



National Institute of Standards & Technology

# Certificate of Analysis

Standard Reference Material<sup>®</sup> 1800

Non-Methane Hydrocarbon Compounds in Nitrogen

(Nominal Amount-of-Substance Fraction - 5.0 nmol/mol)

*This certificate reports the certified values for Lot 1800-XX-A.*

This Standard Reference Material (SRM) is a primary gas mixture to which the amount-of-substance fraction, expressed as concentration [1], of secondary working standards may be related. The SRM is intended for the calibration of instruments used for trace hydrocarbon determinations in ambient air and for other applications including mobile-source emissions, and the analysis of chemical and combustion process streams.

This SRM mixture is supplied in a DOT 3AL specification aluminum (6061 alloy) cylinder with a water volume of 30 L. Mixtures are shipped with a nominal pressure exceeding 11.7 MPa (1700 psi) which provides the user with 3.5 m<sup>3</sup> of useable mixture. The cylinder is the property of the purchaser and is equipped with a CGA-350 brass valve, which is the recommended outlet for this hydrocarbon mixture. NIST recommends that this cylinder not be used below 0.7 MPa (100 psi).

**Certified Value:** This SRM mixture has been certified for the concentration of fifteen hydrocarbons. The certified values, given in Table 1, apply to the identified cylinder and NIST sample number.

Cylinder Number:

NIST Sample Number:

The uncertainty of each certified value includes the estimated uncertainties in the NIST standards, the analytical comparisons to the lot standard (LS), and the uncertainty of comparing the LS with each of the mixtures comprising this lot. Each uncertainty is expressed as an expanded uncertainty,  $U = ku_c$ , with  $u_c$  determined by experiment and a coverage factor  $k = 2$ . The true values for the non-methane hydrocarbon compounds amount-of-substance fractions are asserted to lie in the interval defined by the certified value  $\pm U$  with a level of confidence of approximately 95 % [2].

**Expiration of Certification:** This certification is valid until **15 May 2005**, within the measurement uncertainties specified, provided the SRM is handled in accordance with the instructions given in this certificate. However, the certification will be nullified if the SRM is contaminated or modified.

**Cylinder and Gas Handling Information:** NIST recommends the use of a high purity, stainless steel, two-stage pressure regulator with a stainless steel diaphragm and CGA-350 outlet to reduce safely the pressure and to deliver this SRM mixture to the instrument. The regulator should be purged several times to prevent accidental contamination of the sample.

The analytical measurements leading to the certification of this current SRM lot were performed by G.C. Rhoderick of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division.

The support aspects involved in the preparation, certification, and issuance of this SRM were coordinated through the NIST Standard Reference Materials Program by J.C. Colbert.

Willie E. May, Chief  
Analytical Chemistry Division

John Rumble, Jr., Acting Chief  
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Gaithersburg, MD 20899  
Certificate Issue Date: 06 November 2001  
*See Certificate Revision History on Last Page*

The overall direction and coordination of the technical work required for certification of this SRM lot were performed by F.R. Guenther of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division.

**Mixture Preparation:** The gas mixtures comprising this SRM lot were prepared in accordance with NIST technical specifications by the Gas Metrology Group at NIST. The specifications stipulate that each SRM mixture be identical in hydrocarbon concentration and stable with time.

**Analytical Methods:** Analyses of the hydrocarbon concentrations for this lot of cylinders were conducted by intercomparing each cylinder mixture to a representative cylinder chosen from the lot, the LS, using a research gas chromatograph (GC) equipped with a flame-ionization detector (FID). Quality assurance analysis of the hydrocarbon concentrations in the LS were accomplished by intercomparison to primary gravimetric standards using the GC/FID.

**Homogeneity Analysis:** Each of the component mixtures, which comprise this SRM lot, was compared to the LS using GC/FID. An analysis of variance indicated that sample-to-sample component concentration differences were not statistically significant. This indicates that within the precision of the NIST measurements, all of the cylinders comprising this SRM lot have identical individual hydrocarbon concentrations. Therefore, a single concentration for each of the fifteen hydrocarbons has been assigned to the entire SRM lot.

**Hydrocarbon Concentration Value Assignment:** The certified hydrocarbon concentrations for this SRM lot were computed from the assigned concentrations for the LS and the homogeneity analysis.

**Stability:** Periodic analyses of SRM units from this lot are performed at NIST to monitor stability. If significant changes in the individual hydrocarbon concentrations are observed, the purchaser will be notified. Refer to the Cylinder and Gas Handling Information section for proper handling of this SRM.

Table 1. Certified Concentration Values for NMHC Mixture 1800\*

Compound	Concentration nmol/mol (ppb)	Compound	Concentration nmol/mol (ppb)
Ethane	5.1 ± 0.2	1-Pentene	5.1 ± 0.2
Propane	5.4 ± 0.2	n-Hexane	5.3 ± 0.2
Propene	5.2 ± 0.2	Benzene	5.2 ± 0.2
iso-Butane	5.5 ± 0.2	n-Octane	5.1 ± 0.2
n-Butane	5.3 ± 0.2	Toluene	5.2 ± 0.2
iso-Butene	5.5 ± 0.2	o-Xylene	5.1 ± 0.2
iso-Pentane	5.8 ± 0.2	n-Decane	5.1 ± 0.2
n-Pentane	5.1 ± 0.2		

\*Each of the certified compounds of the gas SRM is reported as the molar ratio of that compound relative to the total of all other constituents.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Taylor, B.N., "Guide for the Use of the International System of Units (SI)," NIST Special Publication 811, 1995 Ed., (April 1995).
- [2] *Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement*, ISBN 92-67-10188-9, 1st Ed., ISO, Geneva, Switzerland, (1993); see also Taylor, B.N. and Kuyatt, C.E., "Guidelines for Evaluating and Expressing the Uncertainty of NIST Measurement Results," NIST Technical Note 1297, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, (1994); available at <http://physics.nist.gov/Pubs/>.

**Certificate Revision History:** 06 November 2001 (This technical revision reports a change in the expiration date); 27 December 1993 (Original certificate date).

*Users of this SRM should ensure that the certificate in their possession is current. This can be accomplished by contacting the SRM Program at: telephone (301) 975-6776; fax (301) 926-4751; e-mail [srminfo@nist.gov](mailto:srminfo@nist.gov); or via the Internet <http://www.nist.gov/srm>.*