§ 1065.341 CVS and batch sampler verification (propane check).

(a) A propane check serves as a CVS verification to determine if there is a discrepancy in measured values of diluted exhaust flow. A propane check also serves as a batch-sampler verification to determine if there is a discrepancy in a batch sampling system that extracts a sample from a CVS, as described in paragraph (g) of this section. Using good engineering judgment and safe practices, this check may be performed using a gas other than propane, such as CO₂ or CO. A failed propane check might indicate one or more problems that may require corrective action, as follows:

(1) **Incorrect analyzer calibration.** Recalibrate, repair, or replace the FID analyzer.

(2) **Leaks.** Inspect CVS tunnel, connections, fasteners, and HC sampling system, and repair or replace components.

(3) **Poor mixing.** Perform the verification as described in this section while traversing a sampling probe across the tunnel’s diameter, vertically and horizontally. If the analyzer response indicates any deviation exceeding ±2% of the mean measured concentration, consider operating the CVS at a higher flow rate or installing a mixing plate or orifice to improve mixing.

(4) **Hydrocarbon contamination in the sample system.** Perform the hydrocarbon-contamination verification as described in §1065.320.

(5) **Change in CVS calibration.** Perform an in-situ calibration of the CVS flow meter as described in §1065.340.

(6) **Other problems with the CVS or sampling verification hardware or software.** Inspect the CVS system, CVS verification hardware, and software for discrepancies.

(b) A propane check uses either a reference mass or a reference flow rate of C₃H₈ as a tracer gas in a CVS. Note that if you use a reference flow rate, account for any non-ideal gas behavior of C₃H₈ in the reference flow meter. Refer to §1065.640 and §1065.642, which describe how to calibrate and use certain flow meters. Do not use any ideal gas assumptions in §1065.640 and §1065.642. The propane check compares the calculated mass of injected C₃H₈ using HC measurements and CVS flow rate measurements with the reference value.

(c) Prepare for the propane check as follows:

(1) If you use a reference mass of C₃H₈ instead of a reference flow rate, obtain a cylinder charged with C₃H₈. Determine the reference cylinder’s mass of C₃H₈ within ±0.5% of the amount of C₃H₈ that you expect to use.

(2) Select appropriate flow rates for the CVS and C₃H₈.

(3) Select a C₃H₈ injection port in the CVS. Select the port location to be as close as practical to the location where you introduce engine exhaust into the CVS. Connect the C₃H₈ cylinder to the injection system.

(4) Operate and stabilize the CVS.

(5) Preheat or precool any heat exchangers in the sampling system.

(6) Allow heated and cooled components such as sample lines, filters, chillers, and pumps to stabilize at operating temperature.

(7) You may purge the HC sampling system during stabilization.

(8) If applicable, perform a vacuum side leak verification of the HC sampling system as described in §1065.345.

(9) You may also conduct any other calibrations or verifications on equipment or analyzers.

(d) If you performed the vacuum-side leak verification of the HC sampling system as described in paragraph (c)(8) of this section, you may use the HC contamination procedure in §1065.520(g) to verify HC contamination. Otherwise, zero, span, and verify contamination of the HC sampling system, as follows:

(1) Select the lowest HC analyzer range that can measure the C₃H₈ concentration expected for the CVS and C₃H₈ flow rates.

(2) Zero the HC analyzer using zero air introduced at the analyzer port.

(3) Span the HC analyzer using C₃H₈ span gas introduced at the analyzer port.

(4) Overflow zero air at the HC probe inlet or into a tee near the outlet of the probe.
(5) Measure the stable HC concentration of the HC sampling system as overflow zero air flows. For batch HC measurement, fill the batch container (such as a bag) and measure the HC overflow concentration.

(6) If the overflow HC concentration exceeds 2 μmol/mol, do not proceed until contamination is eliminated. Determine the source of the contamination and take corrective action, such as cleaning the system or replacing contaminated portions.

(7) When the overflow HC concentration does not exceed 2 μmol/mol, record this value as x_{THC_{init}} and use it to correct for HC contamination as described in §1065.660.

(e) Perform the propane check as follows:

(1) For batch HC sampling, connect clean storage media, such as evacuated bags.

(2) Operate HC measurement instruments according to the instrument manufacturer’s instructions.

(3) If you will correct for dilution air background concentrations of HC, measure and record background HC in the dilution air.

(4) Zero any integrating devices.

(5) Begin sampling, and start any flow integrators.

(6) Release the contents of the C_3H_8 reference cylinder at the rate you selected. If you use a reference flow rate of C_3H_8, start integrating this flow rate.

(7) Continue to release the cylinder’s contents until at least enough C_3H_8 has been released to ensure accurate quantification of the reference C_3H_8 and the measured C_3H_8.

(8) Shut off the C_3H_8 reference cylinder and continue sampling until you have accounted for time delays due to sample transport and analyzer response.

(9) Stop sampling and stop any integrators.

(10) Perform post-test procedure as follows:

(1) If you used batch sampling, analyze batch samples as soon as practical.

(2) After analyzing HC, correct for contamination and background.

(3) Calculate total C_3H_8 mass based on your CVS and HC data as described in §1065.650 and §1065.660, using the molar mass of C_3H_8, M_{C_3H_8}, instead of the effective molar mass of HC, M_{HC}.

(4) If you use a reference mass, determine the cylinder’s propane mass within ±0.5% and determine the C_3H_8 reference mass by subtracting the empty cylinder propane mass from the full cylinder propane mass.

(5) Subtract the reference C_3H_8 mass from the calculated mass. If this difference is within ±2.0% of the reference mass, the CVS passes this verification. If not, take corrective action as described in paragraph (a) of this section.

(g) You may repeat the propane check to verify a batch sampler, such as a PM secondary dilution system. (1) Configure the HC sampling system to extract a sample near the location of the batch sampler’s storage media (such as a PM filter). If the absolute pressure at this location is too low to extract an HC sample, you may sample HC from the batch sampler pump’s exhaust. Use caution when sampling from pump exhaust because an otherwise acceptable pump leak downstream of the batch sampler flow meter will cause a false failure of the propane check.

(2) Repeat the propane check described in this section, but sample HC from the batch sampler.

(3) Calculate C_3H_8 mass, taking into account any secondary dilution from the batch sampler.

(4) Subtract the reference C_3H_8 mass from the calculated mass. If this difference is within ±5% of the reference mass, the batch sampler passes this verification. If not, take corrective action as described in paragraph (a) of this section.

[70 FR 40516, July 13, 2005, as amended at 73 FR 37307, June 30, 2008; 73 FR 59328, Oct. 8, 2008]