



Standard Test Method for Determination of Low Levels of Water in Liquid Chlorine By Infrared Spectrophotometry¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E 1754; 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 (€) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

^{€1} NOTE—Editorial changes were made in August 2001.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the determination of the content of water in liquid chlorine in the concentration range of 0.5 to 15 mg/kg (ppm).

1.2 *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 and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.* See Section 7 for specific hazards statements.

1.3 Review the current Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for detailed information concerning toxicity, first aid procedures, and safety precautions.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 1193 Specification for Reagent Water²

E 180 Practice for Determining the Precision of ASTM Methods for Analysis and Testing of Industrial Chemicals³

E 806 Test Method for Carbon Tetrachloride and Chloroform in Liquid Chlorine by Direct Injection (Gas Chromatographic Procedure)³

2.2 Federal Standards:⁴

49 CFR 173 Code of Federal Regulations Title 49 Transportation: Shippers' General Requirements for Shipments and Packaging, including Sections:

173.304 Charging of Cylinders with Liquefied Compressed Gas

173.314 Requirements for Compressed Gases in Tank Cars

173.315 Compressed Gases in Cargo Tanks and Portable Tank Containers

3. Summary of Test Method

3.1 A sample of liquid chlorine is introduced into a special infrared cell and maintained as a liquid under its own pressure. A spectrometer scans from 400 to 4400 wavenumbers of the infrared transmission spectrum of liquid chlorine. This spectrum is then ratioed to one obtained of the nitrogen-filled infrared cell previously. The ratioed spectrum is converted to absorbance, and the net absorbance of the water band at 1596 wavenumbers, relative to a reference at 1663 wavenumbers, is determined. The amount of water corresponding to this net absorbance is determined from a calibration curve prepared from the infrared absorbances of standards that contain known concentrations of water in liquid chlorine.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 Trace amounts of water may be detrimental to the use of chlorine in some applications. The amount of water in the chlorine must be known to prevent problems during its use.

5. Apparatus

5.1 *Infrared Spectrometer*, capable of measurements in the 1600 wavenumber region. An FTIR with 4 wavenumber resolution is the instrument of choice, but dispersive instruments may also be used to achieve similar results.

5.2 *Special Infrared Cell* (see Fig. 1), neither cell size nor pathlength are critical to the analysis, but sensitivity and limit of detection are dependent on pathlength. The concentration range reported in the scope is achievable with a 60-mm pathlength cell constructed with:

5.2.1 *Hastelloy C and 316 Stainless Steel Stock*, suitable for machining.⁵

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E15 on Industrial and Specialty Chemicals and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E15.02 on Product Standards.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 11.01.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 15.05.

⁴ Available from Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

⁵ Available from Collins Instrument Co. Inc., P.O. Drawer 938 Angleton, TX 77516-0938.