TestAmerica

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New Method and Instrumentation Development January 2010

Corpus Christi Laboratory – Elemental Sulfur by SW-846 Method 8270

Method Application:

SW-846 Method 8270 has long been used in environmental applications for monitoring high molecular weight organic compounds, often referred to as semivolatiles. The Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GCMS) analytical technique has been adapted to support the identification of sulfur in its elemental state.

Market Application

Chinese drywall was used extensively during the rebuilding efforts that took place after the natural disasters created by Hurricane's Ike and Katrina. Chinese drywall has been found to contain elemental sulfur in the wall board composition. Under high humidity and moisture conditions, this naturally occurring sulfur has been linked to corrosion and odor problems in homes rebuilt using Chinese drywall products. Consultants and realtors are now able to use this method to demonstrate the presence or absence of sulfur that may be leading to the odor and corrosive properties occurring in these homes.

Advantages:

Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GCMS) analysis of elemental sulfur identifies the element based both upon retention time and the unique mass ions of the S8 allotrope, eliminating the risk of false positives/negative readings.

For more information on Corpus Christi's new method capability, please contact:

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