



National Institute of Standards & Technology

Certificate of Analysis

Standard Reference Material[®] 1885a

Portland Cement

This Standard Reference Material (SRM) is intended primarily for use in evaluating chemical methods of analysis and in the calibration of instrumental methods for analysis of cements and materials of similar matrix. A unit of SRM 1885a consists of four sealed vials, each containing approximately 5 g of portland cement ground to pass a 75 μm (200 mesh) sieve.

Certified Values: The certified values for SRM 1885a expressed as mass fractions [1] on an as-received basis are provided in Table 1. A NIST certified value is a value for which NIST has the highest confidence in its accuracy, in that all known or suspected sources of bias have been investigated or accounted for by NIST. The certified values listed are based on the results of analyses performed at NIST and at Construction Technology Laboratories, Inc. (CTL)¹ using X-ray fluorescence spectrometry, atomic absorption spectrophotometry, and reference methods given in ASTM C 114-97 Standard Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Hydraulic Cement [2]. Homogeneity testing was performed at NIST using X-ray fluorescence spectrometry. The uncertainty listed with each value is an expanded uncertainty, with coverage factor 2, calculated by combining a between-method variance [3] with a pooled, within-method variance following the ISO/NIST Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement [4].

Reference Values: Reference values for SRM 1885a expressed as mass fractions on an as-received basis are provided in Table 2. Reference values are noncertified values that are the best estimates of the true values; however, the values, which are based on determinations done by reliable methods, do not meet the NIST criteria for certification, and are provided with associated uncertainties that may reflect only measurement precision and may not include all sources of uncertainty.

Information Values: Information values for F, Insoluble Residue, Loss On Ignition (LOI), Free Calcium Oxide (CaO), and the Total of all analyzed constituents are provided in Table 3. These are noncertified values with no uncertainty assessed.

Expiration of Certification: The certification of this SRM is valid until **01 July 2016**, within the uncertainty specified, provided the SRM is handled and stored in accordance with the instructions given in this certificate (see Use and Handling). However, the certification will be nullified if the SRM is damaged, contaminated, or modified.

Coordination of technical measurements for certification was accomplished under the direction of J.R. Sieber of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division. Analytical measurements for certification of this SRM were performed by J.R. Sieber and A.F. Marlow of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division and by D. Broton, S. Padiyara, M. Bharucha, R. Naamane, S. Nettles, and C. Wedzicha of CTL, Skokie, IL.

Support aspects involved in the preparation, certification, and issuance of this SRM were coordinated through the NIST Standard Reference Materials Program by B.S. MacDonald.

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Certificate Issue Date: 13 July 2001

John Rumble, Jr., Acting Chief
Standard Reference Materials Program

¹Certain commercial organizations, services, equipment, or materials are identified in this certificate to specify adequately the experimental procedure. Such identification does not imply recommendation or endorsement by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, nor does it imply that the organizations, services, materials, or equipment identified are necessarily the best available for the purpose.

Statistical consultation for this SRM was provided by S.D. Leigh of the NIST Statistical Engineering Division.

The cement for this SRM was donated by Fiji Industries, Suva, Fiji.

Stability: This material is considered to be stable during the period of certification. NIST will monitor this material and will report any significant changes in certification to the purchaser. Return of the attached registration card will facilitate notification.

Use and Handling: Cement powder is hygroscopic and the following procedure is recommended. Samples should be used immediately after opening. To relate analytical determinations to the certified value in this Certificate of Analysis, a minimum sample mass of 500 mg is recommended. The vial should be recapped immediately and stored in a desiccator over magnesium perchlorate or phosphorus pentoxide. When a sample is used after storage in a previously opened vial, the LOI for that sample should be determined in accordance with ASTM C 114 and the weight of the sample corrected for any additional moisture above the LOI value reported in this certificate.

Reporting: The constituents listed in this Certificate of Analysis are expressed as the chemical forms and in the order given in ASTM C 114-97, Section 3, Table 1.

Table 1. Certified Values for SRM 1885a Portland Cement

Constituent	Mass Fraction (%)	Constituent	Mass Fraction (%)
SiO ₂	20.909 ± 0.047	K ₂ O	0.206 ± 0.011
Al ₂ O ₃	4.026 ± 0.032	TiO ₂	0.195 ± 0.014
Fe ₂ O ₃	1.929 ± 0.061	P ₂ O ₅	0.1220 ± 0.0015
CaO	62.39 ± 0.41	Mn ₂ O ₃	0.0478 ± 0.0015
MgO	4.033 ± 0.033	SrO	0.638 ± 0.026
SO ₃	2.830 ± 0.021	Cr ₂ O ₃	0.0195 ± 0.0006
Na ₂ O	1.068 ± 0.061		

Table 2. Reference Values for SRM 1885a Portland Cement

Constituent	Mass Fraction (%)	Constituent	Mass Fraction (%)
ZnO	0.0029 ± 0.0003	Cl	0.0040 ± 0.0005

Table 3. Information Values for SRM 1885a Portland Cement

Constituent	Mass Fraction (%)	Constituent	Mass Fraction (%)
F	0.13	Insoluble Residue	0.22
LOI at 950 °C	1.68	Free CaO	2.05
Total ^a	100.18		

^a A correction has been made for the amount of fluoride present. This correction, which was subtracted from the gross total, was determined by multiplying the percent fluoride by the ratio of the atomic weight of oxygen to the molecular weight of fluorine (0.421). The Total does not include Insoluble Residue or Free CaO.

REFERENCES

- [1] Taylor, B.N., "Guide for the Use of the International System of Units (SI)," NIST Special Publication 811, 1995 Ed., (April 1995).
- [2] ASTM C 114-97, Standard Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Hydraulic Cement, *Annu. Book ASTM Stand.*, **04.01**, West Conshohocken, PA.
- [3] Levenson, M.S., Banks, D.L., Eberhardt, K.R., Gill, L.M., Guthrie, W.F., Liu, H.K., Vangel, M.G., Yen, J.H., and Zhang, N.F., "An Approach to Combining Results from Multiple Methods Motivated by the ISO GUM," *J. Res. Natl. Inst. Stand. Technol.*, **105**, No. 4, 571 (2000).
- [4] *Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement*, ISBN 92-67-10188-9, 1st Ed., ISO, Geneva, Switzerland, (1993); see also Taylor, B.N. and Kuyatt, C.E., "Guidelines for Evaluating and Expressing the Uncertainty of NIST Measurement Results," NIST Technical Note 1297, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, (1994); available at <http://physics.nist.gov/Pubs/>.

Users of this SRM should ensure that the certificate in their possession is current. This can be accomplished by contacting the SRM Program at: telephone (301) 975-6776; fax (301) 926-4751; e-mail srminfo@nist.gov; or via the Internet <http://www.nist.gov/srm>.