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Conversion of the Agilent EI GC/MSD Systems from Helium to Hydrogen Carrier Gas

Tuesday, October 9, 2012

USA 11:00 a.m. EDT / 10:00 a.m. CDT / 8:00 a.m. PDT / 15:00 GMT

Overview:

For years the analytical community has heard rumors related to shortages in helium supply and pending disruption of day-to-day activities due lack of helium availability. In 2012, rumor became reality as many consumers of analytical grade helium received notification about increased pricing, that suppliers may not be able to deliver contracted volumes, or that helium deliveries would be delayed or suspended. In response to this news, GC/MS analysts have considered alternate carrier gases to helium.

Along with considerations regarding system safety and leak detection, analysts must recognize the differences with using hydrogen carrier, plan for method adaptation, optimization and validation, and required change to SOPs. This presentation will review steps recommended for converting EI GC/MS methods from helium to hydrogen carrier gas including hardware optimization, analyte stability, consideration for column and chromatographic conditions, and potential change to analytical sensitivity.

What Participants Will Learn:

- Many GC/MS users are considering changing from helium to hydrogen carrier gas due to price/availability problems with helium.
- This talk describes the steps recommended for converting EI GC/MS methods.
- It is important to recognize the differences with using hydrogen carrier. Time should be allotted for adapting the method, optimization, and resolving potential problems. Areas that will need attention include:
 - choice of supply of H₂
 - GC/MSD hardware changes

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Who should attend?

- GC/MS users, including those using GC/MS for environmental, toxicology, food, and energy and chemical applications.
- Management personnel concerned about escalating cost of helium, or with concerns about disruption of business due to disruption of supply.
- GC/MS operators and method development personnel interested in transitioning from helium to hydrogen carrier gas.
- Operators interested in system performance with hydrogen vs. helium carrier.

Speaker

Bruce Quimby, Ph.D.
Senior Applications Chemist
Gas Phase Division Solutions Group
Agilent Technologies



Moderator

Stephen K. Ritter, Ph.D.
Senior Correspondent
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