

VERIFICATION TEST DESCRIPTION

The verification test described in this report was one of a series of tests conducted in early 1999 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 Testo 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 over 400 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 both Battelle and U.S. EPA. Battelle QA staff conducted a technical systems audit, a performance evaluation audit, and a data quality audit of 10 percent of the test data. EPA QA staff conducted an independent on-site technical system audit.

TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION

The Testo 350 is a portable analyzer designed to measure O₂, CO, NO, NO₂, and SO₂ and draft from combustion emission sources. The fundamental components of the instrument are the electrochemical cells, which create an output signal that is selective as well as proportional to the concentrations of the targeted gases in the combustion stream. The Testo 350 weighs approximately 6 pounds, and may be operated from AC power or from a built-in battery pack. All analyzer control functions and displays are housed in a remote controller that permits analyzer operation and readout at distances up to 65 feet. Data are transferred from the hand-held controller through a remote IR printer or the computer interface. The Testo 350s used during ETV testing were standard systems for measuring O₂, CO, NO, and NO₂. A heated sample line and the Testo Model 339 sample gas conditioner were used with the Model 350 in all testing. These accessories weigh about 13 pounds, and operate with 110V or 230V AC power.

VERIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE

Linearity: The Testo 350 analyzers provided linear response over their full nominal ranges of 0 to 3,000 ppm for NO and 0 to 500 ppm for NO₂.

