



Katahdin Analytical Services Performs Oil and Grease Analysis to Support Environmental Compliance

Katahdin Analytical Services Laboratory is located in Maine near the legendary coast. They moved into their current location in 2006 and underwent an expansion in 2013 to accommodate their growing need for space. They have a number of accreditations including DOD ELAP/ISO 17025. They offer a variety of analytical services, including volatile organics, semi volatiles, full inorganic lab with metals analysis, air analysis and microbiology. They have a specially enclosed clean room laboratory for ultra-trace mercury preparation and measurement. Although most of their work is environmental they have an expanding food analysis department, reflecting the market demand for safer food.

Katahdin uses the Horizon Technology SPE-DEX[®] 3000XL for oil and grease extraction (extractable hydrocarbons) and evaporates the resulting extracts with the Speed-Vap[®] III. The SPE-DEX 3000 has three positions for the simultaneous or independent extraction of three samples at a time. They perform oil and grease analysis using USEPA method 1664B for a wide variety of municipal, commercial and government agencies. Some of their analyses are time sensitive for delivery to the regulatory agency. Some of the samples have large amounts of particulate and they have both the 47-mm disk holder and the 100-mm disk holder to speed processing of the dirtier samples. The Speed-Vap III is also used to evaporate oil and grease extracts from soils and food fat extracts, making it very efficiently used. The food fat content is typically measured to verify that the client's specifications are met or, in some cases, to verify the nutritional label.

Katahdin uses Pacific Premium disks for all their work. They noticed early on that the performance of the Premium Disks gave them better recoveries of their laboratory control samples (LCS). The equipment operator and organics laboratory manager are pleased to be able to provide accurate and timely results to their clients for difficult samples needing oil and grease measurement.

