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Abstract submission



Franck Amiet

Chromatotec

15 rue d'Artiguelongue
Saint-Antoine
33240 Val de Virvée

E-mail: info@chromatotec.com

Tel: 05 57 94 06 22

Doctor in Biochemistry at Bordeaux University.

Founder of Chromato-Sud in 1986, specialized in liquid & gas Chromatography.

President of airmotec AG since 1996, M. Amiet created the Chromatotec Group, gathering the expertise of 3 companies, Chromato-Sud, airmotec AG and Medor (sulfur analysis in natural gas and ambient air), specialized in the development, manufacturing and sales of online analyzers by gas chromatography. Expert in gas analysis (VOCs, permanent gas and sulfur compounds)

Contribution in the elaboration of **ASTM method*** (ASTM D7493-08) in USA in 2009

TITLE : DEVELOPMENT OF ON-LINE AND FIELD DUAL TD GC – MS FOR AUTOMATIC VOC MONITORING ON PETROCHEMICAL SITES

Franck Amiet¹, Damien Bazin¹ and Michel Robert¹

¹ Chromatotec, Saint Antoine, France

Ambient air is polluted by many semi-Volatile and Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs and VOCs) coming from anthropogenic and natural sources. VOCs from PAMS, TO14 and TO15 lists can be measured in many ranges of concentration, from pg/m³ up to mg/m³ depending on the location of the measurements. Due to the large number of molecules, the complete separation of all compounds is difficult to perform using chromatographic columns. Therefore, it is difficult to quantify precisely all compounds using a chromatograph equipped with a nonspecific detector.

The goal of this study is to perform automatic and continuous identification and quantification of SVOCs and VOCs using a dual Thermal-Desorber Gas Chromatograph equipped with two Flame Ionization Detectors (FIDs) and one Mass Spectrometer (MS). The device is required to identify automatically coeluted compounds by MS technology adapted to industrial context. The coupling of two different FID GCs to a single Quadrupole MS allowed by an elaborated multiplexing system is the originality of the project: one TDGC for light compounds (C2-C5) and one TDGC for heavy compounds (C6-C16) with specific analytical conditions for each system. A measurement campaign in petrochemical new site shows the concentration of about 100 compounds at different steps of the commissioning.

Thanks to the continuous measurements every 30 minutes, variations of concentrations during specific hours can be monitored. Potentially coeluted compounds like terpenes or organochlorinated are identified and monitored at ppt level. This fully automatic system allows non-specialist operators to access expertise level results.

Keywords: Gas Chromatography, Mass spectroscopy, Volatile Organic Compounds, On-line Monitoring