



Site Characterization and Monitoring Technologies Technology Profile

◆ On-Site Analysis of VOCs in Water ◆

Program Description

Sandia National Laboratories conducted a verification of field-portable instruments for the measurement of non-chlorinated and chlorinated volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the fall of 1997. This verification test was performed under the auspices of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Program, Site Characterization and Monitoring Technologies Center. The EPA has created the ETV program to facilitate the deployment of innovative or improved environmental technologies through performance verification and information outreach. 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, credible technology performance data, obtained by third-party testing organizations, to those involved in the design, distribution, financing, permitting, purchase, and use of environmental technologies. The purpose of this verification test was to evaluate field analytical technologies capable of detecting and quantifying volatile organic compounds in water. Five field-portable technologies, as shown below, were evaluated in this test..

Technology	Vendor	Contact	Address and Web Information
Model 4110 Vapor Detector (gas chromatograph)	Electronic Sensor Technology	Gary Watson 805-480-1994 watson@estcal.com	1077 Business Center Circle Newbury Park, CA 91320 www.estcal.com
HAPSITE (gas chromatograph/ mass spectrometer)	Inficon Inc.	Bill Worthington 315-434-1100 reachus@inficon.com	Two Technology Place East Syracuse, NY 13057 www.inficon.com
Type 1312 Multi-Gas Monitor (photoacoustic spectrometer)	Innova AirTech Instruments	Hal Peper 714-974-5560 sgt@analyzer.com	1238 West Grove Avenue Orange, CA 92665 www.innova.dk
Voyager (gas chromatograph)	Perkin-Elmer	Peter Ebersold 800-762-4000 info@perkin-elmer.com	50 Danbury Road Wilton, CT 06897 www.perkin-elmer.com
Scentograph Plus II (gas chromatograph)	Sentex Systems Inc.	Amos Linenberg 201-945-3694 sentex@sentexinc.com	533 Broad Street Ridgefield, NJ 07657 www.sentexinc.com



Model 4100



HAPSITE



Type 1312



Voyager



Scentograph

General Market Information

How much do field-portable analytical technologies for detection of VOCs in water cost?

Capital costs for field-portable equipment to analyze water samples range from \$20,000 to \$90,000 depending upon the type of instrument and accessories selected. Some of the technologies also require expendable supplies such as calibration mixtures, carrier gases, and sample vials.

Who would use or purchase such technologies?

Field portable systems for the analysis of VOCs in water are used by consulting engineers, commercial laboratories, and state or federal regulators during site characterization or routine monitoring of contaminated groundwater at environmental sites. These instruments would also be useful in combination with other screening devices for Brownfields investigations.

What is the advantage of field-portable technologies over conventional laboratory analyses?

The use of field portable analytical systems can provide quick-turnaround data in the field, which can be used to guide a site investigation in progress. Lengthy wait times for sample turnaround through fixed laboratories are avoided. Cost savings may also be realized for field portable analytical systems used in routine groundwater monitoring programs by avoidance of time-consuming chain-of-custody and transportation of samples to the laboratory since the analyses can be done at the wellhead by the groundwater sampling crew.

Verification Test Description

The performance of these five instrument systems was verified using a combination of quality control samples and actual groundwater samples from two sites. The test design included a series of performance evaluation water samples with known concentrations of over 20 chlorinated and non-chlorinated VOCs. The results from these analyses enabled a determination instrument accuracy for each of the participating vendors. The test design also included replicate sample analyses so that instrument precision could be determined. Comparability of technology results with reference water sample analyses done at a conventional fixed laboratory using SW 846 Method 8260--Purge-and-trap GC/MS--was also included in the test design. The test was carried out under a variety of field conditions at the Department of Energy Savannah River site in South Carolina as well as at McClellan Air Force Base near Sacramento, CA. The major groundwater contaminants at both sites were trichloroethene and tetrachloroethene. A total of 165 performance evaluation and groundwater samples were analyzed by each of the technologies at both sites. Logistical aspects of technology deployment, such as sample throughput, ease of use, operator training requirements, and required ancillary equipment were also observed and documented during the tests. The verification test plan can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/etv/02/whdemo.pdf>.

Technology Performance Factors

The results of the verification tests can be downloaded from the ETV web site at www.epa.gov/etv. The following is a list of performance factors, which are discussed in the verification reports.

- ✓ Precision
- ✓ Accuracy
- ✓ Sample Throughput
- ✓ Analytical Versatility
- ✓ Comparability with SW-846 Reference Method
- ✓ Data Completeness
- ✓ Performance at Regulatory Limits
- ✓ Ease of Use
- ✓ Deployment Logistics
- ✓ Cost

For More Information

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