

Moisture In Plastics Measurement

COMPUTRAC VAPOR PRO – THE COST EFFECTIVE SOLUTION TO ENSURING COMMERCIAL PLASTICS ARE DRY AND READY TO MOULD

Plastics are found in almost everything we use nowadays, including computers, mobile phones, bottles and cars to quote but a few examples. Resins are the constituents that go to make up the different types of plastic products. Plastic processors will heat the resins then mould or extrude them into the desired shapes to create the final product. It is a very simple process, but it is important to keep the resins dry.



If there is excess moisture in the resins, the end product will be defective and prone to break. This can lead to expensive product recalls and a damaged reputation for the manufacturer.

Plastic processors use large industrial driers to reduce the moisture in the resins. However, not all processors test their resins to ensure the dryers are working properly.

Many processors use the Karl Fischer titration method (KF), which is a recognised primary standard for moisture analysis. It uses a chemical reaction to determine how much water is in the sample. It is a very accurate method but one that uses toxic chemicals, large quantities of high grade glassware and also requires a relatively high level of operator skill.

The Computrac Vapor Pro Moisture Analyser provides an excellent alternative method for moisture determination in plastics, showing superb correlation to the KF method, and high accuracy with ease of operation, and without the need for toxic reagents.

As you would expect, the long term operating costs of the Vapor Pro are significantly less than the KF method as consumables are kept to a minimum and labour

requirements reduced. The Vapor Pro is highly durable and can be deployed directly in the manufacturing facility, unlike the KF apparatus.

Even in these days of improved quality control, there are still companies who do not test for moisture at all, which is obviously a gamble. If the driers are not operating to specification, resin drying will be incomplete and this may not be apparent until the finished product is found to be defective. If, for example, the faulty plastic has been used in the manufacture of a medical device, this may have serious consequences.

Before you say no to the need to test for moisture in your plastics, you should ask yourself the following questions:-

1. How much will a product recall cost your company?
2. How would quality problems damage your reputation as a manufacturer?

The Computrac Vapor Pro is already established in the testing of plastics production for many applications. A few examples of these are: Medical devices; Automotive Parts; Custom Injection moulding; Packaging (bubble wrap, bottles etc); Resin Manufacturers.

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