LOI Analysis of Polypropylene and Polyester with Glass

A506.0

**Method Parameters**

Dwell Time: 10-20 minutes

Temperature: 530 °C

**Recommended Systems**

PHOENIX

Sample Size: 2 grams

**Equipment**

PHOENIX OR MAS-7000, 50ml quartz fiber ashing crucibles, quartz fiber crucible liners (disks), tongs, gloves, brush, desiccator, balance capable of weighing to + 0.1 mg.

**Procedure**

1. Program the PHOENIX OR MAS-7000 for 10-20 minutes and 530 °C. Allow the ashing furnace to reach the set temperature.

2. Weigh a crucible to the nearest + 0.1 mg. Record the weight as Figure A. See notes 1 and 2 below.

3. Weigh 2 grams of sample to the nearest + 0.1 mg. into the crucible.Record the weight as Figure B.

4. Place the crucible with sample in the furnace and ash for 10-20 minutes. Remove the crucible and allow it to cool in a desiccator for 1 minute.

5. Reweigh the crucible containing the ash to the nearest + 0.1 mg. Record weight as Figure C.

6. Calculate the percent LOI using the following equation:

% LOI = I - ((C - A) / (B - A)) x 100

A=Weight of crucible

B=Weight of sample, crucible

C=Weight of ignited sample, crucible

**Results**

Microwave Ashing Procedure

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sample** | **Time (min)** | **Temp. °C** | **%LOI** |
| Polyester/Glass | 20 | 530 | 50.17 |
|  |  |  | 50.88 |
|  |  |  | 50.29 |
| **Avg.** |  |  | **50.45** |
| **Std.Dev.** |  |  | **0.38** |
|  |  |  |  |
| Polypropylene/Glass | 10 | 530 | 49.81 |
|  |  |  | 49.39 |
|  |  |  | 49.44 |
| **Avg.** |  |  | **49.55** |
| **Std.Dev.** |  |  | **0.23** |

**Note 1**:Quartz fiber ashing crucibles and disks should be pre-ashed for 10 minutes before they are used for sample ashing to insure results are accurate to + 0.001%.

**Note 2**: Quartz fiber ashing crucibles may be reused until small holes or cracks begin to appear. The crucibles should then be discarded. Used quartz fiber ashing crucibles should be cleaned before reusing by brushing out all ash particles with a soft, bristle brush. Quartz fiber ashing disks are not reusable.