Important Changes to Sampling Containers

Effective July 24, 2017

Maxxam has always fostered a commitment to sustainable innovation and efficiency in the field of environmental and analytical sciences. In support of these values, we are notifying you of upcoming modifications to: sample volumes, container sizes, required quantities, and preservation. Bottle orders and sampling supplies will start to ship on Monday, July 24, 2017 with these changes incorporated. Since this initiative is intended to be a gradual phase-out of the current containers (with separate preservatives), Maxxam will continue processing and analyzing all submissions, regardless of container size. Consequently, there is no need to discard or return to Maxxam any containers that have been stocked.

Summary

Although the container change is a national initiative at Maxxam, the information in this document is only reflective of changes taking place in Manitoba. Note that these changes have already taken place in Saskatchewan and Alberta. For samples received by our laboratory in Manitoba from other regions, we will continue accepting containers and preservatives as prescribed in those regions.

The upcoming container volume improvements will not impact data accuracy, precision, method sensitivity (i.e. - no change to RDLs) or our ability to provide regulatory and project specific detection limits. These improvements are a result of extensive efforts by our laboratory teams during the winter season to increase analytical efficiency.

These changes will have the following benefits for your sampling and analytical programs:

- Reduced sampling time for field personnel.
- Reduced waste as vials for preservative transport will no longer be used.
- Increased sampling efficiency as the same sampling containers used in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta

Water Samples Requiring Preservation: Pre-Charged Sampling Containers

Analysis	Sample Bottle	Pre-charged Preservative
TKN, COD, NH_4, Total P, TOC/DOC	250mL P	2mL 50% H_2SO_4
Metals Scan	125mL P	1mL 50% HNO_3
Mercury	100mL CG	1mL 50% HCl
Hexavalent Chromium - Cr (VI)	60mL P	1mL 10N NaOH
Phenolics (4-AAP)	100mL AG	2mL 50% H2SO4
Cyanide (WAD / SAD)	125mL P	1mL 10N NaOH
Sulphide	250mL P	1mL 10N NaOH/1mL 2N ZnAc

P – Plastic; CG – Clear Glass; and AG – Amber Glass

Inorganic Water Samples Requiring Preservation: Special Instructions

For **Total** parameters: Fill container with sample, **without** removing preservative.

For **Field-filtered Dissolved** parameters: Fill container with **filtered sample, without** removing preservative.

For **Lab-Filtered Dissolved** parameters: **Remove preservative** from container and **dispose of in accordance with environmental regulatory guidelines**. Fill **empty container** with sample and indicate **laboratory filtration is required**.

Sample Volume and Container Changes

Parameter	Old Container	New Container
TKN, COD, NH_4, Total P, TOC/DOC	120mL P with 1mL 50% H2SO4 vial	250mL P with 2mL 50% H_2SO_4 pre-charged
Mercury	40mL CG with 1mL 50% HCl vial	100mL CG with 1mL 50% HCl pre-charged
Hexavalent Chromium - Cr (VI)	120mL P with 1mL 10N NaOH vial	60mL P with 1mL 10N NaOH pre-charged
Sulphide	120mL P with 1mL 10N NaOH/1mL 2N ZnAc vials	250mL P with 1mL 10N NaOH/1mL 2N ZnAc pre-charged

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If you have any further questions or concerns regarding these initiatives, please do not hesitate to contact your Maxxam representative or CustomerServicemb@maxxam.ca