LEAD in Surface Wipe Samples

Pb MW: 207.19 CAS: 7439-92-1 RTECS: OF752000

METHOD: 9100, Issue 2 EVALUATION: NOT APPLICABLE Issue 1: 15 August 1994 Issue 2: 15 May 1996

PURPOSE: Determination of surface contamination by lead and its compounds.

LIMIT OF

DETECTION: 2 μ g Pb per sample (0.02 μ g/cm² for 100-cm² area) by flame AAS [1] or ICP [2]; 0.1 μ g Pb per sample (0.001 μ g/cm² for 100-cm² area) by graphite furnace AAS [3,4].

FIELD EQUIPMENT:

- 1. Resealable hard-walled sample containers, e.g., 50-mL plastic centrifuge tubes [5].
- 2. Wipes: Disposable towellettes moistened with a wetting agent.
 - NOTE 1: Wipes selected for use should contain insignificant (<5 _g Pb) background lead levels [4,5]. Wipes should be individually wrapped and pre-moistened; for example, Wash'n DriTM hand wipes (or equivalent).
 - NOTE 2: Whatman filters should NOT be used for wipe sampling, because they are not sufficiently durable.
- 3. Powderless plastic gloves, disposable.
- 4. Template, plastic or steel; 10 cm x 10 cm or other standard size.
- 5. Tape Measure.
- 6. Masking Tape.

SAMPLING:

- 1. Don a clean pair of gloves.
- 2. Place the template over the area to be sampled, and secure the outside edges with masking tape. If the area to be sampled is in a confined area and a template cannot be used, measure the sampling area with the tape measure, and delineate the area to be sampled with masking tape.
- 3. Remove a wipe from its package, and unfold it.
- 4. Re-fold the wipe into fourths, and wipe the surface to be sampled with firm pressure. Use an overlapping "S" pattern to cover the entire surface area with horizontal strokes.
- 5. Fold the exposed side of the wipe in, and wipe the same area using vertical "S"-strokes.
- 6. Fold the wipe once more to reveal an unexposed surface, and wipe the surface a third time as described in step 4.
- 7. Fold the wipe, exposed side in, and place it into a clean hard-walled sample container (e.g., 50-mL centrifuge tube). Seal securely, and clearly label the sample container.
 - NOTE: Compositing of wipe samples is not recommended, because (a) they cause sample preparation and analytical difficulties, and (b) site-specific analytical information is lost.
- 8. Clean the template in preparation for the next wipe sample.
- 9. Discard gloves.
- 10. Field blanks: 5% of samples, at least two per sample set. Remove unexposed wipes from their packaging and place into sample containers.

SAMPLE PREPARATION:

Use the procedure of NIOSH Method 7105 or equivalent [3,6], including final sample dilution to 10 mL.

NOTE: Additional portions of nitric acid may be needed for complete digestion of the wipe sample.

Include appropriate media and reagent blanks.

MEASUREMENT:

Depending on detection limit required, use the procedures of NIOSH methods 7082 (Lead by flame AAS) [1], 7300 (Elements by ICP) [2], or 7105 (Lead by graphite furnace AAS) [3], or equivalent methods [6,7].

REFERENCES:

- [1] NIOSH [1994]. Lead by FAAS: Method 7082. In: Eller PM, Cassinelli ME, Eds., NIOSH Manual of analytical methods, 4th ed. Cincinnati, OH: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, DHHS (NIOSH) Publication No. 94-113.
- [2] Ibid. Elements by ICP: Method 7300.
- [3] Ibid. Lead by GFAAS: Method 7105.
- [4] Millson M, Eller PM, Ashley K [1994]. Evaluation of wipe sampling materials for lead in surface dust. Am Ind Hyg Assoc J 55: 339-342.
- [5] ASTM [1994]. Emergency standard practice for field collection of settled dust samples using wipe sampling methods for lead determination by atomic spectrometry techniques: ASTM ES 30. In: ASTM standards on lead-based paint abatement in buildings. Philadelphia, PA: American Society for Testing and Materials.
- [6] Ibid. Emergency standard practice for hot plate digestion of dust wipe samples for determination of lead by atomic spectrometry: ASTM ES 36.
- [7] Ibid. Standard test method for analysis of digested samples for lead by inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectrometry (ICP-AES), flame atomic absorption (FAAS), or graphite furnace atomic absorption (GFAAS) techniques: ASTM E 1613.

METHOD WRITTEN BY:

Peter M. Eller, Ph.D., QASA/DPSE, and Kevin Ashley, Ph.D., MRB/DPSE