

MASTERSIZER 2000 HYDRO 2000G

QUALITY AUDIT STANDARD

CCM0063-01-EN

QAS4002 MEASUREMENT PROTOCOLS

2.5g One-shot polydisperse glass bead transfer standard.

02-2021



traceable polystyrene latex standards. As such, although these standards are transfer standards, they are indirectly traceable to NIST.

Establishing Pass/Fail criteria and measurement procedures

Malvern Panalytical carried out a programme of dispersion unit testing to characterize this Quality Audit Standard and establish the target specification. The allowable variation of this target specification is then set taking into account both the sample variability and the expected system measurement variability referenced by ISO13320.

Malvern Panalytical reserve the right to make adjustments to these target specifications to ensure they accurately reflect the expected performance of all Mastersizer 2000 dispersion units. The measurement procedure may also be adjusted to improve the measurement robustness.

Given the above, it is important that the latest version of this datasheet is used. To confirm this is the latest datasheet, visit the Malvern Panalytical website or contact your local Malvern Panalytical representative. If there is any disagreement between the datasheet and the latest OQ procedure for your system, the OQ certificate and specification should take precedence over the datasheet.

Introduction

Malvern Panalytical's QAS4002 Quality Audit Standard has been produced to provide users of Malvern Panalytical laser diffraction particle size analysers with a single-shot, polydisperse transfer standard that enables users to check the performance of their systems on a regular basis.

Compliance with international standards

QAS4002 complies with the laser diffraction system validation guidance provided in ISO13320, USP <429> and EP 2.9.31.

Each single-shot sample consists of spherical particles of known refractive index which have a particle size distribution which extends over greater than one decade in size. In addition, a clear measurement procedure for use of the standard is provided in this datasheet. QAS4002 therefore provides a means of checking and documenting the performance of a laser diffraction system as part of laboratory accreditation schemes (e.g. ISO, NAMAS, and IAF) or in-line with regulatory (e.g. FDA, EMA or MHRA) requirements.

Sample variability

Each Quality Audit Standard bottle is filled using a riffle-splitting process which ensures each sample is representative of the entire 5,200 kg master batch. The sample variability (95% tolerance limit) following riffle-splitting has been measured for the QAS4002 Quality Audit Standard via testing using a single reference Mastersizer system and has been confirmed as:

	Dv10 / μm	Dv50 / μm	Dv90 / μm
QAS4002 Sample variability	+/- 0.267	+/- 0.140	+/- 0.280

Shelf life and batch numbering

Malvern Panalytical's Quality Audit Standards are inert and are stored in sealed containers. They have a shelf life of 5 years. They are produced from a single, large 5,200 kg master batch. As a result, the only batch number for QAS4002 is 03.

Traceability

The Quality Audit Standard Pass/Fail specifications have been defined via a documented test procedure using reference laser diffraction systems. These systems have been verified using NIST-

Expected results

The specifications for the Mastersizer 2000 dispersion units are based on guidance from ISO13320 (2020). This standard allows for a maximum instrument uncertainty (u_p) of $\pm 1.5\%$ for the Dv50, $\pm 2\%$ for the Dv10 and $\pm 2.5\%$ for the Dv90. The instrument uncertainty is combined with the sample uncertainty (u_{crm}) according to equation (1) where CF is the coverage factor. As defined in the ISO standard the coverage factor is usually set between 2 and 3 depending on the desired level of confidence. A coverage factor of 2.5 has been selected to provide a confidence level of 99% and to maintain a level of consistency with specifications set under the guidance of the previous edition of ISO 13320.

$$U_{lim} = \pm CF \cdot \sqrt{u_{crm}^2 + u_p^2}$$

(1)

Taking into account the instrument, sample variability, and coverage factor the target specification for this sample is as follows:

	Dv10 / μm	Dv50 / μm	Dv90 / μm
Combined sample variability and measurement tolerance	5.07%	3.76%	6.26%
Upper Specification Limit	42.200	77.078	112.910
Target Value	40.164	74.287	106.260
Lower Specification Limit	38.128	71.496	99.610

HYDRO 2000G

with the Mastersizer 2000

If mains water has been used to rinse the unit before measurement, ensure that the final 3 rinses (two rinses and one top-up) are performed using deionised water.

If ultrasonics are available, turn off the pump/stirrer and turn on the ultrasonics for 30 sec to allow air bubbles to dissipate.

With the sample tank filled, turn the pump/stirrer on to full speed and then turn it off for about 10 sec to allow air to dissipate. Then, set the pump speed to 2,000 rpm and the stirrer to 800 rpm.

Fill in SOP settings as below, then run and follow on-screen instructions.

Materials		
Particle	Name	Glass beads (typical)
	Refractive index	1.52
	Absorption	0.00
Dispersant	Name	Water
	RI	1.33
Model	Single mode spherical	
Measurement		
Background measurement duration (s)	12	
Measurement time (s)	12	
Sample Settings		
Pump (rpm)	2,000	
Stirrer (rpm)	800	
Ultrasound	None	
Tank fill	Manual	
Cycles		
Select a single aliquot and 1 measurement cycle		

Instructions during measurement:

1. Enter the sample details along with the bottle number for the standard.
2. Make sure that the entire contents of the sample bottle is emptied into the tank at the 'add sample' stage.
3. Half fill the empty bottle with deionised water, replace the cap, shake well and empty the contents into the tank.
4. Wait 30 to 50 seconds for the sample to disperse before starting the measurement.

If due to water quality issues, glass beads are observed on the surface of the liquid following sample addition, it may be necessary to add 4-5 drops of 5% Igepal to the tank to aid dispersion.

Close the SOP after measurement and generate an average of the three measurements to obtain final result.

Stop

HYDRO 2000G

with Autosampler 2000 using deionised water

Add the contents of two bottles of QAS4002 to an autosampler pot, and load the pot onto the Autosampler tray.

If mains water has been used to rinse the Hydro 2000G unit before measurement, ensure that the final 3 rinses (two rinses and one top-up) are performed using deionised water.

With the dispersion unit filled, turn the pump off and turn on the ultrasonics for 30 sec. Turn off the ultrasonics and allow any air bubbles to dissipate. Next, adjust the pump and stirrer speed to maximum and then turn the pump and stirrer off for about 3 sec to allow air to dissipate. After 10 sec set the pump speed to 2,000 rpm and the stirrer to 800 rpm.

Fill in SOP settings as below, then run and follow on-screen instructions.

Materials			
Particle	Glass beads (typical)	RI 1.52	Absorption 0.00
Model	Single mode spherical		
Measurement			
Background measurement duration (s)	12		
Measurement time (s)	12		
Autosampler Settings			
Sample Quantity (ml)	3		
Sample Transfer	By volume		
Sub-sample volume (ml)	15		
In-pot mixingtime (s)	15		
Dispersal Delay (s)	15		
Dispersant equilibration delay (s)	30		
Sample Settings			
Pump (rpm)	2,000		
Stirrer (rpm)	800		
Ultrasound	None		
Cycles			
Select a single aliquot and 3 measurement cycles			
Select a full wash with one clean cycle for the autosampler and Hydro 2000G			
Select 'Create Average result'			

Instructions during measurement:

Enter the serial number of the dispersion unit into the sample details along with the bottle number for the standard.

Associate the sample on the autosampler tray with the SOP using the autosampler schedule. Run the measurement in accordance with the instructions in the autosampler manual.

Stop

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