

Steel Ring Certified Reference Material

Product No: AR873**Lot No: 240715**

Material and Intended Use

AR873 is a steel ring certified reference material (CRM). The intended use of this CRM is for the verification and calibration of induction furnace combustion and other appropriate analysis methods for the determination of carbon and sulfur. This CRM can also be used to validate value assignment of in-house reference materials. A unit consists of one bottle containing 454 g of reference material in nominal 1.0 g rings. All reference materials should be verified as fit for purpose prior to use.

Instructions for Use

This product requires no preparation prior to use. The minimum sample size for analysis is dependent upon the test method and instrumentation used. It is recommended that no less than 1 ring of CRM material be used for destructive test methods. Bottles of rings should be kept sealed tight and stored in a cool, dry location. Certified values are valid for 15 years from the initial date of certification if handling and storage instructions are followed. Certification is rendered null and void if the CRM is in any way modified or damaged.

Reported Values

Certified values indicate the amount of each element present in the overall material matrix and are metrologically traceable to the International System of Units (SI) derived unit of mass fraction expressed as a percent (%). Certified values are reported as the mean property value with an expanded uncertainty ($U_{95\%}$). The true value of the measurand is believed to lie within the expanded uncertainty coverage interval with 95% confidence. Expanded uncertainty is calculated by application of a coverage factor (k) to the combined standard uncertainty (u_c). For laboratory uncertainty budgets, the combined standard uncertainty can be calculated as $u_c = U_{95\%}/k$, where k is approximately equal to 2. The estimation of combined standard uncertainty (u_c) includes contributions from material homogeneity, primary calibrants, characterization, and other factors. Sampling and calculation of reported values for each measurand are performed using practices consistent with ISO 17034:2016 and ISO Guide 35. Certified values are accredited under Alpha Resources, LLC ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 17034 certificates issued by ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB), AT-1200 and AR1920.

Table 1. Certified values for AR873, Lot 240715.

Element	Certified Value	$U_{95\%}$	Method & Detection	n
%Carbon	0.461	0.016	Combustion/IR	48
%Sulfur	0.0127	0.0022	Combustion/IR	48

Certified values were validated using the following primary reference standards:

NIST SRM	2160, 13g, 339, 155, 346a
NCS	NS 13007
JSS	050-8, 605-11
BCS	464
AR	873-619G, 875-119D

Homogeneity

This product was manufactured from a single heat lot of bulk material. Samples were randomly selected using practices consistent with ISO Guide 35 Section 7. Homogeneity was evaluated by replicate analysis. Within- and between-sample variance was evaluated using Analysis of Variance (ANOVA).

Methods and References

ARI-LAB-621 – Alpha Resources Method, Carbon and Sulfur Analysis by Induction Furnace Combustion/IR Detection

ASTM E1019 – Standard Test Methods for Determination of Carbon, Sulfur, Nitrogen, and Oxygen in Steel, Iron, Nickel, and Cobalt Alloys by Various Combustion and Inert Gas Fusion Techniques

ISO/IEC 17025:2017 – General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories

ISO 17034:2016 – General requirements for the competence of reference material producers

ISO 33401:2024 – Reference materials – Contents of certificates, labels, and accompanying documentation

ISO Guide 30:2015 – Terms and definitions used in connection with reference materials

ISO Guide 35:2017 – Reference materials – General and statistical principles for certification

**Dustin Jenkins, Ph.D.****Global Technical Director****Certification Date:** October 21, 2024

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