# Efficient and Economical Measuring Method of PCDDs/Fs for Flue Gas

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### Introduction

The measurement of PCDDs/Fs in flue gas is socially required because incineration is the main source of PCDDs/Fs in most of countries. But it is necessary much cost and highly skill to measure PCDDs/Fs. Especially, the cost of the measurement is important for the countermeasure of PCDDs/Fs when many incinerators are distributed throughout the country like Japan. Since the TEQ value is mostly the target to evaluation, every 17 toxic isomers must be determined separately. Therefore, the expensive HRGC/HRMS is the necessary instrument to avoid the interference of other compounds.

We developed efficient sampling method of PCDDs/Fs in flue gas and sensitive determination technique by economical HRGC/LRMS.

### **Materials and Methods**

The measuring method consists of four major steps, those are, sampling, extraction, cleaning-up and determination steps.



The developed sampling system consisted of two impingers is shown in Fig.1. PCDDs/Fs in flue gas were condensed in the first impinger with 200mL water and absorbed in the second impinger with 200mL or 300mL diethylene glycol (DEG) in a cooling box. The sampling probe will be cooled by water jacket or heated by mantle heater to the gas temperature ca. 130°C. The cylindrical filter can be omitted when the concentration of dust is low as in recent incineration facilities. When the condensed water is estimated more than capacity of the first impinger, an empty bottle will be added before the first impinger. The extraction procedure can be simplified when the filter is not used.

The filter is quickly extracted with toluene by using an ultrasonic bath. But when the sample contains large amount of soot or carbon dust, another extraction method like as soxlet extraction etc. must be used. The extract sample was cleaned-up by a sulfic acid-silica column and a HPLC system. The cleaned-up sample is analyzed sensitively with a bench top HRGC/LRMS by PTV (Programmable Temperature Vaporizer) method.

### **Results and Discussion**

## Sampling efficiency of the PCDDs/Fs by the developed sampling system

The recoveries are examined by using an additional XAD resin adsorber and second impinger with DEG for recovering leakage, and the results are shown in Table 1. Enough recoveries with the two stage impingers were confirmed after RUN 4 when appropriate modification was taken for effective cooling with enough ice and also for proper contact of gas with 300mL DEG in the second impinger. Therefore, it was confirmed that the developed sampling system composed the two impingers containing 200mL water and 300mL DEG could recover PCDDs/Fs completely.

Table 1 Recovery of PCDDs/Fs by the developed sampling system							$[ng/m_N^3]$		
	RUN1	RUN2	RUN3	RUN4	RUN5	RUN6	RUN7	RUN8	
Water and diethlene glycol	87	123	425	76	4608	6030	3005	820	
(developed system)									
XAD resin and second diethlene glycol	4	5	79	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
(after developed system)									
Total	91	128	505	76	4608	6030	3005	820	
Recovery by developed system [%]	96	96	84	100	100	100	100	100	

RUN1 - 3 : 200mL DEG, RUN4 - 8 : 300mL DEG

#### Comparison of measured values by developed and conventional sampling systems

The data measured instantaneously by the developed sampling system and the conventional Japanese system which uses a filter, two water impinger, a XAD resin adsorber, a DEG impinger and an empty bottle were compared, and the results are shown in Fig.2. It shows that developed system could get same or higher values than those by the conventional system. Furthermore, same results were confirmed by three companies of analysis. And the analytical data of PCDDs/Fs isomers in the same extracted samples by a company and our laboratory are shown in Table 2. The



data of each isomer by the both laboratories agreed well.

Table2 Comparison of analytical data of PCDDs	/Fs isomers in the same extracted samples
by a company and our laboratory	3

• j • • • • • · · · · · · · · · · • • • •			[ng-TEQ/m $^{3}$ N as O <sub>2</sub> =12%]					
		RU	N13	RU	N14	RUN15		
	I-TEF	Our Lab.	CompanyA	Our Lab.	CompanyA	Our Lab.	CompanyA	
2,3,7,8-T4CDD	1.00	3.0	2.8	5.3	3.5	0.94	1.1	
1,2,3,7,8-P5CDD	0.5	7.3	6.5	9.0	7.0	2.6	2.1	
1,2,3,4,7,8-H6CDD	0.1	0.79	0.80	0.72	0.67	0.26	0.21	
1,2,3,6,7,8-H6CDD	0.1	1.1	1.2	0.92	0.88	0.32	0.27	
1,2,3,7,8,9-H6CDD	0.1	0.95	0.70	0.62	0.53	0.20	0.16	
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-H7CDD	0.01	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.15	0.079	0.071	
1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9-O8CDD	0.001	0.0038	0.0054	0.0051	0.0041	0.0040	0.0035	
Total PCDDs-TEQ		13.4	12.2	16.7	12.7	4.36	3.87	
2,3,7,8-T4CDF Fig	2.2 Confiba	rison df%	neasured	values for	the same	flue gals0	1.1	
1,2,3,7,8-P5CDF	by devel	oned and	convertit	nal sam	ling syste	ms 1.2	1.1	
2,3,4,7,8-P5CDF	0.5	32 open and	29	33	27 27	7.8	7.0	
1,2,3,4,7,8-H6CDF	0.1	5.1	4.9	4.4	3.9	1.1	1.0	
1,2,3,6,7,8-H6CDF	0.1	5.1	5.2	4.2	4.3	1.1	1.1	
1,2,3,7,8,9-H6CDF	0.1	0.32	0.31	0.45	0.23	0.089	0.06	
2,3,4,6,7,8-H6CDF	0.1	4.2	4.3	3.2	3.2	0.92	0.97	
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-H7CDF	0.01	0.74	0.73	0.60	0.62	0.22	0.20	
1,2,3,4,7,8,9-H7CDF	0.01	0.049	0.047	0.057	0.053	0.024	0.025	
1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9-O8CDF	0.001	0.0028	0.0026	0.0046	0.0031	0.0043	0.0025	
Total PCDFs-TEQ		53.2	50.4	52.5	45.7	13.5	12.5	
Total PCDD/Fs-TEQ		67	63	69	58	18	16	

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### High sensitive determination technique in HRGC/LRMS

The sensitivity of HRGC/LRMS is not so high as HRGC/HRMS, but the sensitivity could be enhanced by increasing the sampling volume of flue gas and the injection volume into the GC/MS by the PTV method.

Figs.3 and 4 show the good linearity in peak areas with injection volumes up to 20 microliters, when we use the PTV injection method for a HRGC/LRMS of Shimadzu type QP5000.

By using the HRGC/LRMS, the instrument cost can be reduced drastically, and also the training cost for the operator and the maintenance cost can be reduced.







Fig.4 Relationships between peak areas of PCDFs and injection volumes into GC/MS (Concentration of PCDFs:  $25pg/\mu L$ )

The developed measuring method could be reduced drastically with the operation time, the use

ORGANOHALOGEN COMPOUNDS 238 Vol.40 (1999) solvent volume, and cost. It gives realistic method for routine analyses especially for the flue gas of various incineration facilities.

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