

Ti Application Note No. T- 15

Title: Non-ionic surfactants in liquid household cleaners

Summary: Determination of non-ionic surfactants in household cleaners by potentiometric titration with sodium tetraphenylborate using the NIO surfactant electrode.

Sample: Two different household cleaners

Sample Preparation: none

Instruments and Accessories: 702, 716 or 736 Titrino or 726 Titroprocessor, 6.0507.010 NIO surfactant electrode and 6.0726.100 reference electrode (bridge electrolyte $c(\text{NaCl}) = 3 \text{ mol/L}$)

Analysis: Weigh ca. 0.3 g sample (precision 0.1 mg) into a beaker and dissolve in 10 mL $c(\text{BaCl}_2) = 0.1 \text{ mol/L}$. Add ca. 90 mL dist. water and titrate with sodium tetraphenylborate $c(\text{STPB}) = 0.01 \text{ mol/L}$.

Calculation: **Determination of the calibration factor:**

Weigh ca. 0.2 ... 0.3 g of the standard NIO surfactant into a beaker and perform the analysis as described above.

$$f (\text{mg/mL}) = E * 1000 / EP1$$

EP1 = titrant consumption in mL
f = calibration factor in mg/mL
E = sample weight in g (calculated as 100 % NIO surfactant)

Content determination:

$$\% \text{ NIO surfactants} = EP1 * f / (10 * C00) - C$$

C00 = sample weight in g
C = content of cationic surfactants in % (has to be determined in a separate titration)

Remarks: Results:
Sample A: $\text{AVG}(3) = 5.08 \pm 0.03 \%$ NIO surfactant
Sample B: $\text{AVG}(3) = 5.31 \pm 0.03 \%$ NIO surfactant