

Tuesday Afternoon Poster Session 12900-1300P

Ambient Temperature Headspace in 2mL Vials for Blood Alcohol by GC Part 2. Extending the Method for Capillary GC Analysis

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Abstract.

Previously, we reported an improved method for determining Blood Alcohol levels using the Ambient Temperature Headspace from a standard 2mL autosampler vial analyzed by a packed column GC method (*Pittcon 2002, Poster 1469*). As of the submission date, approximately 6000 samples have been run using this packed column method at Sioux Falls PD. Typical RSDs of the analysis are 0.5%. The analysis is robust, reliable, and rapid, with a typical analysis time of 3 minutes per injection. As the legal alcohol limit for intoxication of 0.8% has been widely adopted in the USA, having a method with these characteristics is extremely important.

We have extended these techniques for use in a capillary GC system. A comparison of the packed column and capillary column methods will be presented.