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Standard Practice for Sampling of Petroleum Products for Analysis by Process Stream Analyzers and for Process Stream Analyzer System Validation¹

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INTRODUCTION

The primary focus of sampling petroleum product is the timely presentation of the sample for (1) analysis by online analyzers, (2) validation of an analyzer system and (3) collecting a composite sample for batch physical property determination. Sediment, free water, rust, and other contaminants found in the sample may be removed in the sample conditioning system to protect the hardware and analytical systems. If a sample is being collected for later analysis, the sample receiver must not alter or degrade the physical make up of the sample in any way. If a sample is being feed to an analyzer or sampled for latter determination of water or particulate contamination then filtering is not an option.

1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers the performance requirements for sample systems employed to deliver process stream samples (1) to analyzer system for analyses or (2) for analyzer validation or (3) for composite sample systems. It also outlines the selection and operation of line or batch sampling equipment intended for analyzer flow proportioned average property value system validation. Sample handling, mixing, and conditioning procedures are required to ensure that a representative sample of the liquid petroleum product is collected from the sampling source.

1.2 *Applicable Fluids*—This practice is applicable to single liquid phase petroleum products whose vapor pressure at sampling and sample storage conditions is less than or equal to 110 kPa (16.0 psi), and, with a D86 final boiling point less than or equal to 400°C (752°F).

1.2.1 Specialized sample handling may be necessary to maintain sample integrity of more volatile materials at high temperatures or extended residence time in the receiver. Such handling requirements are not within the scope of this practice. Users should consult the analytical methods to be performed on the sample for special sample storage or conditioning requirements.

1.3 Some or all of the processes outlined in this practice may be applicable to other liquids. Applying this practice to

other liquids will require the consideration of additional methods and practices. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to identify any and all applicable safety and sampling considerations and establish appropriate procedures to handle these additional considerations.

1.4 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

1.5 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:²

- D3764 Practice for Validation of the Performance of Process Stream Analyzer Systems
- D6122 Practice for Validation of the Performance of Multi-variate Online, At-Line, and Laboratory Infrared Spectrophotometer Based Analyzer Systems
- D6624 Practice for Determining a Flow-Proportioned Average Property Value (FPAPV) for a Collected Batch of Process Stream Material Using Stream Analyzer Data
- D7278 Guide for Prediction of Analyzer Sample System Lag Times

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.25 on Performance Assessment and Validation of Process Stream Analyzer Systems.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *analyzer unit response time, n*—time interval between the introduction of a step change in property characteristic at the inlet of the analyzer unit and when the analyzer output indicates a value corresponding to 99.5% of the subsequent change in analyzer results.

3.1.2 *automatic sampler, n*—device used to repetitively extract an grab and collect a representative sample of a batch or process stream.

3.1.3 *automatic sampling system, n*—system consisting of a sample probe, sample fast cycle loop, sample supply line stream conditioning, an automatic sampler and an associated controller, a flow measuring device, and sample holding, mixing and handling capabilities.

3.1.4 *batch, n*—term referring to a volume or parcel being transferred.

3.1.5 *flow proportional sampler, n*—sampler designed to automatically adjust the sampling rate to be proportional to the flow rate of the stream.

3.1.6 *grab, n*—volume of sample extracted from a batch by a single actuation of the sample extractor.

3.1.7 *lag time, n*—time required for material to travel from point A to point B in the total analyzer system (points A and B are user-defined).

3.1.8 *line sample, n*—process material that can be safely withdrawn from a sample port and associated facilities located anywhere in the total analyzer system without significantly altering the property of interest.

3.1.9 *primary test method (PTM), n*—ASTM or other established standard test method that produces results accepted as the reference measure of a property.

3.1.10 *sample conditioning unit lag time, n*—time required for material to flow from the sample conditioning unit inlet to the analyzer unit inlet.

3.1.11 *sample fast cycle loop, n*—a system that continually and rapidly transports a representative sample of process material from the sample probe past the sample supply line and returns the remaining material to the process.

3.1.11.1 *sample fast loop lag time, n*—time required for material to transport from the product takeoff point of the sample loop to the sample conditioning unit inlet.

3.1.12 *total analyzer system response time, n*—time interval between the when a step change in property characteristic arrives at the sample loop inlet and when the analyzer output indicates a value corresponding to 99.5% of the subsequent change in analyzer results.

3.1.12.1 *Discussion*—The total analyzer system response time is the sum of the sample fast loop lag time, the sample conditioning unit lag time, and the analyzer unit response time.

3.1.13 *validation, n*—statistically quantified judgment that the analyzer system or subsystem being assessed can produce predicted PTM results with acceptable precision and bias performance when compared to actual results from a primary test method measurement system for common materials.

4. Summary of Practice

4.1 Analyzer measurement systems require a process sample that is delivered in a timely manner commensurate with the analyzer and process cycle time at pressure, temperature and flow conditions meeting system requirements, is free of contaminants, and is representative of the process stream.

4.2 Line samples collected from the process or blender stream need to accurately reflect the composition of the analyzer feed stream. This is accomplished by taking into account the total analyzer system response time in order to properly validate online analyzer systems.

4.3 This practice describes functional requirements that need to be addressed in the design and operation of automatic sampling equipment. Automatic sampling equipment is used to obtain a representative batch sample for use in validating an analyzer system or flow proportioned average property value and for manufactured batch quality testing.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 Analyzer systems require representative samples of petroleum products delivered in a timely manner to (1) facilitate the control of process or blending units or (2) calculate a flow proportioned property value.

5.2 Representative samples of petroleum products are required for the determination of chemical and physical properties. These properties are used to establish the relationship between the analyzer system and the primary test method during initial and ongoing validation of the system.

5.3 Representative samples of petroleum products are tested to determine the chemical and physical properties of a batch offered for tender.

6. Sample Delivery and Conditioning Requirements for Process Stream Analyzers

6.1 The sample will be delivered from the sample stream to the analyzer inlet for measurement in the minimum realistic period of time possible.

6.1.1 When sampling from processes that normally operate in steady state mode, not subject to scheduled operational variable(s) step changes that directly impact the measured variable, the sample fast loop lag time shall be as short as practically possible. It is recommended that where possible, the sample fast loop lag time should be less than the analyzer response time. A minimum realistic time is two minutes.

NOTE 1—Guide **D7278** can be used for the prediction of analyzer sample system lag times. Refer to Practice **D3764** for analyzer unit response time information.

6.1.2 Sampling from processes that are subject to scheduled operational variable(s) step changes that directly impact the measured variable requires knowledge of the shortest interval between scheduled step changes. The total analyzer system response time shall be less than the shortest interval between scheduled step changes

6.2 The sample system shall deliver the sample to the analyzer without alteration of the properties of interest.