



Standard Test Methods for Sampling and Chemical Analysis of Alkylbenzene Sulfonates¹

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1. Scope

1.1 These test methods cover the sampling and chemical analysis of paste, powder, or liquid detergent alkylbenzene sulfonates.

1.2 The procedures for sampling and analysis appear in the following order:

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1.3 *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.* For a specific hazards statement, see Section 8.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D1172 Guide for pH of Aqueous Solutions of Soaps and Detergents

D1193 Specification for Reagent Water

¹ These test methods are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D12 on Soaps and Other Detergents and is the direct responsibility of D12.12 on Analysis and Specifications of Soaps, Synthetics, Detergents and their Components.

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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.

SAMPLING

3. General Requirements

3.1 The seller shall have the option of being represented at the time of sampling and when he so requests shall be furnished with a duplicate sample.

4. Powders and Flakes Packed in Cans or Cartons

4.1 One can or carton shall be taken at random from not less than 1 % of the seller's shipping containers, provided each package contains not less than 50 lb (22.7 kg). In the case of smaller containers, a can or carton shall be taken at random from each lot of containers totaling not more than 5000 lb (2268 kg) or fraction thereof. The gross sample shall in all cases consist of not less than three cans or cartons taken at random from separate containers. In the case of very large lots where the sample drawn as above will amount to more than 20 lb (9.1 kg), the percentage of packages sampled shall be reduced so that the amount drawn will not exceed 20 lb (9.1 kg). The individual cans or cartons shall be tightly wrapped at once in paraffined paper and sealed by rubbing the edges with a heated iron. The inspector shall accurately weigh each wrapped can or carton and record its weight and the date of weighing on the wrapper. The wrapped cans or cartons shall be placed in an airtight container which should be nearly filled, and which shall then be sealed, marked, and sent to the laboratory for test. Samples shall be kept cool until tested.

5. Powders and Flakes in Bulk

5.1 A grab sample of not less than 0.5 lb (227 g) shall be taken at random from not less than 1 % of the seller's shipping containers, provided each package contains not less than 100 lb (45.4 kg). In the case of smaller containers, a grab sample of not less than 0.5 lb (227 g) shall be taken at random from each lot of containers totaling not more than 10,000 lb (4536 kg) or fraction thereof. The gross sample shall in all cases consist of not less than three grab samples of 0.5 lb (227 g) each taken at random from separate containers. In the case of very large lots the sample drawn as above will amount to more than 20 lb (9.1 kg), the percentage of packages sampled shall be reduced so that the amount drawn shall not exceed 20 lb (9.1 kg). The inspector shall rapidly mix the gross sample and place it in an

airtight container which shall be filled, sealed, marked, accurately weighed, with its weight and the date of weighing recorded on the package, and be sent to the laboratory for test. Samples shall be kept cool until tested.

6. Liquids

6.1 A sample of not less than 0.5 pt (236.6 mL) shall be taken at random from not less than 1 % of the seller's shipping containers, provided each package contains not less than 10 gal (37.9 L). In the case of smaller containers, a sample of not less than 0.5 pt (236.6 mL) shall be taken at random from each lot of containers totaling not more than 1000 gal (3785.4 L) or fraction thereof. The gross sample shall in all cases consist of not less than three samples of 0.5 pt (236.6 mL) each taken at random from separate containers. Before drawing the sample from the container selected, the contents of the container shall be thoroughly agitated. The inspector shall thoroughly mix the gross sample, place it in clean, dry cans or bottles, which shall be completely filled and securely stoppered with clean corks or caps, then sealed, marked, and sent to the laboratory for test.

7. Pastes

7.1 *Pastes Packed in Cans or Cartons of 5 lb (2.27 kg) or Less*—One can or carton shall be taken at random from not less than 1 % of the seller's shipping containers, provided each package contains not less than 50 lb (22.7 kg). In the case of smaller containers, a can or carton shall be taken at random from each lot of containers totaling not more than 5000 lb (2268 kg) or fraction thereof. The gross sample shall in all cases consist of not less than three cans or cartons taken at random from separate containers. In the case of very large lots where the sample drawn as above will amount to more than 20 lb (9.1 kg), the percentage of packages sampled shall be reduced so that the amount drawn shall not exceed 20 lb (9.1 kg). The samples shall be wrapped, sealed, marked, and sent to the laboratory for test.

7.2 *Pastes Packed in Bulk*—A “trier” sample (**Note 1**) of not less than 0.5 lb (227 g) shall be taken at random from not less than 1 % of the seller's shipping containers, provided each package contains not less than 50 lb (22.7 kg). In the case of smaller containers, a “trier” sample of not less than 0.5 lb (227 g) shall be taken at random from each lot of containers totaling not more than 5000 lb (2268 kg) or fraction thereof. The gross sample shall in all cases consist of not less than three 0.5-lb (227-g) samples, each taken at random from separate containers. With very large lots where the sample drawn as above will amount to more than 10 lb (4.5 kg), the percentage of packages sampled shall be reduced so that the amount drawn shall not exceed 10 lb (4.5 kg). The inspector shall promptly place the gross sample in a clean, dry, airtight and watertight container, which shall be filled, sealed, marked, and sent to the laboratory for test.

NOTE 1—A trier sample is obtained by inserting a “trier” into the material. A trier is a halfround steel cylinder $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ in. (12.7 to 19 mm) in diameter, 6 to 36 in. (152 to 914 mm) in length, pointed on one end and having a grip handle on the other end. After insertion, the trier is turned two or three times, and upon removal a core of the material being sampled is obtained.

8. Hazards

8.1 All reagents and chemicals should be handled with care. Before using any chemical, read and follow all safety precautions and instructions on the manufacturer's label or MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet).

9. Preparation of Sample

9.1 *Powders and Flakes*—Minimizing exposure to air, rapidly disintegrate and mix the sample of powdered, flake, or chip product. If desired, quarter down to about 1 lb (453.6 g). Weigh at once all portions for analysis, preserving the remainder in an airtight container in a cool place.

9.2 *Liquids*—No preparation of the sample of liquid, other than a thorough mixing, is necessary unless it is received during very cold weather, when it should be allowed to stand at least 1 h after it has warmed to room temperature (20 to 30°C) before it is tested, particularly for its lathering qualities.

NOTE 2—If pastes or liquids are known to be acidic, and decomposition of sample can result from heating, the samples shall be adequately labeled for precautionary treatment and warmed to room temperature or other maximum temperature as agreed upon for mixing and sampling.

9.3 *Pastes*—Store preferably in glass. If crystals separate, melt on water bath (**Note 1**).

METHODS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

10. Purity of Reagents

10.1 Reagent grade chemicals shall be used in all tests. Unless otherwise indicated, it is intended that all reagents shall conform to the specifications of the Committee on Analytical Reagents of the American Chemical Society, where such specifications are available.³ Other grades may be used, provided it is first ascertained that the reagent is of sufficiently high purity to permit its use without lessening the accuracy of the determination.

10.2 Unless otherwise indicated, references to water shall be understood to mean reagent water conforming to Specification **D1193**.

MOISTURE BY THE DISTILLATION METHOD (Preferred Method)

11. Apparatus

11.1 The apparatus required shall consist of a glass flask heated by suitable means and provided with a reflux condenser discharging into a trap and connected to the flask. The connections between the trap and the condenser and flask shall be interchangeable ground joints. The trap serves to collect and measure the condensed water and to return the solvent to the flask. A suitable assembly of the apparatus is illustrated in **Fig. 1**.

³ *Reagent Chemicals, American Chemical Society Specifications*, American Chemical Society, Washington, DC. For suggestions on the testing of reagents not listed by the American Chemical Society, see *Analar Standards for Laboratory Chemicals*, BDH Ltd., Poole, Dorset, U.K., and the *United States Pharmacopeia and National Formulary*, U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention, Inc. (USPC), Rockville, MD.