

Dane Jones Comments

Hi Brad -

I wanted to make sure I got you a few suggestions for the round-robin test.

First, I think the most important point is to make sure everyone fully understands exactly how to perform the tests. I suggest you prepare a “guide” to Method 313 describing exactly what you expect each lab to do.

1. I think for some labs it will be an issue changing their systems over to the DB-624 column. Since most labs only have one GC, if they only have one injector and detector, they will not be able to run D6886 while they have this column in. They will also have to determine retention times for all the relevant compounds on this column if they have not done so already (and I don't think most have).

2. Most labs cannot split the injection to both an FID and a MS detector. They will only have a single FID detector. We cannot do this on either of our instruments — we have two injectors and two columns in each of our GCs. You will have to determine how, if at all, this will affect the analysis.

3. I have been told by many labs they cannot use THF as a solvent due to its toxicity. Would it be possible to use methanol (we use it almost exclusively)?

4. As far as samples, for this initial study I would think perhaps doing five or so samples would be sufficient. Based on the volume of samples we receive from industry, I would suggest the following:

- a) water-based flat and semi-gloss acrylic or similar latex paint at near zero VOC
- b) water-based flat and semi-gloss acrylic or similar latex paint at near 50 g/L
- c) water-based alkyd (I've seen a huge increase in the number of these in the past two years)

These would probably be the simplest samples you could pick.

5. You might think about how you want the labs to handle biocides which may decompose on the hot inlet port or resins which might also decompose (especially with non-acrylic resins). We have seen a few compounds showing up as VOCs we know were not added to the coating and we can show they are not present when we do headspace analysis of these coatings.

That's about all I can think of right now! I'm sure those in industry will have some good suggestions, especially regarding samples.

Regards,

Dane