



Chemical Fact File®

Methyl ethyl ketone peroxide — NIOSH 3508

NIOSH Method 3508 revises NIOSH P&CAM 331. The working range is 0.11 to 1.1 ppm for a 100-liter air sample. Most ketones will give a positive interference at high levels. Other peroxides or strong oxidant could also interfere.

Required Equipment:

1. An **air sampling pump** capable of sampling at the recommended flow rate with the sampling medium in line, such as:
 - SKC **Universal Sampler**
 - SKC **AirChek® 2000 Sampler**
 - SKC **AirChek XR5000 Series Sampler**
 - SKC **AirChek 52 Sampler**
2. An **air flow calibrator**, such as:
 - Defender Primary Standard Calibrator Cat. No. 717 Series
3. SKC **Impinger** Cat. No. 225-36-1
4. SKC **Impinger Trap** Cat. No. 225-22
5. **Collection Liquid Solution** of 15 ml dimethyl phthalate

Optional Equipment:

1. SKC **Trap Sorbent** Cat. No. 225-22-02
2. SKC **Impinger Holder** Cat. No. 225-20-02 (for area sampling)
3. SKC **Holster** Cat. No. 225-20 or **Impinger Holder** Cat. No. 225-20-01 (for personal sampling)

SKC Application Guides:

1. Sampling Train — Impingers, #1165
2. Calibrating a Pump Using an Electronic Calibrator, #1366

	Ceiling
Flow Rate	1000 ml/min
Sample Time	120 minutes
Air Volume	120 liters
NIOSH REL	0.2 ppm (15 minutes)
<i>(NIOSH Manual of Analytical Methods [NMAM], Fourth Edition, 8/15/94)</i>	

Sampling and Analysis:

1. To set up an impinger sampling train, fill an impinger with the specified volume and type of collection liquid. To protect the pump from splashed or spilled collection liquid, install a solution trap between the impinger and the pump. Solid sorbent can be added to the trap if a volatile liquid is used in the impinger. With flexible tubing, connect the outlet (side arm) of the impinger to the inlet (top) of the trap and connect the outlet (side arm) of the trap to the inlet of the pump. *Request SKC Application Guide #1165 for more information on preparing impinger sampling trains.*

2. For calibrating the pump, use the sampling train described above. Using flexible tubing, connect the impinger inlet (top) to an external flowmeter. Calibrate the pump flow rate to the rate specified in the method. When calibration has been completed, remove the impinger used to calibrate the flow. Save it and the collection liquid for recalibration at the end of sampling. *Request SKC Application Guide #1366 for more information on calibrating a pump.*

3. For sampling, set up a sampling train as above except use a new impinger filled with the appropriate amount of collection liquid. Place the pump, impinger, and trap in the workplace for area sampling. If personal sampling is desired, place the impinger in a holster and attach it near a worker's breathing zone. Attach the pump to the worker's belt. If the impinger is mounted on a worker, avoid activity that could break the glass or cause the collection liquid to splash or spill. Turn on the pump.

4. Sample at an accurately known flow rate for the recommended period of time.

5. At the end of the sampling period, turn off the pump and note the ending time. Quantitatively transfer the collection liquid to a glass vial, making sure to record any pertinent sampling information.

6. Calibrate the pump with the representative sampling media in line to verify that the flow has not changed by more than 5%.

7. Submit blank samples of the collection liquid. Blank samples should be subjected to exactly the same handling as the sample except that no air is drawn through them.

8. Pack the samples, blanks, and all pertinent information securely for shipment to a laboratory for analysis.

Storage:

Store samples at -4 C. Analyze within 3 weeks of collecting the sample.

Analyzing Method:

Visible absorption spectrophotometry (VAS)

Copyright 1992 - 2011

Notice: This publication is intended for general information only and should not be used as a substitute for reviewing applicable government regulations, equipment operating instructions, or legal standards. The information contained in this document should not be construed as legal advice or opinion nor as a final authority on legal or regulatory procedures.