STANDARD **8819**

Second edition
1993-10-01

Liquefied petroleum gases — Detection of hydrogen sulfide — Lead acetate method

Gaz de pétrole liquéfiés — Détection de l'acide sulfhydrique — Méthode à l'acétate de plomb

Reference number
ISO 8819:1993(E)

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO 8819 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 28, *Petroleum products and lubricants*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 8819:1987), which has been technically revised.

Annex A of this International Standard is for information only.

International Organization for Standardization
Case Postale 56 • CH-1211 Genève 20 • Switzerland
Printed in Switzerland

Liquefied petroleum gases — Detection of hydrogen sulfide — Lead acetate method

WARNING — The use of this International Standard may involve hazardous materials, operations and equipment. This standard does not purport to address all of the safety problems 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.

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a method for the detection of hydrogen sulfide in liquefied petroleum gases.

The lower limit of detectability is 4 mg of hydrogen sulfide in 1 m^3 of liquefied petroleum gas. Methyl mercaptan, if present, produces a transitory yellow stain on lead acetate paper which, however, fades completely in less than 5 min. Other sulfur compounds present in liquefied petroleum gas do not interfere with the test.

NOTE 1 Liquefied petroleum gases and the products of their combustion should not be unduly corrosive or reactive to materials with which they come into contact. It is therefore important that the presence of any hydrogen sulfide, a highly reactive substance, be detected. Additionally, the odour of hydrogen sulfide is unacceptable in some applications of liquefied petroleum gases (e.g. lighter fuel).

2 Principle

The vaporized sample is passed over moist lead acetate paper under controlled conditions. Hydrogen sulfide reacts with lead acetate to form lead sulfide and thus produces a coloration on the paper which will vary from yellow to black, depending upon the amount of hydrogen sulfide present.

3 Apparatus

3.1 Apparatus for detecting hydrogen sulfide in liquefied petroleum gas, as shown in figure 1.

3.2 Lead acetate test paper, either prepared by dipping strips of smooth filter paper into an aqueous 50 g/l solution of lead acetate, withdrawing the strips and removing excess solution from them with clean filter paper, or commercially available test paper if it is of a type that has been shown to give similar results to paper prepared as above.

The strips of the test paper shall be approximately 51 mm long by 9,5 mm wide and have a 3,5 mm diameter hole near to one end. This hole shall permit the strip to hang freely in the test apparatus.

3.3 Flow indicator, comprising a wet test meter or variable area flowmeter, which measures gas flow rates in the range of 2 l/min to 3 l/min.

4 Sampling

Information on constraints to the use of sample containers and to laboratory testing is given in annex A.

5 Procedure

5.1 Connect the test apparatus (3.1) to the sample source with a minimum length of clean stainless steel tubing.

NOTE 2 The use of rubber hoses, stoppers, etc., should be avoided since hydrogen sulfide has an affinity for rubber which will result in erroneous test results.

Flush the line and apparatus with the sample gas for approximately 1 min. Fill the water reservoir with water at a temperature of 60 °C to 80 °C. By use of the needle valve, adjust the rate of gas flow to 2,3 l/min ± 0,2 l/min.