



## Technical Data Sheet

### Oxygen (dissolved) Indigo Carmine Method

**Applications and Industries:** Industrial wastewater influent and effluent, industrial process waters, surface and ground water, seawater, potable water

**References:** ASTM D 888-87, Dissolved Oxygen in Water, Test Method A. Gilbert, T.W., Behymer, T.D., Castaneda, H.B., "Determination of Dissolved Oxygen in Natural and Wastewaters," *American Laboratory*, March 1982, pp. 119-134.

**Chemistry:** In an acidic solution, oxygen oxidizes the yellow-green colored leuco form of indigo carmine to form a highly colored blue dye. The resulting blue color is proportional to the dissolved oxygen concentration in the sample. Test results are expressed as ppm (mg/L) O<sub>2</sub>.

**Sampling Information:** The most critical part of any dissolved oxygen test is sampling. It is difficult to obtain an aliquot that accurately reflects the oxygen content of a sample. Exposure to the high oxygen content of "air" will cause a sample to approach saturation. Biological activity may cause rapid oxygen depletion. Dipping and pouring operations should be performed with as little agitation as possible, and analysis should be performed immediately after sample collection. At the time of analysis, CHEMets® should be gently lowered into the color comparator to avoid introduction of atmospheric oxygen into the ampoule.

#### Interference Information:

Ferric iron (Fe<sup>+3</sup>) and hypochlorite (chlorine) will cause a false positive result if present at or above 10 ppm.

Chromate at or above 10 ppm will cause a false positive result, and even as low as 1 ppm may interfere positively.

Other oxidizing agents may interfere positively.

Hydrogen peroxide at 20 ppm or higher may cause a greenish color development.

Nitrite at 100 ppm is a strong positive interference, but at 50 ppm does not interfere.

Cupric copper (Cu<sup>+2</sup>) does not interfere at 10 ppm, but interferes positively at concentrations at or above 100 ppm.

Nitrate, thiosulfate, and sulfide up to 100 ppm do not interfere.

Sample color and turbidity may interfere.

Sample pHs between 2 and 10 are well tolerated. A sample pH below 2 may cause low test results, and above 10 may cause development of green color rather than blue.

Seawater may occasionally cause the reagent to precipitate.

**Safety Information:** Safety Data Sheets (SDS) are available upon request and at [www.chemetrics.com](http://www.chemetrics.com). Read SDS before using these products. Breaking the tip of an ampoule in air rather than water may cause the glass ampoule to shatter. Wear safety glasses and protective gloves.

**Available Analysis Systems:** Visual colorimetric: CHEMets®, Instrumental Colorimetric: Vacu-vials®

**Storage Requirements:** Products should be stored in the dark and at room temperature. *Note:* If the ampoules freeze, low test results will be obtained.

**Shelf Life:** *When stored in the dark and at room temperature:* Visual colorimetric: The CHEMets refill has a shelf life of 4 years. The color comparator has a 2-year shelf life. Instrumental colorimetric: The Vacu-vials kits have shelf lives of 2 years.

**Accuracy:** CHEMets kit: ± 1 color standard increment

Vacu-vials kits: **K-7503:** ± 10% error at 1.50 ppm, ± 20% error at 0.50 ppm, ± 30% error at 0.20 ppm

**K-7513:** ± 10% error at 11.25 ppm, ± 20% error at 3.75 ppm, ± 30% error at 2.0 ppm

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