

Gafta Contracts – Methods of Analysis 2021

To be applied to contracts with effect from 1 January 2021

Introduction

The following Methods are hereby adopted by Gafta and must be applied to all Gafta contracts where analysis of goods is required. Where a method is not specified for a particular analysis required under a contract, the parties should agree on the appropriate method to be used. Where no such agreement is made, the analyst appointed by the parties to undertake the analysis may elect to use any suitable internationally recognised method. In this case the method used should be clearly stated on the certificate(s)/report(s) of analysis issued.

For the avoidance of doubt, references to an ISO method shall mean the latest published version of the method, unless otherwise agreed.

- **Analysis Techniques**

Analysts may elect to use any existing or newly validated instrumental technique that is capable of producing the specified criteria for valid measurement. Techniques used should be clearly stated on the certificate(s)/report(s) of analysis issued.

- **Contracting Out (sub-contracting)**

All contractual analyses shall be carried out by employees of the named approved analyst laboratory.

Where there is a requirement to sub-contract any test listed on the Gafta No. 130 Register of Analytical Methods this shall be limited to another analyst laboratory registered under the Gafta Analysts Scheme and which are accredited to ISO 17025 for the test in question. Where this requirement applies to a test not listed on the Gafta No. 130 Register of Analytical Methods this shall be limited to any analyst laboratory accredited to ISO 17025 for the test in question.

If, despite reasonable efforts, an analyst laboratory accredited for the test in question is not available then the analyst laboratory may sub-contract to any appropriate analyst laboratory accredited to ISO 17025 for related analyses. In this event laboratories must be able to demonstrate that reasonable efforts were made to locate an appropriate analyst laboratory with the specific test in their scope of accreditation, but that none were found.

Analysis of the Gafta ring test samples must be undertaken by the named analyst. Under no circumstances may the analysis of ring test samples be sub-contracted.

- **Expression of analysis results**

The ISO methods adopted by these Rules generally advise on the rounding for the expression of results for reports and certificates, and these should be followed accordingly. Where a method does not stipulate the rounding then Analysts are advised to express results to one, or a maximum of two, decimal places.

- **Health and Safety**

The use of Gafta methods may involve hazardous consumables, materials, operations and equipment. It is the responsibility of the user of Gafta methods to establish the appropriate safety practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use. While it is not the purpose of Gafta methods to address all potential safety issues related to their use, Gafta support all initiatives that aim at providing a high level of safety for technicians and a healthy and sustainable environment.

- **Reference Method**

Where the Register of Analysis Methods allows the option to apply an alternative method to test a specific parameter, one method is identified as being the “**Reference Method**”.

Unless otherwise agreed, the Reference Method must be used. The alternative method may only be used if specifically agreed by the parties and the analyst instructed accordingly.

- **Sampling**

Notwithstanding any mention or statement to the contrary in any of the ISO methods adopted, sampling of contractual goods in relation to Gafta contracts must be in accordance with the Gafta Sampling Rules No. 124, unless otherwise agreed.

- **Sample Preparation**

Where the relevant ISO method prescribes a specific sample preparation procedure this should be followed. Where no such procedure is prescribed then Method 1.0 of the Gafta No. 130 Analytical Methods applies, unless otherwise agreed.