



Designation: D4929 – 17

Standard Test Method for Determination of Organic Chloride Content in Crude Oil¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D4929; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope*

1.1 The procedures in this test method cover the determination of organic chloride (above 1 $\mu\text{g/g}$ organically-bound chlorine) in crude oils, using either distillation and sodium biphenyl reduction, distillation and microcoulometry, or distillation and x-ray fluorescence (XRF) spectrometry.

1.2 The procedures in this test method involve the distillation of crude oil test specimens to obtain a naphtha fraction prior to chloride determination. The chloride content of the naphtha fraction of the whole crude oil can thereby be obtained. See Section 5 regarding potential interferences.

1.3 Procedure A covers the determination of organic chloride in the washed naphtha fraction of crude oil by sodium biphenyl reduction followed by potentiometric titration.

1.4 Procedure B covers the determination of organic chloride in the washed naphtha fraction of crude oil by oxidative combustion followed by microcoulometric titration.

1.5 Procedure C covers the determination of organic chloride in the washed naphtha fraction of crude oil by x-ray fluorescence spectrometry.

1.6 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.6.1 The preferred concentration units are micrograms of chloride per gram of sample.

1.7 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.8 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products, Liquid Fuels, and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.03 on Elemental Analysis.

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2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- D86 Test Method for Distillation of Petroleum Products and Liquid Fuels at Atmospheric Pressure
- D1193 Specification for Reagent Water
- D4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products
- D4177 Practice for Automatic Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products
- D6299 Practice for Applying Statistical Quality Assurance and Control Charting Techniques to Evaluate Analytical Measurement System Performance
- D6300 Practice for Determination of Precision and Bias Data for Use in Test Methods for Petroleum Products and Lubricants
- D6708 Practice for Statistical Assessment and Improvement of Expected Agreement Between Two Test Methods that Purport to Measure the Same Property of a Material
- D7343 Practice for Optimization, Sample Handling, Calibration, and Validation of X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry Methods for Elemental Analysis of Petroleum Products and Lubricants

3. Summary of Test Method

3.1 A crude oil distillation is performed to obtain the naphtha cut at 204 °C (400 °F). The distillation method was adapted from Test Method D86 for the distillation of petroleum products. The naphtha cut is washed with caustic, repeatedly when necessary, until all hydrogen sulfide is removed. The naphtha cut, free of hydrogen sulfide, is then washed with water, repeatedly when necessary, to remove inorganic halides (chlorides).

3.2 There are three alternative procedures for determination of the organic chloride in the washed naphtha fraction, as follows.

3.2.1 *Procedure A, Sodium Biphenyl Reduction and Potentiometry*—The washed naphtha fraction of a crude oil specimen is weighed and transferred to a separatory funnel

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard