

Service Note

Advanced Pollution Instrumentation

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PERMEATION TUBES AND API ANALYZERS

I. SCOPE:

To inform our customers about shipping and storing perm tubes for analyzers that have a permeation tube oven.

II. TOOLS REQUIRED:

None

III. PARTS:

None

IV. PROCEDURE:

API has had a number of customers that have shipped analyzers or stored analyzers with the permeation tube in the permeation oven. They then report that it takes days to weeks for the analyzer to come down to zero. The reason is that with the analyzer off, the unit does not have any purge flow across the perm tube and the gas from the tube saturates the analyzer. The length of time the unit sat with no purge flow and the concentration of the tube will dictate how long the unit will take to come back to zero.

We <u>strongly</u> advise you not to ship an analyzer with the perm tube in the oven. If you are going to ship the perm tube with the analyzer, remove it from the oven and put it into the container that the tube came in.

If you have an analyzer that is exhibiting these symptoms, you will have to allow the unit to run on zero air until the PMT level comes down to an acceptable zero, (there is no way to predict how long this process will take and could take forever).

If the perm tube is left installed in the unit when it is returned to API for service, it might take as long as one month (30 days) purge time to ensure that the unit has completely outgassed. This means that this unit might be here for longer than a month.

It is against the DOT shipping laws to ship any permeation device in anything other than the container that was designed for the shipping of that permeation device.

If you have questions regarding this procedure or any API equipment, please contact an API Customer Service representative at:

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