
**Stationary source emissions —
Determination of the mass
concentration of individual volatile
organic compounds (VOCs) in waste
gases from non-combustion processes**

*Émissions de sources fixes — Détermination de la concentration en
masse de composés organiques volatils (COV) individuels dans les gaz
résiduels issus de processus sans combustion*

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Foreword

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Introduction

There are various volatile organic compounds (VOCs) emitted from stationary sources where organic solvents are used for painting, printing, cleaning, degreasing and chemicals production. In order to understand how to reduce the environmental risk due to VOCs, it is necessary to measure not only the concentration of total VOCs but also the concentration of individual VOCs in waste gases. This is because individual VOCs have different potentials to form O₃ and suspended particulate matter (SPM). Also, there are VOCs of high toxicity (e.g. benzene, toluene, propyl acetate, propanol, formaldehyde, some chlorinated organic compounds) of concern.

Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectrometry is proposed to provide these measurements as it provides a measurement in the infrared (IR) region over a wide spectral band. Analysis of the recorded spectra enables the concentration of a wide number of compounds to be quantified simultaneously. Overlap of IR absorption features with each VOC can affect the quantification of each compound. However, by using appropriate chemometric procedures for the overlapping IR spectra of VOCs, the concentrations are quantified for the individual compounds of interest.

This document specifies the measurement method for determining concentrations of individual VOCs in waste gases from non-combustion processes by using FTIR spectroscopy.

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