

THE ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY VERIFICATION
PROGRAM



ETV Joint Verification Statement

TECHNOLOGY TYPE: PORTABLE EMISSION ANALYZER

APPLICATION: DETERMINING NITROGEN OXIDES EMISSIONS

TECHNOLOGY NAME: LANCOM Series II Portable Emissions Analyzer

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has created the Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Program to facilitate the deployment of innovative or improved environmental technologies through performance verification and dissemination of information. The goal of the ETV Program is to further environmental protection by substantially accelerating the acceptance and use of improved and cost-effective technologies. ETV seeks to achieve this goal by providing high quality, peer reviewed data on technology performance to those involved in the design, distribution, financing, permitting, purchase, and use of environmental technologies.

ETV works in partnership with recognized standards and testing organizations; stakeholder groups which consist of buyers, vendor organizations, and permittees; and with the full participation of individual technology developers. The program evaluates the performance of innovative technologies by developing test plans that are responsive to the needs of stakeholders, conducting field or laboratory tests (as appropriate), collecting and analyzing data, and preparing peer reviewed reports. All evaluations are conducted in accordance with rigorous quality assurance protocols to ensure that data of known and adequate quality are generated and that the results are defensible.

The Advanced Monitoring Systems (AMS) Center, one of 12 technology areas under ETV, is operated by Battelle in cooperation with EPA's National Exposure Research Laboratory. AMS has recently evaluated the performance of portable nitrogen oxides monitors used to determine emissions from combustion sources. This verification statement provides a summary of the test results for the Land LANCOM Series II Portable Emission Analyzer.

VERIFICATION TEST DESCRIPTION

The verification test described in this report was one of a series of tests conducted in April and May 2000 on commercial portable nitrogen oxides analyzers at Battelle's facilities in Columbus, Ohio. Verification testing of the analyzers involved (1) a series of laboratory tests in which certified NO and NO₂ standards were used to

challenge the analyzers over a wide concentration range and (2) tests using realistic combustion sources, in which data from the portable analyzers undergoing testing were compared to simultaneous measurements of NO and NO_x obtained with two chemiluminescent analyzers.

Verification testing lasted three to four days, of which two days were required for laboratory testing and the remainder for source emissions testing. To assess inter-unit variability, two identical analyzers were tested simultaneously in all tests, and results from the two analyzers were kept separate. The analyzers were operated at all times by a representative of Land and supervised at all times by Battelle staff.

Verification testing focused on measurement of NO and NO₂, the sum of which is denoted as NO_x. Laboratory testing included a linearity test over the entire nominal ranges of the analyzers for both NO and NO₂; estimation of detection limits and response times; interference testing; assessment of sample pressure and ambient temperature effects on analyzer response; and evaluation of zero and span drift during the various laboratory tests. Tests with combustion sources assessed the accuracy of NO, NO₂, and NO_x measurements, relative to the chemiluminescent NO/NO_x approach that is the basis of EPA Method 7E. Sources used in the testing were a gas-fired rangetop burner, a gas-fired water heater, and a diesel-powered electrical generator operated at both idle and at high RPM. These sources produced NO_x emissions ranging from less than 10 to about 350 ppm. Zero and span drift resulting from exposure to source emissions were assessed, and analyzer stability was monitored during one hour of uninterrupted sampling of diesel emissions.

Quality assurance (QA) oversight of verification testing was provided by Battelle. Battelle independent QA staff conducted a technical systems audit, a performance evaluation audit, and a data quality audit of 10% of the test data. Battelle testing staff conducted a performance evaluation audit, which was reviewed by independent QA staff.

TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION

The LANCOM Series II weighs 13.2 pounds, has the dimensions of a standard laptop computer, and measures up to seven flue gases (O₂, NO, NO₂, CO (low), CO (high), SO₂, and hydrocarbons). Analyzer options include semi-continuous monitoring (pre-determined timed sampling intervals), printing, data logging (1,000 records), and serial communications, plus various probe lengths. All gas measurements can be stored, downloaded, or printed. The LANCOM Series II offers on-board diagnostics, accessible filters and water catchpot, and a “semi-continuous” operating mode. It provides ppm conversions (mg/m³, lb/mBTU, etc.), oxygen normalization, and total NO_x, on a wet or dry basis.

The LANCOM Series II systems components are mounted on molded PVC and sheathed in corrosion-resistant plastic. The analyzer can be operated when worn on a shoulder strap or free-standing on the ground. All controls are on the top of the instrument. The batteries are mounted at the bottom of the case, which provides enhanced stability when the instrument is on the floor. The large capacity water catchpot is mounted on the side of the instrument on a hinged assembly. The particulate and chemical filters are also mounted on the side of the instrument. All measured parameters and operator interface are displayed on a full function alphanumeric/graphic liquid crystal display. The LANCOM Series II contains two 6V batteries capable of powering the instrument for eight hours in the field.

VERIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE

Linearity: The Land Combustion LANCOM Series II analyzers provided linear response for NO and NO₂ over the tested ranges of 0 to 2,000 ppm and 0 to 512 ppm, respectively. One of the LANCOM units did exhibit a slightly low response to NO₂ above about 250 ppm, perhaps as a result of an older sensor used in that unit.

Detection Limit: Detection limits estimated from these wide-range linearity tests were about 2.5 ppm for NO and 1.5 to 2.3 ppm for NO₂.

