cases, more reliable results for the following three reasons:

a.   The transfer of contaminants from the surface using the wiping method is never 100 %. This is especially critical if the contaminants have poor solubility or are cross-linked e.g. by UV-induced deposition.

b.   The wiping method has a higher background signal in FTIR than the witness plate analysis; therefore a surface of about 100 cm^2 should be wiped (if possible). However, for highly contaminated surfaces it should be taken into account that the large amount of material on the IR-transparent window can lead to a saturation of the signal.

c.   The results of wiping a coated or a plastic surface indicate contamination at that area, including the dissolved surface material.

The higher background signal of the wipes can be corrected by subtracting the spectrum of a blank wipe and from the solvent NVR.

F.1.3   Rinsing method

The rinsing method can only be used when the rinsing solvent can be collected directly or by being absorbed in a clean tissue, and when the surface is compatible to the solvent used.

In most cases the rinsing method has a lower background signal compared to the wiping method. Another advantage of rinsing over wiping is that wiping can damage sensitive surfaces because the surface has been "touched" using some force.

F.2   Preparations

F.2.1   General

The tissues used for wiping are prepared by the tissue provider. The user should not perform any cleaning on the tissue.

F.2.2   Materials for wiping and rinsing

a.   Tweezers: 145 mm curved 45°

b.   Tweezers: 145 mm straight.

c.   Glass Syringe: 10 ml, plunger coated with PTFE (for rinsing and wiping).

> NOTE   Plastic syringes are not being used because the rubber plunger contains silicone.

d.   Lens tissue, cleaned, e.g. tissue paper for cleaning optical glasses, size 100 mm × 150 mm.

e.   Petri dish: 70 mm diameter (for rinsing).

f.   Glass bottle with lid, cleaned.

g.   Plastic lids often supplied with glass bottles can contain some mould release agent on the surface. If they are not be properly cleaned, it cannot be ensured that cross-contamination is prevented.

h.   Chloroform of spectroscopic grade, NVR < 5 µg/g.

i.   Isopropyl alcohol (2-propanol) of spectroscopic grade, NVR < 5 µg/g.

j.   Acetone of spectroscopic grade, NVR < 5 µg/g.

F.2.3   Cleaning of filter papers, foam rubbers and tissues

The tissues are cleaned as follows:

a.   Cut tissues into the appropriate dimensions for wiping. e.g. pieces of 100 mm × 50 mm.

b.   Place the tissues in a Soxhlet extraction unit.

c. Perform extraction by using acetone for four hours.

d. Replace the solvent with chloroform, extract for 12 h, replace with fresh chloroform and extract for another 12 h.

e. After extraction, analyse a representative tissue according to 5.2.3.3.

f. If the tissue contains more than 5×10^{-7} g contamination (corrected for solvent background), continue extraction until an acceptable background level is achieved.

g. Store the cleaned tissues in a special container or directly in a clean glass bottle.

F.2.4   Cleaning of bottles and Petri dish

Glass bottles are cleaned by rinsing the bottle with the appropriate solvents (the final solvent being chloroform) and dried by holding it upside down.

Petri dishes are cleaned in the same way as glass bottles. If the lid is made of polyethylene, the caps can contain a slipping agent used during production. This can be removed with clean isopropyl alcohol and chloroform.

F.2.5   Controlling the quality of the solvent

The quality of the solvent used for cleaning the materials and for the wiping procedure is evaluated as follows:

a. A known quantity of solvent (e.g. 10 ml) is evaporated and the residue weighed using a micro-balance.

b. Furthermore, an infrared analysis is performed, conforming to this Standard, to establish the necessary data for spectral corrections.

A quick check of the purity of the solvents can be performed by dripping a few droplets from the filled syringe onto a clean witness plate and visually observing the residue on the surface after evaporation. If the residue is visible to the naked eye, the solvent cannot be used.

> NOTE   Since contamination levels lower than 10^{-6} g cm^{-2} are hardly visible to the naked eye, this visual method can only be performed by experienced people.

F.3   Performing the wipe and rinse method

F.3.1   Wiping method

The wiping method consists of the following steps:

a. Clean a syringe and two pairs of tweezers with relevant solvents and finally with chloroform before use.

b.   Remove a cleaned tissue from the transport container using the straight tweezers.

c.   Fold the tissue a few times, using both tweezers, until it can be used as a little "sponge".

d.   Hold the folded tissue with the curved tweezers and wipe the several times in four directions. When performing a wet wipe, the tissue is moistened with the solvent prior to wiping.

e.   After wiping, leave the tissue until all the solvent has evaporated. The tissue is then placed in the glass bottle, the lid closed, the bottle numbered, and the NVR analysed according to this Standard.

f.   The location wiped, the total area, the solvent used, and the type of surface wiped are recorded. See F.4 for a sample information form.

F.3.2   Rinsing method

The rinsing method consists of the following steps:

a.   Clean the Petri dish that is used as the solvent collector and a syringe with the relevant solvents (and finally chloroform).

b.   The surface area to be cleaned can be rinsed gently using the syringe containing the solvent without wetting surrounding areas. The solvent is collected directly in the Petri dish.

c.   Leave the collected solvent in the Petri dish to evaporate and analyse the NVR according to this Standard.

d.   If NVR is part of the test. A second Petri dish containing the residue of a known amount of clean solvent should also be analysed.

e.   The amount of solvent used, the type of solvent, the location that has been rinsed, the type of surface and the area rinsed are recorded. See F.4 for a sample information form.

F.4   Sample information form

When the wiping and rinsing procedures are performed, a record is kept of the sample identification and all the information relevant for the analysis. This information is sent to the laboratory that performs the analysis. An example of a sample information form is given in Figure F-1.

Sample information sheet		
Project:		**Specimen verified:**
Cost code:		**Date:**
Test centre:		**Chamber/Cleanroom:**
Initiator:		**Results to:**
Reasoning for wiping and rinsing:		
Type of wiping method: WET/DRY		
Type of solvent used: Chloroform/isopropyl alcohol/other:		
Volume of solvent used:		
Sample no.	**Location**	**Surface area (cm²)**

Figure F-1: Example of a sample information form

Annex G (informative)
Contact test

G.1   Introduction

The contact test is performed in order to measure the contamination transfer of materials, which can come into contact with spacecraft hardware. Examples of these materials include: packaging materials, shielding materials such as covers and gloves, or materials that are not intended for use under vacuum. The use of the contact test for molecular contamination control is described.

The contact test is also used to verify the contamination transfer from materials, which can come in contact with spacecraft hardware. The samples are placed in direct contact with aluminium foils and compressed with a force of about 100 N cm^{-2} for 1 h, which is comparable to manual pressure.

G.2   Contact test

G.2.1   Materials and equipment

a.   Chloroform of spectroscopic grade, NVR < 5 µg/g.

b.   Glass Syringe: 10 ml, plunger coated with PTFE.

c.   Petri dish: ranging in diameter from 50 mm to 70 mm.

d.   Tweezers.

e.   Aluminium foil: approximately 16 µm thick.

f.   Two aluminium plates of at least 100 mm × 100 mm surface area and 5 mm thickness.

g.   Hydraulic press capable of applying a force of 10 kN.

G.2.2   Procedure

The procedure consists of the following steps:

a.   Cut the aluminium foil into pieces that are the same size as the aluminium plates (about 100 mm × 100 mm).

b.   Cut the sample into pieces of 100 mm × 100 mm. Provide traceability of gloves and bags with inner and outer sides.

NOTE   Smaller samples can be used if they are adjusted to ensure that the same pressure is applied.

c.   Clean the aluminium plates with the syringe containing chloroform. The plates are marked as A and B.

d.   Clean the aluminium foils with chloroform until no contamination can be measured using the infrared method. Handle the foils only with tweezers.

e.   Place the aluminium foil with the glossy side up on the aluminium plate A. The glossy side is in contact with the sample.

f.   Place the first sample on the clean aluminium foil. Record the orientation of the sample to this first foil (inner or outer side) side.

g.   On top of the sample, place another clean aluminium foil with the glossy side towards the sample. This results in one sample sandwiched between two aluminium foils.

h.   Place the aluminium plate B on top of the sandwiched sample.

i.   Place the package with the two aluminium plates between the hydraulic press and apply a force that corresponds to a pressure on the sample of 100 N cm^{-2} for 1 h. For example, if the size of the sample is $100 \text{ mm} \times 100 \text{ mm}$, the force is 10 kN.

j.   After 1 h release the pressure and remove the aluminium plate B.

k.   Rinse the side of the aluminium foil that was in contact with the sample with chloroform.

l.   Collect the chloroform in a Petri dish.

m.   Analyse the NVR.

Annex H (informative) Immersion test

H.1 Introduction

An immersion test consists in measuring the extractable contamination potential of materials that can come in contact with spacecraft hardware

This Annex explains the immersion test in detail. It is performed for measuring the extractable contamination potential of materials that can come into contact with spacecraft hardware. This includes, for example, packaging materials, gloves, shielding materials such as covers, wipes or other cleaning materials, which are not intended to be used under vacuum. The use of the immersion test for molecular contamination control is described.

The immersion test is developed to verify the potential extractable contamination from materials with solvents. The samples are submerged in a NVR solvent for 15 minutes and the extracted contaminants are analysed. The most common NVR solvent is chloroform, however some materials can be chemically attacked by it. The types of contaminants that are expected are, for example, organic antistatic additives, slipping agents, mould release agents, or residual monomers from polymerization processes.

H.2 Immersion test

H.2.1 Materials and equipment

a. Spectroscopic grade solvent with NVR < 5 μg/g: Examples include chloroform, isopropyl alcohol (IPA), hexane, mixture of 1,1,1-trichloroethane : ethanol = 3:1 (ASTM E 1560).

b. Glass syringe: 10 ml, plunger coated with PTFE.

c. Petri dish: ranging in diameter from 50 mm - 70 mm.

d. Tweezers.

H.2.2 Procedure

The procedure consists of the following steps:

a. Cut the sample into small parts, for example, thin films to 30 mm × 30 mm, or wires to 30 mm length.

b.   Place the sample into a Petri dish and immerse with 3 ml of NVR solvent.

c.   Cover the Petri dish with a lid for 15 min.

d.   Take the sample out of the solvent and rinse with 1 ml of NVR solvent on both sides.

e.   Analyse the NVR.

   NOTE   Gravimetric determination of the NVR can be performed if applicable.

Annex I (informative)
REACH exemption documentation

I.1   Introduction

This Annex provides the exemption documentation for the use of bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (EC number 204-211-0, CAS number 117-81-7) within the scope of this standard, according to REACH Articles 56(3)1 and 3(23) "use in Scientific Research and Development".

The purpose of this documentation is to detail and confirm the requirements for the exemption from REACH authorisation under Title VII of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) for the substance use(s) specified herein. The documentation can be used to show compliance with the REACH authorisation provisions, in relation to the use described, to REACH competent authorities and other third parties.

I.2   Scope of exemption justification

I.2.1   Overview

The purpose of this Annex is to define the scope of the exemption documentation in terms of substance, use and legal entity(ies) (downstream user(s)).

I.2.2   Substance

Substance name:	Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (SEHP), synonym dioctylphthalate (DOP)
EC Number:	204-211-0
CAS Number:	117-81-7
Intrinsic property(ies) from REACH authorisation list:	Toxic for reproduction (category 1B)
Sunset date:	21st February 2015

I.2.3 Description of uses

The Substance is used as a reference standard material for detection of organic contamination on surfaces by infrared spectroscopy. This method is used to verify that the stringent contamination and cleanliness control requirements applied to spacecraft materials and associated equipment are met.

The Standard prescribes exclusively laboratory use of the substance in minute quantities for establishing a calibration line for quantification of molecular contamination levels of surfaces. The use of the substance as a standard material is mandatory according to clause 5.4.3.1 and Table 5-1.

I.2.4 Legal entity(ies)

This documentation covers the described use of the mentioned Substance(s) by legal entities based in the European Economic Area using the Substance according to the Standard. Entities wishing to rely on this documentation are reminded to follow the safety instructions in the supplier's safety data sheet and any applicable local rules and guidelines in their country.

I.3 Exemption clause

According to REACH Article 56(3)1 an exemption from the authorisation requirement applies to the use of substances in scientific research and development (SRD), i.e. any scientific experimentation, analysis or chemical research carried out under controlled conditions in a volume less than one tonne per year; (REACH Article 3(23)).

The terms "scientific experimentation, analysis or chemical research" and "under controlled conditions" are not further defined in the REACH legal text, and therefore require further interpretation.

I.4 Fulfilment of exemption conditions

I.4.1 Overview

The fulfilment of exemption conditions is based on a comparison of the actual use patterns with the legal terms as interpreted by ECHA and national competent authorities. Based on these interpretations the fulfilment of the exemption conditions is detailed hereafter for REACH Article 3(23).

I.4.2 Interpretation: Any scientific experimentation, analysis or chemical research

I.4.2.1. Analytical activities such as monitoring and quality control.

For example routine quality control or release tests in laboratory scale using the substance as extraction solvent or analytical standard.

The substance is used as analytical standard for detection of organic contamination of surfaces by infrared spectroscopy according to the ECSS standard ECSS-Q-ST-70-05. The Standard prescribes exclusively laboratory use of the substance in minute quantities for establishing a calibration line for quantification of molecular contamination levels of surfaces. The use of the substance as a standard material is mandatory according to clause 5.4.3.1 and Table 5-1, as the material is characteristic of the most common organic esters (see Annex C.1.1).

I.4.3 Interpretation: Carried out under controlled conditions

I.4.3.1. Explicit requirements set out by the competent authorities

No explicit requirements are identified.

I.4.3.2. Applicable EU, national, regional or local legislation on environmental protection or health and safety at work that the use is compliant with

Entities wishing to rely on this documentation are reminded to follow the safety instructions in the supplier's safety data sheet and any applicable local rules and guidelines.

I.4.3.3. Intrinsic Annex XIV property(ies)

The Substance is included in Annex XIV because it is classified as toxic for reproduction (category 1B), i.e. because it is hazardous for human health. It has also been identified on the candidate list for the additional reasons of being of equivalent level of concern due to its endocrine disrupting properties (Article 57 f – environment and human health).

I.4.3.4. Handling steps (technological processes)

This can include activities such as change of drums, testing of materials compatibility, loading, off-loading, cleaning/decontamination of equipment, waste treatment, and disposal. Please recall the REACH definition of "use" of a substance meaning "any processing, formulation, consumption, storage, keeping, treatment, filling into containers, transfer from one container to another, mixing, production of an article or any other utilisation" (REACH Article 3(24)).

It is mainly the transfer of a small amount (as below) into a flask and dilution with a solvent. The most practical approach is to do that by weight, i.e. the operator puts about 25 mg of DOP with a Pasteur pipette into the flask. The actual concentration of the solution is calculated from the actual mass rather than trying to get exactly 25 mg. Key handling steps include:

- Preparation of calibration standard according to Annex C.3.2. A typical solution contains 25 mg of the Substance in 250 mL chloroform. From there 1-10 µL are taken with a gas-tight syringe for measurement.

- Transfer of calibration standard onto IR transparent window according to clause 5.4.3 of the ECSS-Q-ST-70-05, the transfer of the above solution via syringe is described in detail under 5.4.3.2c of the ECSS-Q-ST-70-05.

- A calibration curve contains 5 different concentrations at minimum, each in triplicate so 15 times syringe transfer from solution to IR transparent window.

- The windows are re-usable, i.e. the DOP is rinsed with a solvent into a waste container.

I.4.3.5.   Containment of the substance during use

The following containment devices are used (in chronological order) to contain the Substance during use and thus prevent/minimize exposure of workers and the environment:

- The bottle containing DOP is kept closed until transferred, once the right amount of DOP is in the flask both can be closed and transferred again.

- It is important to perform the dissolution of the DOP with solvent in a fume hood, as far as required by local rules and guidelines. The same applies to the transfer of the droplets onto the window.

Furthermore, the Standard prescribes:

- in requirement 5.1.1b that "*Hazardous substances* (such as the Substance), *items and operations shall be isolated from other activities*".

- in requirement 5.1.3a that "*Materials used in the process shall be stored in a controlled area*". Requirement 5.4.3.1m further provides that "*The standard materials* (such as the Substance) *shall be conserved in a cool and dark area and the evaporation of chloroform limited by sealing the measuring flask*".

I.4.3.6.   Exposure control

The procedure is intended for calibration of an analytical method and thereby already at the level of trace amounts. Residual exposure to operators can be minimised by performing the application of the calibration solution onto the window in a fume hood. Environmental exposure is controlled by usage of waste containers for chemicals.

I.4.3.7. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The following requirements prescribe that:

- Requirement 5.1.1f *"Before starting any operation, safety hazards shall be identified, and the necessary precautions taken to minimize risks, for example use of protection devices when chloroform is used"*.

- Requirement 5.1.1g. *"Operations requiring safety suits and protection devices shall be initiated after the personnel involved have the required protection, including any specific protection devices available at work-place"*.

Examples of PPE used during Substance handling include: standard good laboratory practice is applied

I.4.3.8. Special procedures applied before cleaning and maintenance

Not applicable: The life-cycle is application, measurement and cleaning.

I.4.3.9. Other risk management standards (if any)

The following requirements describe hazard, health and safety precautions:

- Requirement 5.1.1a: "*Unavoidable hazards to personnel, equipment and materials shall be controlled by risk management procedures and kept to a minimum*".

- Requirement 5.1.1c: "*Items and controls shall be located in order to prevent personnel to be exposed to hazards*".

- Requirement 5.1.1e: "*Hazardous items, equipment or facilities shall be clearly marked to instruct personnel to take the necessary precautions*".

Cleanliness requirements are set out in clause 5.1.2.1.

Quality assurance records and log sheets shall be retained for ten years. The log sheets shall include among others (see clause 5.4.1):

- *"Trade names and batch numbers of the materials under test*

- *Name of the manufacturer or suppliers through whom the purchase was made*

- *Summary of the preparation and conditioning schedule including the cleaning procedure"*.

Training (clause 5.4.5)

- *"Trained and competent personnel shall be employed for all calibration and analysis operations.*

- *A training programme shall be developed, maintained and implemented.*

- *Trained personnel performing calibration and analysis shall be certified"*.

Users are required to comply with the safety instructions in the REACH safety data sheets provided by the Substance supplier.

I.4.4 Interpretation: In a volume less than one tonne per year

I.4.4.1. Per substance per legal entity (sum up volumes of multiple use sites, laboratories or analyses within the same entity)

About 30 mg/year, if the guidelines of ECSS are followed. A maximum of few 100 mg/year can be possible, if different flask volumes and dilution series are used.

I.5 Conclusion

The use of the given Substance in accordance with ECSS-Q-ST-70-05 and its clause 4 in particular is exempted from REACH authorisation according to REACH Articles 56(3)1 and 3(23).

Entities wishing to rely on this documentation are reminded to follow the safety instructions in the supplier's safety data sheet and any applicable local rules and guidelines in their country.

It is important to update the REACH exemption documentation in case of relevant revisions of ECSS-Q-ST-70-05.

Annex J (informative) Establishing Limit of Detection in Direct Method

J.1 Introduction

This annex provides technical background and examples associated with determination of the limit of detection of the direct method of MOC measurements. The annex supports set of requirements in clause 5.4.3.6.2.

It is important to note that the analysis described herein should not be used for optimisation of the LoD, but rather, should be only used to reflect the true value of LoD.

The spectra and analyses in this annex are shown on transmittance axis. However, the same operations can be done on absorbance axis, if necessary. For simplicity only transmittance axis analysis is included herein.

J.2 Procedure of MOC measurement according to the direct method

In order to prepare ground for the description of the determination of limit of detection it is necessary to describe a typical step-by-step process of acquisition of a direct-method MOC spectrum. A typical procedure of establishing MOC surface concentration involves the following steps:

1. Acquisition of clean-window (*clean*) FTIR transmission spectrum of a clean witness window (typically ZnSe or CaF2), $T_{clean}(\nu)$, where ν stands for frequency in cm^{-1}. This transmission spectrum is calculated from measured single-channel FTIR spectrum of an empty instrument chamber, $B(\nu)$, and a single-channel spectrum of a clean witness window, $S_{clean}(\nu)$:

$$T_{clean}(\nu) = \frac{S_{clean}(\nu)}{B(\nu)}$$

2. Exposure of the clean witness window for a known period of time

3. Acquisition of exposed-window (*exp*) FTIR transmission spectrum of contaminated witness window, $T_{exp}(\nu)$. Typically:

$$T_{exp}(\nu) = \frac{S_{exp}(\nu)}{B(\nu)}$$

where:

$S_{exp}(\nu)$ is a single-channel FTIR spectrum acquired for the exposed witness window and $B(\nu)$ is a single-channel FTIR spectrum of an empty instrument chamber.

4. Calculation of the transmission spectrum of the MOC present on the surface of the witness window:

$$T_{MOC}(\nu) = \frac{T_{exp}(\nu)}{T_{clean}(\nu)}$$

5. Analysis of $T_{MOC}(\nu)$ with particular focus on four frequency regions: ~2920 cm^{-1} for hydrocarbons, ~1735 cm^{-1} for esters, ~1260 cm^{-1} for methyl silicones, and ~1120 cm^{-1} for methyl-phenyl silicones. In the course of this analysis an operator (or software) is required to recognise a presence or an absence of a IR transmittance-loss peak (an example of an operator-based analysis is shown in Figure 1) around each frequency region of interest. The threshold above which the signal is recognised is called limit of detection.

6. Calculation of absorbance of each peak of interest based on the estimated values of baseline transmittance (T_0 in **Figure J-1**) and peak minimum (T in **Figure J-1**). In case absorbance mode is used during measurements, the above calculation is performed automatically by the software using the following relationship:

$$10^{-A} = \frac{T_0(\nu)}{T(\nu)}$$

7. Calculation of the MOC surface concentration (g/cm^2) based on instrument calibration data.
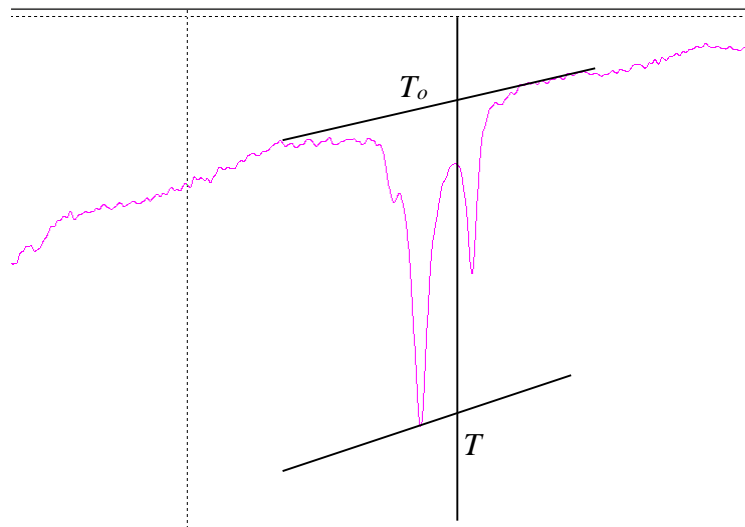
Figure J-1: Determination of T_o and T for quantification

# J.3 Quantification of noise in direct method measurement

They key concepts in the determination of the LoD are the noise and the signal. Unfortunately, there are many possible interpretations of what the noise and signal actually are in MOC measurement. This and next sections provide a definition of noise and signal in a direct-method MOC measurement which should be used in the determination of LoD of the direct method. This description is in line with the requirements given in clause 5.4.3.6.2.

Figure J-2 shows an example of a $T(\nu)$ spectrum of a clean CaF_2 witness window referenced to a spectrum from another measurement of the same clean window. Spectrum $T(\nu)$ was calculated by dividing $T_{clean,1}(\nu)$ of the clean window by $T_{clean,2}(\nu)$ of the same clean window, where $T_{clean,1}(\nu)$ stands for the first spectrum of the clean window and $T_{clean,2}(\nu)$ stands for the second independently measured spectrum of the same clean window. Clearly, the spectrum shows a non-flat baseline (note the increase in transmittance around 1000 cm^{-1}) and some noise is present in the spectrum. This noise is most pronounced around 1500 cm^{-1} where water vapour dominates the spectrum. There are four spectral regions of interest for the direct method of MOC measurements: ~2920 cm^{-1} for hydrocarbons, ~1735 cm^{-1} for esters, ~1260 cm^{-1} for methyl silicones, and ~1120 cm^{-1} for methyl-phenyl silicones. Figure J-3 shows zoomed in spectrum of window #1 in the above spectral ranges of interest.
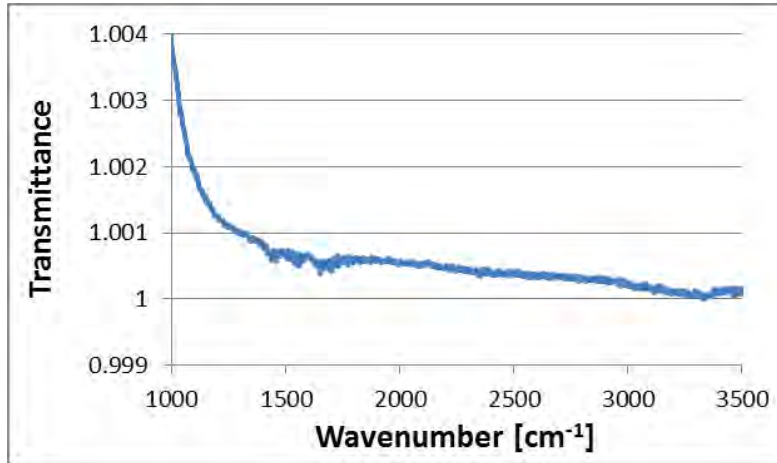
Figure J-2: Transmission spectrum of a clean CaF2 witness window

There are two major features of each spectrum shown in **Figure J-3**: (i) the baseline of each spectrum is clearly not flat and can be successfully fitted using a second order polynomial (red line in each spectrum) and (ii) there is a substantial noise of the experimental data points around the baseline.
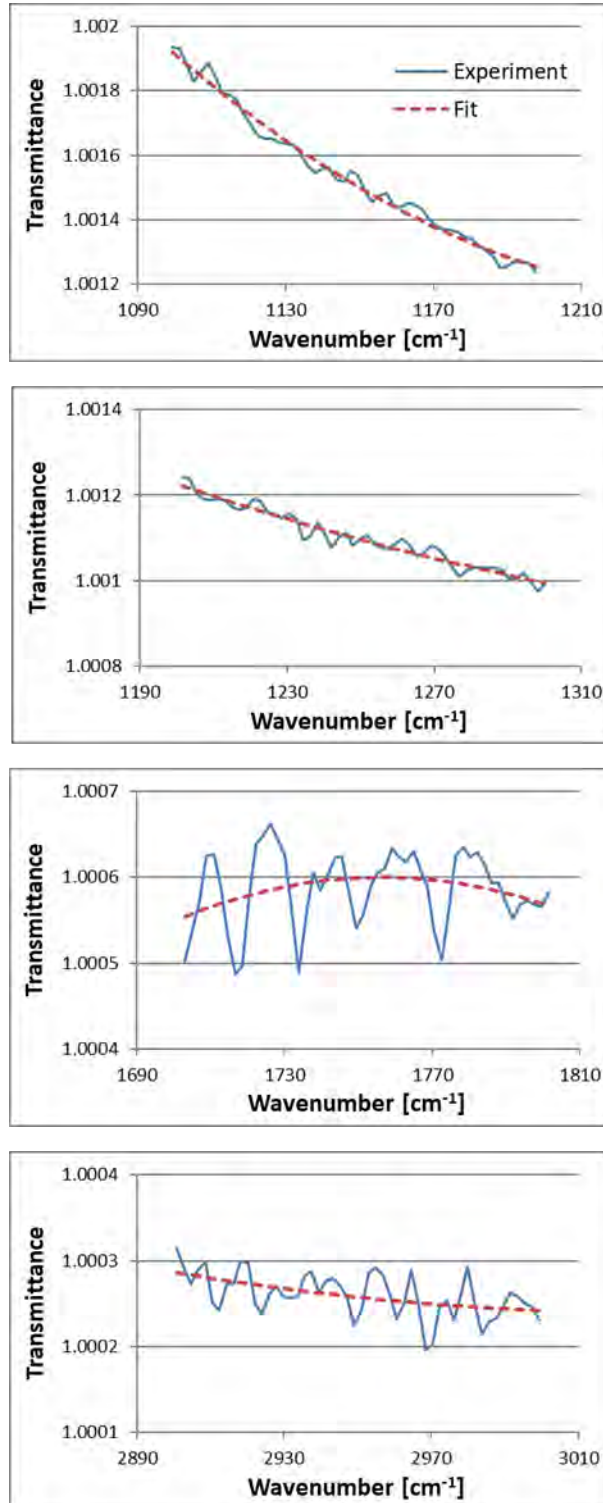
The red line in each spectrum represents a second order polynomial function which was found to best fit the experimental data.

Figure J-3: Clean-window transmission spectra of a CaF2 witness window in the spectral ranges of interest. Each blue line represents experimental as measured data
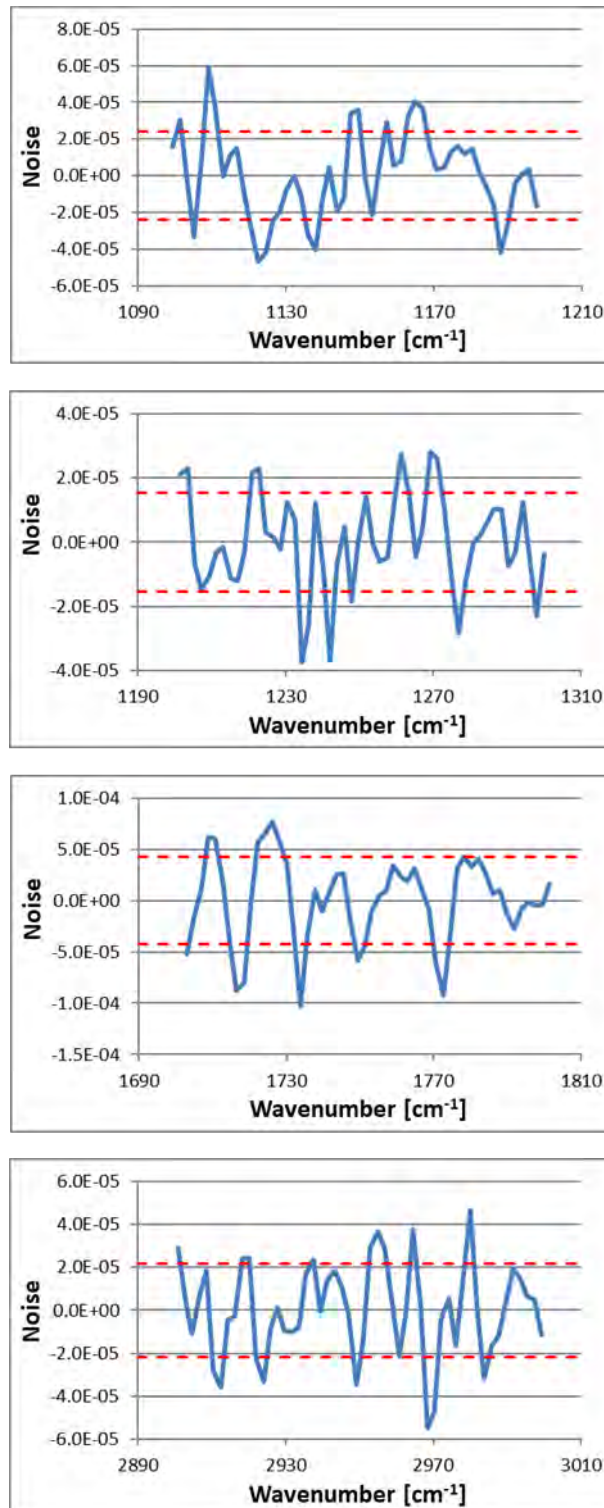
The noise values were calculated by subtracting a best-fit quadratic function from the experimental data. The top and bottom red line in each graph represents the *+stdev* and *–stdev*, respectively.

Figure J-4: Transmittance noise extracted from transmission spectra of a CaF2 witness window in the spectral ranges of interest

Following the requirements in clause 5.4.3.6.2, noise spectra were calculated from the spectra shown in Figure J-3. These noise spectra are presented in Figure J-4. Importantly, Figure J-4 presents the measure of noise used for calculation of S/N. This measure of noise is considered to be standard deviation based on calculations defined in clause 5.4.3.6.2.

J.4   Definition of the signal in a FT-IR spectrum

MOC measurement according to the direct method is a comparative method. This means that the transmittance measured for the contaminated exposed sample window is typically compared to the transmittance of a clean sample window, as described in the first paragraph of this annex. What follows is that the measured signal of interest is not the measured value of transmittance (which is typically close to 1,0 % or to 100 %), but rather the measured loss of transmittance with respect to the baseline. Figure J-5 shows a simulated IR signal originating from molecular species residing on a witness plate. The signal was simulated on an absorbance scale as a Gaussian peak with a FWHM of 22 cm^{-1} and was then recalculated to transmittance scale using the dependence: $T(v)=10^{-A(v)}$, where $A(v)$ is the frequency dependent absorbance. The signal of interest for MOC surface-concentration determination is represented with the vertical arrow in the graph. Thus, importantly, the signal is not the measured value of transmittance at the peak minimum (that is, the signal value is not 0,999863) but rather, it is the difference between the baseline (in this case 1,000000) and the peak minimum, which in this case brings the signal value, *S*, to $1,37×10^{-4}$ in the units of transmittance loss. Note that in the case of the simulated spectrum shown in Figure J-5 the S/N ratio is infinity, since *stdev* is exactly 0 in this spectrum).
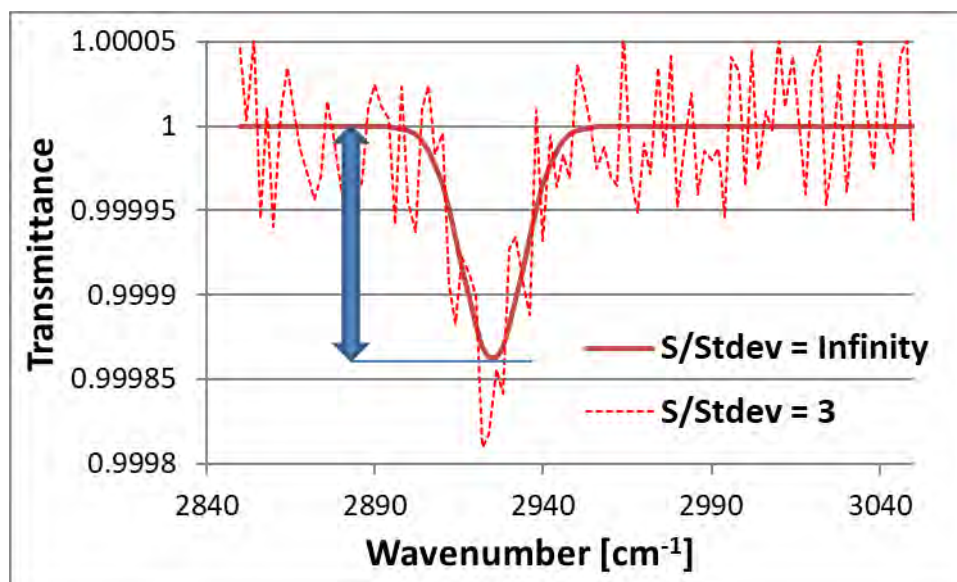
The arrow represents the signal, S, from the perspective of MOC measurement according to the direct method.

Figure J-5: Simulated transmittance spectrum with infinite S/N noise ratio (thick continuous line) and S/N noise ratio of 3 (thin dashed line)

Thus, the signal of interest, S, is calculated from:

$$S(v) = T_0(v) - T(v)$$

where:

T_0 and T are the values of transmittance, as described in J.2 point 6.

Note that in order to satisfy that the S/N ratio in a MOC measurement is at least 3, the following dependence is met, in line with requirements in paragraph 5.4.3.6.2:

$$T_0(v) - T(v) \geq 3 \times N$$

where:

N represents the noise, which is numerically defined as a standard deviation, in line with the requirements in clause 5.4.3.6.2.

J.5 Quantification of Limit of Detection

Taking into account the considerations in J.2, J.3, and J.4, for each spectral region of interest the limit of detection expressed as absorbance g/cm^2 can be calculated using the following equation:

$$LOD_i = f_{cal,i}(A_{min,i})$$

where:

$f_{cal,i}$ is the calibration function for i^{th} region of interest, which relates absorbance value to the surface concentration expressed in g/cm^2

$A_{min,i}$ is the minimum absorbance value for i^{th} region of interest, which can be recognised as being above the detection limit. This minimum absorbance value to be recognised as above the detection limit can be expressed as follows:

$$A_{min,i} = log \frac{1}{1 - 3 \times stdev_i}$$

# Annex K (informative) Establishing Limit of Detection in Indirect Method

K.1 Introduction

This annex provides background and examples associated with determination of the limit of detection (LOD) for the indirect method of MOC measurements and of the closely associated transfer efficiency (TE). The annex supports the set of requirements in clause 5.4.3.7. It is important to note that the discussion and analyses described herein should not be used for optimisation of the LOD and TE, but rather, should be only used to reflect the true value of LOD and TE. The following discussion is applicable to both wipe and rinse methods. However, for the sake of clarity and conciseness the text in the next paragraphs focuses only on the wipe method.

K.2 Statistical Approach Towards Establishing LOD in Indirect Method

As mentioned in the main text of this standard, the approach to establish LOD in the indirect method is conceptually different from the method chosen for the direct method. This contrast between the two methods is particularly obvious for hydrocarbons and esters. Due to the fact that hydrocarbons and esters are always present in each blank measurement, the effective indirect-method LOD is worse than the corresponding direct-method LOD. This effect is especially pronounced when wipe method is used, as it relies on hydrocarbon- and ester-containing tissues. In order to illustrate this issue let us consider a series of blank wipe measurements. In order to simplify the discussion let us only consider MOC measurements of hydrocarbons. A series of blank measurements of wipe method is performed to produce 10000 independent values of surface concentration of hydrocarbon extracts placed onto a witness window (in g/cm^2). Note that such exercise in unlikely to ever happen, as it would be too costly. However, for the sake of the clarity of the illustration provided herein consideration of this large number of blank measurements is necessary. It is expected that the large number of blank MOC values will follow the normal distribution around an average $C^{blank}_{S,Av}$ with a standard deviation, $stdev^{blank}$. An example of such a distribution is shown in **Figure K-1**. Note that the presented example was calculated using a Monte Carlo simulation which was based on a statistical analysis of twenty independent blank-wipe tests performed at ESTEC.
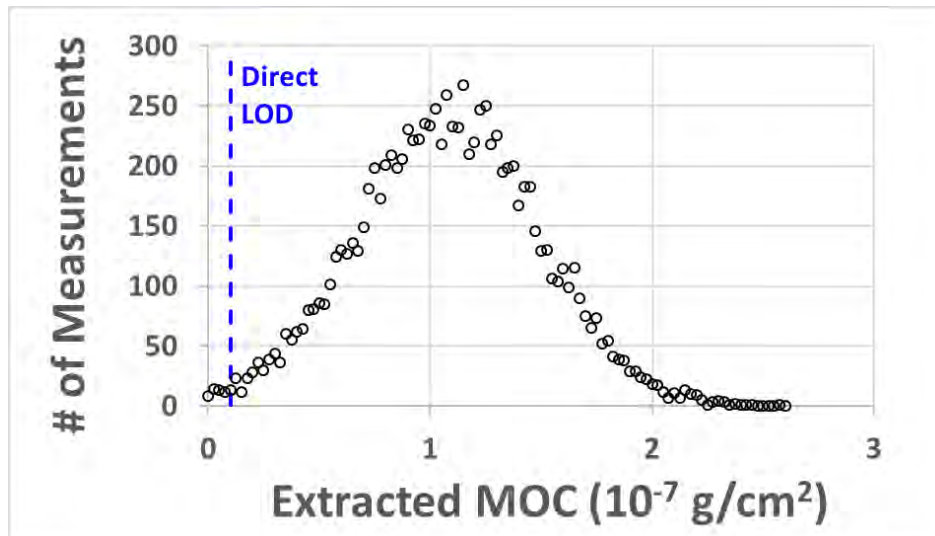
The simulations are based on statistical analysis of data acquired for a much smaller data set at ESTEC. The horizontal axis denotes the as-measured surface concentration of hydrocarbons, measured directly on the witness window onto which the extract was deposited

Figure K-1: Simulation of 10000 independent measurements of normally distributed blank measurements for hydrocarbons

Importantly, the expected values of surface concentration of blank MOC are significantly higher than the associated LOD for direct method for hydrocarbons, as shown in **Figure K-1**. The direct-method LOD is shown with blue dashed line. Thus, even without wiping of the contaminated surface of interest, the MOC measured for a nominally "clean" wipe is expected to be much larger than the direct-method LOD. Again, the simulation shown here is based on real values of blank MOC for hydrocarbons measured at ESTEC. These observations call for a new approach towards calculation of indirect-method LOD. Three simple assumptions are taken here in order to allow for a simple, statistics-based LOD definition for indirect method:

1. MOC measured for blank-wipe extraction and MOC measured for sample-wipe extraction are both assumed to be normally distributed.

2. The standard deviation of the normal distribution of MOC measured for blank-wipe extraction and of MOC measured for sample-wipe extraction are assumed to be the same. This assumption is not conservative.

3. The transfer efficiency of MOC from a contaminated surface onto a wipe is 100%. This assumption is only used in this part of the annex for the sake of simplicity of this discussion. The actual effect of the transfer efficiency on the LOD is expected to be substantial and it is included in the requirements listed in 5.4.3.7.

Figure K-2 demonstrates simulations of both blank-wipe and sample-wipe extracted MOC values, in line with the assumptions above. Note that the presented example for blank wipe(s) was calculated using a Monte Carlo simulation based on a statistical analysis of twenty independent blank wipe tests performed at ESTEC. There are two distinctive scenarios presented in Figure K-2. Scenario a) shows a distribution of sample measurements for a barely measurable sample. In contrast, scenario b) shows a sample which is clearly easily distinguishable from the blank-wipe MOC values; indeed, this sample is around LOD.
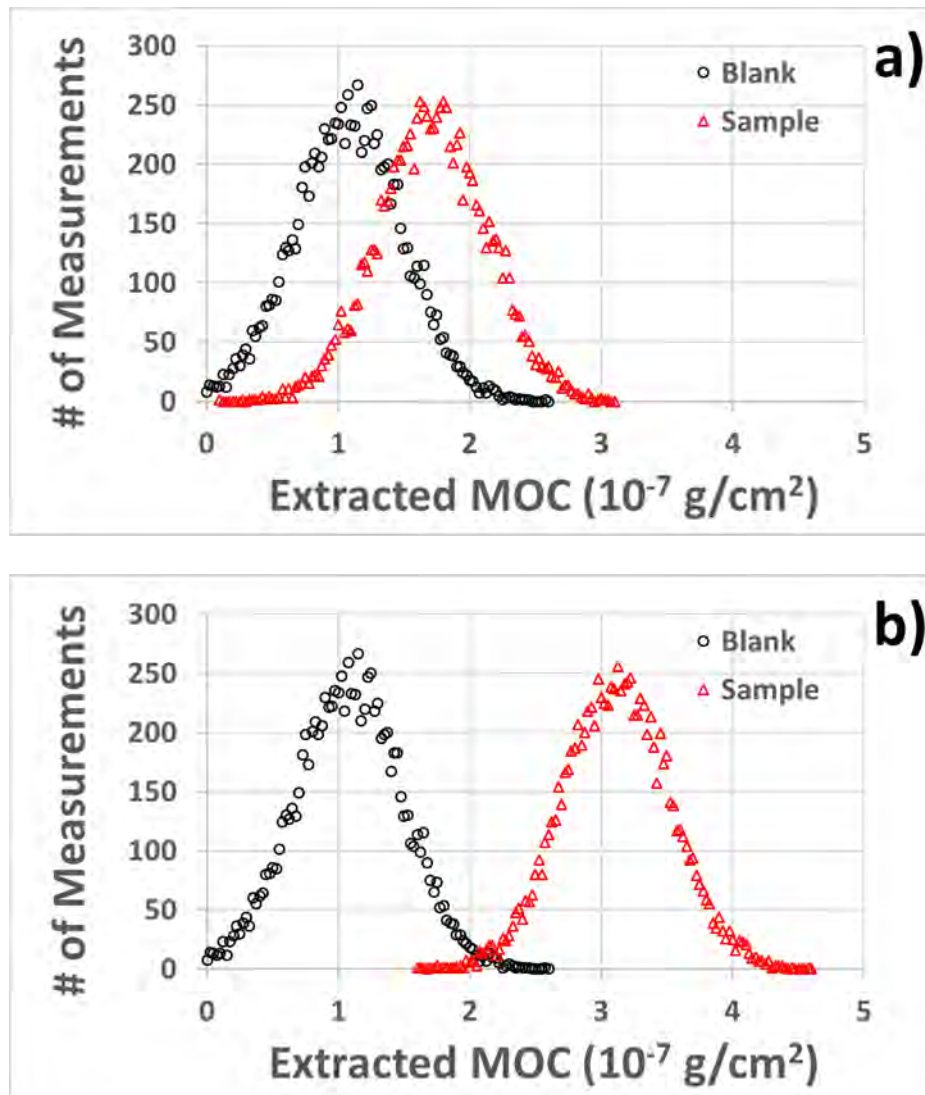
a) The sample is barely measureable (i.e., below LOD).
b) The sample is around LOD. The horizontal axis denotes the as-measured surface concentration of hydrocarbons measured directly on the witness window onto which the extract was deposited.

Figure K-2: Simulation of 10000 independent measurements of normally distributed blank measurements (black) and 10000 independent measurements of normally distributed sample measurements (red) for hydrocarbons

Note that in both cases (scenario a and b) most of the sample-wipe measurements show higher values of MOC than the blank-wipe measurements. This is to be expected as sample-wipe measurements incorporate both hydrocarbons extracted from the nominally "clean" wipe and hydrocarbons extracted from the wiped surface. On the other hand, the blank-wipe measurements show only MOC extracted from nominally "clean" wipe. In practice, in the course of indirect wipe method only two measurements are done: one blank measurement of a nominally "clean" wipe and one measurement of a wipe which was used to wipe the contaminated surface of interest (this is a sample wipe). These measurements are followed by subtraction of the blank MOC from the sample-wipe MOC to produce the surface concentration of MOC collected from the surface of interest, $C_{indirect}$. Figure K-3 shows a simulation of such a calculation. A random blank-wipe MOC with distribution shown in Figure K-2 was subtracted from a random sample-wipe MOC with distribution shown in Figure K-2 for 10000 trials.
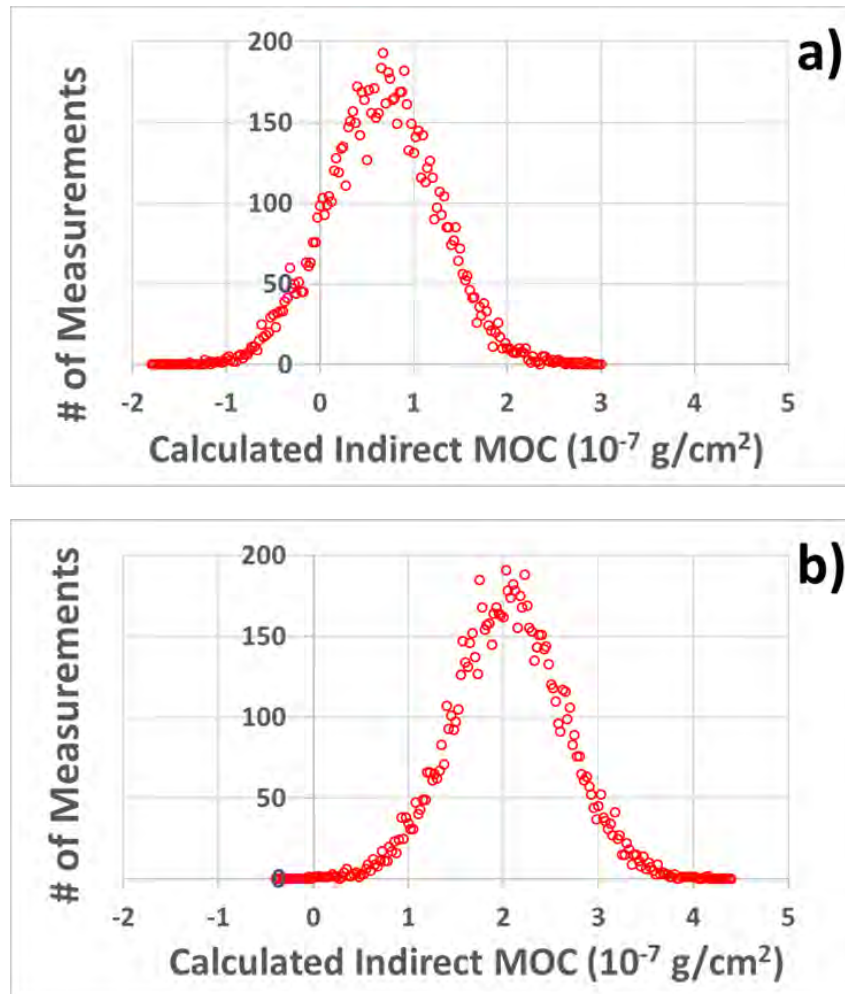
Each data point corresponds to a subtraction of a randomly chosen blank-wipe MOC from a randomly chosen sample-wipe MOC. a) The sample was barely measureable (i.e., below LOD), as shown in **Figure K-2**. b) The sample is around LOD, as shown in **Figure K-2**. The horizontal axis denotes the indirect-method MOC surface concentration calculated for the surface area of the witness window onto which the extracts were deposited.

Figure K-3: Simulation of 10000 calculations of indirect MOC based on 10000 independent measurements of normally distributed sample measurements and 10000 independent measurements of normally distributed blank measurements for hydrocarbons

Importantly, a significant number of calculated values of MOC in scenario a) in Figure K-3 shows negative values of MOC. The negative values clearly have no physical meaning and thus are incorrect. Indeed, analysis of the data shown in Figure K-3a revealed that more than 13% of the calculated values were negative. On the other hand, the values calculated for scenario b) in Figure K-3 are almost exclusively positive (only 0,02% of the values were found to be negative). This observation leads to the definition of the LOD for the indirect method: only sample wipes which contain MOC extracted from a surface of interest at LOD or above are taken into account for analysis. This approach ensures that almost every single measurement of blank wipe and sample wipe will result in a positive value of the surface concentration of MOC collected from the surface of interest. In line with requirements in clause 5.4.3.7 and with some simplifications, the indirect-method LOD equals $3 \times stdev^{blank}$.

NOTE   The simplifications include the assumption of 100% transfer efficiency and the assumption that the surface area of the contaminated surface of interest is the same as the surface area of the witness window on which the extract was deposited.

This definition ensures that the vast majority of measurements of blank wipes and sample wipes will result in positive values of the surface concentration of MOC collected from the surface(s) of interest. Figure K-4 shows a simulation of blank measurements and sample measurements for the contamination extracted from a surface of interest, which is exactly at LOD. Note that the limit of blank (LOB) describes the surface concentration of blank-wipe MOC below which 97,5% of all blank measurements are expected to be found. The value of LOB is calculated from simple considerations of a normal distribution: $LOB = C^{blank}_{S,Av} + 2 \times stdev^{blank}$.
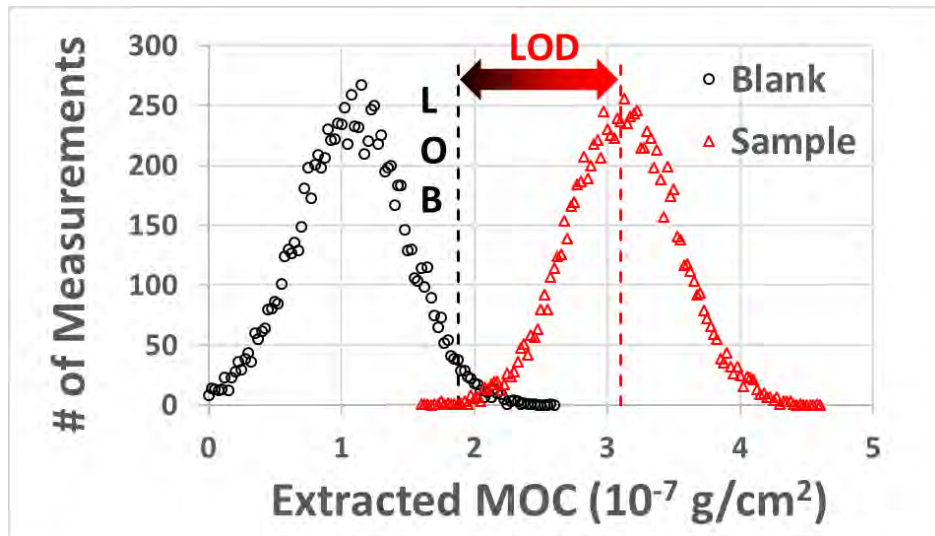
The wipe-sample normal distribution was chosen to demonstrate the measured values corresponding to surface concentration of MOC collected from the surface of interest at LOD. Note that the LOB is shown here with a dashed black line.

Figure K-4: Simulation of 10000 blank measurements and 10000 independent sample measurements for hydrocarbons

While it is highlighted in **Figure K-4**, it is important to note that the indirect-method LOD is not directly measurable in a single measurement. The reason for this fact is that in the indirect method every measurement of the MOC collected from a surface of interest is mixed with the intrinsic MOC present in the nominally "clean" wipe. Further, it is important to realise that the figures presented herein are based on thousands of simulated values of MOC and are only used to aid the discussion. In practice the well-defined normal distributions will not be known. Rather, an average of blank measurements, $C^{blank}_{S,i,Av}$, and standard deviation of blank measurements, $stdev_i^{blank}$, are expected to be known. Indeed, the requirements in clause 5.4.3.7 are defined in order to calculated the values above. These values, combined with other measurable quantities allow for calculation of indirect-method LOD.

K.3 Example of Data Treatment for Calculation of Indirect-Method LOD

K.3.1 Overview

This clause provides an example of calculations of indirect-method LOD. For the sake of simplicity only hydrocarbons are considered. However, it should be noted that the requirements in clause 5.4.3.7 are written for all four chemical groups of interest. Further, this example focuses on the wipe method. However, the overall approach and simple mathematical operations performed here are valid for both wipe method and for rinse method.

There are two separate steps necessary for calculation of indirect-method LOD:

1. Measurements of five blank wipes and establishment of blank standard deviation, $stdev^{blank}$. These efforts cover requirements included in 5.4.3.7.3.

2. Measurements and calculations of wipe transfer efficiency, TE. These operations address requirements in 5.4.3.7.3.

K.3.2 Blank measurements and blank standard deviation

In order to fulfil the requirements in 5.4.3.7 five independent blank-wipe measurements have to be performed. These measurements should be done in line with the internal procedures and should reflect normal work. Importantly, this effort should not be focused on improving the current processes. Rather, this work should focus on the characterisation of the existing methods.

As stated above, five independent measurements of blank wipes have to be done. Figure K-5 show examples of operations done in line with internal processes at ESTEC. Importantly, each of the steps shown in the figures has to be repeated five times in order to meet the requirements in clause 5.4.3.7.
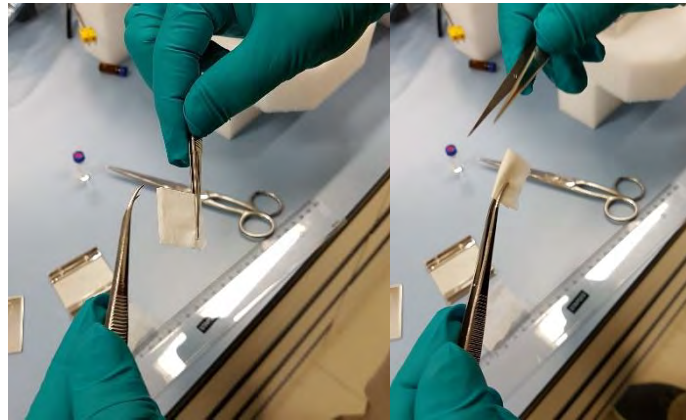
Step 1: Folding of the tissue using a pair of clean forceps. This manual process is repeated five times for five independent wipes, in line with 5.4.3.7.2e.

Step 2: Unfolding a wetted tissue over a clean Petri dish This manual process is repeated five times for five independent wipes, in line with 5.4.3.7.2e.
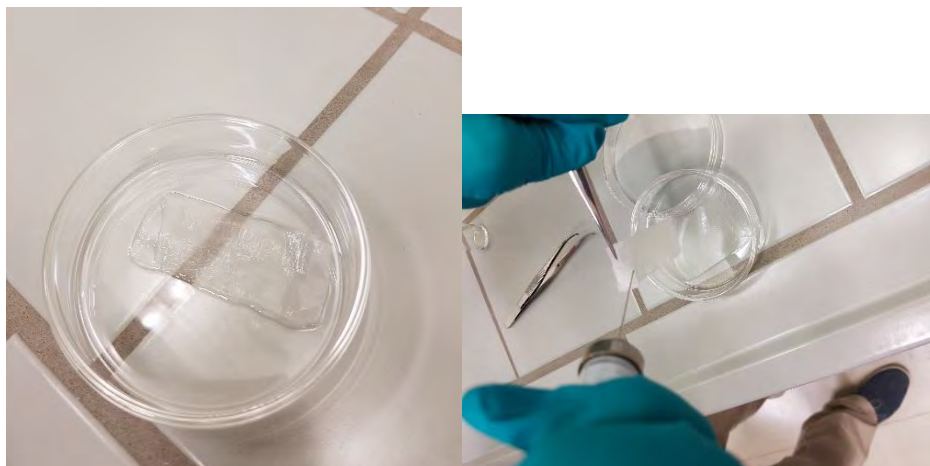
Step 3 and 4: Petri dish containing unfolded tissue covered with chloroform. Right: Process of rinsing the tissue with pure chloroform. Note that these operations are done five times independently, in line with 5.4.3.7.2e.

Figure K-5: Steps of the measurements of blank wipes (example of ESTEC process)

The solvent (e.g., chloroform) containing the MOC extracted from the wipe can then be concentrated and the residual solution of the extract can be transferred onto a witness window. The witness window can then be measured using FT-IR spectrometer. The obtained spectra can then be analysed and the surface concentration of MOC can be calculated based on the calibration curve for the direct method for all four groups of interests. Note that in this case the values of MOC will be expressed in g/cm^2. Since this discussion only focuses on hydrocarbons, these activities will produce five independent numbers of hydrocarbons MOC. An example set of data obtained at ESTEC for hydrocarbons is given in Table K-1:

**Table K-1: Example set of blank data for hydorcarbons**

Blank wipe number	$C^{blank}_{S,1}$ (10^{-7} g/cm^2)
1	1,0
2	1,6
3	1,2
4	1,3
5	1,4
Average, $C^{blank}_{S,\,1,\,Av}$	1,30
$Stdev_1^{blank}$	0,22

Since these values are presented only for hydrocarbons, the index in $C^{blank}_{S,i,Av}$, and in $stdev_i^{blank}$ is set to "1", in line with the equations in 5.4.3.7. The average value of blank, $C^{blank}_{S,1,Av}$, and standard deviation, $stdev_1^{blank}$, reported in the table above were calculated in MS Excel using "AVERAGE()" and "STDEV()" functions, respectively. Note that this approach is in line with requirement 5.4.3.7.3i. It is expected that another set of data for esters will be recorded and analysed. Siloxanes are not expected to be detected in blank measurements, in line with requirement 5.4.3.7.3h.

K.3.3 Measurements and calculations of wipe transfer efficiency

In order to fulfil the requirements in clause 5.4.3.7 three independent samples have to be prepared and analysed for each chemical group of interest. This means that a total of 12 samples have to be made and analysed. Since this annex focuses only on hydrocarbons, the examples shown here are dealing only with this chemical group of interest.

Figure K-6 shows an example of a dummy surface which can be used for a sample preparation. Indeed, the bottom surface of a Petri dish (130 cm^2 in this case) is an excellent dummy surface.
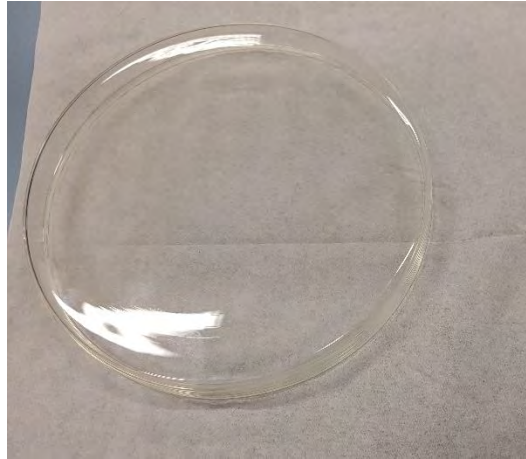
Figure K-6: Example of a dummy surface which can be used to prepare a sample for transfer efficiency measurements

A solution (e.g., chloroform solution) of a known concentration (C_{HC}, expressed in mg/mL), of paraffin can be prepared. Further, a known volume (V_{HC}, expressed in mL) of the solution can be deposited onto the dummy surface (in this case the bottom surface of the Petri dish which is oriented towards the ceiling). This deposition should be done as uniformly as possible. In practice this can be done with a syringe. Importantly, the known concentration of the solution and the known volume of deposition are used to calculate the deposited mass of paraffin for each one of the three samples. As an example, a deposition of 0,1 ml of 0,1 mg/ml chloroform solution of paraffin will result in 0,01 mg of paraffin residing on the dummy surface. Note that one deposition produces one sample. Thus, three independent depositions are needed to produce three samples, in line with requirements in clause 5.4.3.7.4.

Each sample can then be analysed using a standard indirect wipe method for MOC measurements. The result of these three independent analyses will be three values of MOC for hydrocarbons. Note that these values have to be in line with requirement 5.4.3.7.4j. This means that each one of the three MOC values has to be larger than $C^{blank}_{S,1,Av} + 10 \times stdev_1^{blank}$ (where index "1" stands for hydrocarbons). On the specific example of blank values from Table K-1, the hydrocarbon MOC values measured for each one of the three samples has to be above:

$C^{blank}_{S,1,Av} + 10 \times stdev_1^{blank} = 1,30 \times 10^{-7}$ g/cm² $+ 10 \times 0,22 \times 10^{-7}$ g/cm² $= \underline{\mathbf{3,50 \times 10^{-7} \text{ g/cm}^2}}$

Note that this value is specific to the example given here and the value calculated for different laboratories will be undoubtedly different. If all three measured MOC values are above $C^{blank}_{S,1,Av} + 10 \times stdev_1^{blank}$ then a calculation of transfer efficiency can be done. On the other hand, if the measured MOC values are below $C^{blank}_{S,1,Av} + 10 \times stdev_1^{blank}$ then another set of sample preparation and measurement has to be done in such a way that adjusted solution concentration produces the desired value of measured MOC.

When the measured MOC value is larger than $C^{blank}_{S,1,Av} + 10 \times stdev_1^{blank}$ the calculation of *TE* can be easily done. Let's consider an example with keeping in mind that the average value of blank is $1,3 \times 10^{-7}$ g/cm²:

Table K-2: Example transfer-efficiency data set for hydrocarbons

Sample number	$C^{sample}_{S,1}$ (10^{-7} g/cm^2)	$C^{indirect}_{S,1}$ (10^{-7} g/cm^2)	TE_1
1	9,5	8,2	-
2	10,9	9,6	-
3	12,5	11,2	-
Average	11,0	9,7	0,062

As can be seen in **Table K-2**, for each measured sample the value of MOC extracted from the contaminated dummy surface, $C^{indirect}_{S,1,Av}$, can be calculated by subtracting the average value of blank, $C^{blank}_{S,1,Av}$. Recall that the total amount of paraffin deposited onto the dummy sample, m_1, was 0,01 mg, or 1×10^{-5} g. The calculation of the transfer efficiency can be done in line with requirement 5.4.3.7.4n:

$$TE_1 = \frac{a_{win} \times c^{indirect}_{S,1,Av}}{m_1}$$

Note that the index "1" in the equation denotes that the calculated values are for hydrocarbons. a_{win} is the specific surface area, that is, area onto which the extract was homogenously deposited, and which is the same as the footprint of the infrared beam at the window location. In case of ESTEC spectrometer this area is 0,64 cm^2. The simple calculation of results in the TE of 0,062 (or 6,2%).

K.3.4   Calculation of the LOD for indirect method

Equipped with the value of blank standard deviation, $stdev^{blank}$, and transfer efficiency, TE, it is easy to calculate the indirect-method LOD. The calculation of the LOD is thus done in line with requirement 5.4.3.7.4o:

$$LOD_1 = \frac{3 \times a_{win} \times stdev^{blank}_1}{TE_1}$$

where:

a_{win} stands for the specific surface area, that is, area onto which the extract was homogenously deposited (0,64 cm^2 in this example).

Plugging in the known values into the equation above gives the value of LOD for wipe method for hydrocarbons of $4,4 \times 10^{-7}$ g, or 440 ng.

Bibliography

ECSS-S-ST-00	ECSS system – Description, implementation and general requirements
ECSS-Q-ST-70-02	Space product assurance – Thermal vacuum outgassing test for the screening of space materials
ASTM E 131	Standard terminology relating to molecular spectroscopy
ASTM E 1560	Standard test method for gravimetric determination of non-volatile residue from cleanroom wipers

Handbook of Vibrational Spectroscopy; Chalmers, J.M., Griffiths, P.R., Eds.; John Wiley & Sons Ltd., Chichester, UK, 2002

Analytical Chemistry Handbook, J.A. Dean; McGraw-Hill, New York, USA, 1995