

Standard Reference Material[®] 2644a
Propane in Nitrogen
(Nominal Amount-of-Substance Fraction 250 $\mu\text{mol/mol}$)
Lot 101-C-XX

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Purpose: The certified value delivered by this Standard Reference Material (SRM) is intended for the calibration of instruments used for propane determinations and for other applications.

Description: This SRM is a primary gas mixture supplied in a DOT 3AL-specification aluminum (6061 alloy) cylinder with a water volume of 6 L. Mixtures are shipped with a nominal pressure exceeding 11.0 MPa (1600 psig), which provides the user with 0.73 m³ (25.8 ft³) of useable mixture. The cylinder is the property of the purchaser and is equipped with a CGA-350 brass valve, which is the recommended outlet for this propane mixture.

Certified Values: A NIST certified value is a value for which NIST has the highest confidence in that all known or suspected sources of bias and imprecision have been accounted [1]. This SRM mixture has been certified for propane amount-of-substance fraction (mole fraction, sometimes termed “molar concentration”) [2]. This certified value is traceable to the International System of Units (SI) through the gravimetric primary standards and procedures used in the preparation of this mixture. The certified value given below applies to the identified cylinder and NIST sample number.

Propane Mole Fraction: 246.5 $\mu\text{mol/mol} \pm 1.0 \mu\text{mol/mol}$ ^(a)

Cylinder Number: SAMPLE
Hydrotest Date: February 2000

NIST Sample Number: SAMPLE
Blend Date: June 2000

- ^(a) The uncertainty is expressed as an expanded uncertainty $U = k u_c$ with u_c determined by experiment and a coverage factor $k = 2$. The true value for the propane amount-of-substance fraction is asserted to lie in the interval defined by the certified value $\pm U$ with a level of confidence of approximately 95 % [3].

Period of Validity: The certified value delivered by **SRM 2644a Lot No. 101-C-XX** has an expiration date of **20 October 2029**. The certified value is nullified if the material is stored or used improperly, damaged, contaminated, or otherwise modified or the internal pressure drops below 0.7 MPa (100 psig).

Maintenance of Certified Value: NIST will monitor this SRM over the period of its validity. If substantive technical changes occur that affect the certification, NIST will issue an amended certificate through the NIST SRM website (<https://www.nist.gov/srm>) and notify registered users. SRM users can register online from a link available on the NIST SRM website or fill out the user registration form that is supplied with the SRM. Registration will facilitate notification. Before making use of any of the values delivered by this material, users should verify they have the most recent version of this documentation, available through the NIST SRM website (<https://www.nist.gov/srm>).

Cylinder and Gas Handling Information: NIST recommends the use of a high-purity, two-stage pressure regulator with a brass diaphragm and CGA-350 outlet to safely reduce the pressure and to deliver this mixture to the instrument. The regulator should be purged to prevent accidental contamination of the SRM by repeatedly (minimum three times) opening the valve and pressurizing the regulator, then closing the valve and releasing the pressure safely into a vent line. The certified value for this SRM is no longer valid after the internal pressure drops below 0.7 MPa (100 psig).

Storage: This SRM should be stored under normal laboratory conditions within the temperature range of 15 °C to 30 °C.

Mixture Preparation: The gas mixtures comprising this SRM lot were prepared in accordance with NIST technical specifications by a commercial specialty gas vendor under contract to NIST. The specifications stipulate that each SRM mixture be identical in propane concentration and stable with time.

Analytical Methods: Analyses of the propane concentration for this lot of cylinders were conducted by comparing each cylinder mixture to a representative cylinder chosen from the lot, the LS, using gas chromatograph with flame ionization detector (GC-FID). Assignment of the propane concentration to the LS was accomplished by comparison to primary gravimetric standards using GC-FID.

Homogeneity Analysis: Each of the propane mixtures that comprise this SRM lot was compared to the LS using GC-FID. A statistical analysis of the analytical results indicated that sample-to-sample propane concentration differences were not statistically significant. This indicates that, within the precision of the NIST measurements, all of the cylinders comprising this SRM lot have identical propane concentrations. Therefore, one concentration has been assigned to the entire SRM lot.

Propane Concentration Value Assignment: The certified propane concentration for this SRM lot was computed from the assigned concentration for the lot standard and the homogeneity analysis.

CAS Registry Numbers: This SRM is certified for propane in nitrogen. The relevant CAS Registry numbers for these components are: propane CAS Registry 74-98-6; nitrogen (balance gas) CAS Registry 7727-37-9.

NOTICE TO USERS

NIST strives to maintain the SRM inventory supply, but NIST cannot guarantee the continued or continuous supply of any specific SRM. Accordingly, NIST encourages the use of this SRM as a primary benchmark for the quality and accuracy of the user's in-house reference materials and working standards. As such, the SRM should be used to validate the more routinely used reference materials in a laboratory. Comparisons between the SRM and in-house reference materials or working measurement standards should take place at intervals appropriate to the conservation of the SRM and the stability of relevant in-house materials. For further guidance on how this approach can be implemented, contact NIST by email at srms@nist.gov.

REFERENCES

- [1] Thompson, A.; Taylor, B.N.; *Guide for the Use of the International System of Units (SI)*; NIST Special Publication 811; U.S. Government Printing Office: Washington, DC (2008); available at <https://www.nist.gov/pml/special-publication-811> (accessed Apr 2022).
- [2] Beauchamp, C.R.; Camara, J.E.; Carney, J.; Choquette, S.J.; Cole, K.D.; DeRose, P.C.; Duewer, D.L.; Epstein, M.S.; Kline, M.C.; Lippa, K.A.; Lucon, E.; Molloy, J.; Nelson, M.A.; Phinney, K.W.; Polakoski, M.; Possolo, A.; Sander, L.C.; Schiel, J.E.; Sharpless, K.E.; Toman, B.; Winchester, M.R.; Windover, D.; *Metrological Tools for the Reference Materials and Reference Instruments of the NIST Material Measurement Laboratory*; NIST Special Publication (NIST SP) 260-136, 2021 edition; U.S. Government Printing Office: Washington, DC (2021); available at <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.260-136-2021.pdf> (accessed Apr 2022).
- [3] JCGM 100:2008; *Evaluation of Measurement Data — Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement* (GUM 1995 with Minor Corrections); Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology (2008); available at <https://www.bipm.org/en/publications/guides> (accessed Apr 2022); see also Taylor, B.N.; 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 <https://www.nist.gov/pml/nist-technical-note-1297> (accessed Apr 2022).

Certificate Revision History: 19 April 2022 (Change of period of validity; updated format; editorial changes); 24 July 2014 (Extension of certification period; editorial changes); 18 October 2007 (Extension of certification period); 16 March 2004 (Extension of certification period); 26 December 2000 (Original certificate date).

Certain commercial equipment, instruments, or materials may be identified in this Certificate of Analysis to adequately specify 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 materials or equipment identified are necessarily the best available for the purpose.

Users of this SRM should ensure that the Certificate of Analysis in their possession is current. This can be accomplished by contacting the Office of Reference Materials 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2300, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2300; telephone (301) 975-2200; e-mail srminfo@nist.gov; or the Internet at <https://www.nist.gov/srm>.

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