

# Certification Report – Certified Reference Material

## Certipur® Secondary buffers

**Manufacturer:**

Merck KGaA, Frankfurter Str. 250, 64293 Darmstadt, Germany, Tel. +49(0)6151 720

**Accreditation:**

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is accredited by the German accreditation authority as registered reference material producer (D-RM-15185-01-00) in accordance with **ISO 17034**.

**Introduction:**

This certification report contains additional information about certified values and uncertainties, homogeneity, stability, traceability and other relevant details of Certipur® secondary buffer solutions.

The scope of the ISO 17034 accreditation is documented in the annex to the accreditation certificate D-RM-15185-01-00. The pH standards are produced, characterized and certified by the legal entity Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany.

**Preparation and packaging of CRMs:**

Certipur® secondary buffer solutions are prepared gravimetrically from high purity salts diluted in high purity water. All balances are regularly calibrated with analytical weight sets traceable to primary weights by PTB (Physikalisch Technische Bundesanstalt). The pH-value of each batch is measured by differential potentiometry.

Certipur® secondary buffer solutions are delivered in 100 ml high density PE bottles. The label on the products is in accordance with ISO Guide 31 and covers ordering number, article description, lot number, expiry date and safety data information. Packaging material is subject to comprehensive stability studies according to ISO Guide 35.

**Homogeneity:**

Homogeneity studies were conducted in accordance with ISO Guide 35.

A representative number of samples packaged in their final form was chosen systematically (stratified over the whole batch) for assessment of the between-bottle (between-unit) homogeneity. Measurements have been carried out according to DIN EN ISO/IEC 17025. Results from multiple samples of the chosen bottles were evaluated.

Typical homogeneity contributions to uncertainty  $u_{\text{hom}}$  are in the range of pH 0.001.

**Stability:**

Stability studies were conducted in accordance to ISO Guide 35.

Stability comprises long-term stability, which is associated with the storage behavior of the CRMs under recommended storage conditions as well as short-term (transportation) stability that takes any extra effects due to transport of the products into account (quantification of transport effects that result from temperature variations during shipment).



### Long-term stability:

Long-term stability of the products was evaluated using the isochronous experimental layout. Samples were stored at the recommended storage conditions before measurement. pH measurements were conducted according to DIN EN ISO/IEC 17025. Results were evaluated using a linear regression model and the calculated uncertainty included into the uncertainty budget as long-term stability contribution  $u_{lts}$ .

Typical long-term stability contributions to uncertainty  $u_{lts}$  are in the range of pH 0.001-0.02 depending on the buffer substance.

### Short-term (transportation) stability:

Short-term (transportation) stability was evaluated using the isochronous experimental layout. Samples were stored at elevated temperatures that may arise during shipment of the products before measurement. Results were evaluated using a linear regression model and the calculated uncertainty is included into the uncertainty budget as short-term (transportation) stability contribution  $u_{sts}$ .

Typically, there is no contribution  $u_{sts}$  to uncertainty through short-term (transportation) stability.

### Stability monitoring:

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany will monitor all Certipur® secondary buffer solutions over the period of their certification (until expiry date). If substantive technical changes occur that affect the validity of certification, the customer will be notified.

### Characterisation:

Characterisation of Certipur® secondary buffer solution is carried out by the accredited quality control (QC) laboratory at Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany according to DIN EN ISO / IEC 17025 by differential potentiometry.

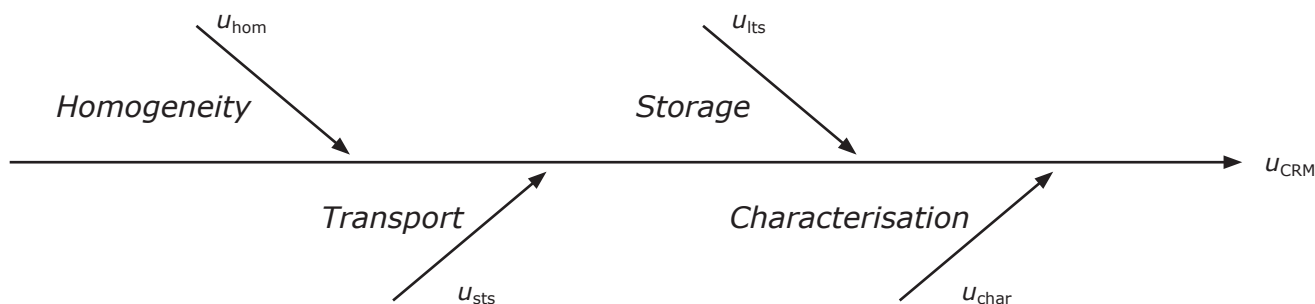
Typical characterisation contributions to uncertainty  $u_{char}$  are in the range of pH 0.004.

### Traceability:

All certified values of Certipur® secondary buffer solutions are directly traceable to the corresponding primary certified reference material of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, characterized by PTB (Physikalisch Technische Bundesanstalt) and verified by SRM's from NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology).

### Uncertainty evaluation:

The expanded uncertainty  $U_{CRM}$  reported with the certified values is calculated in accordance to GUM and EA-4/02, with  $k=2$  as the coverage factor for a 95% coverage probability. Uncertainty contributions to the certified expanded uncertainty are illustrated by the following cause-and-effect-diagram (Ishikawa-Diagram):



The expanded uncertainty  $u_{\text{CRM}}$  is obtained from the standard uncertainties of characterisation, homogeneity and stability:

$$u_{\text{CRM}} = k \cdot u_{\text{CRM}}$$

$$u_{\text{CRM}} = \sqrt{u^2_{\text{Characterisation}} + u^2_{\text{Homogeneity}} + u^2_{\text{Stability}}}$$

$$u^2_{\text{Stability}} = u^2_{\text{sts}} + u^2_{\text{Its}}$$

Quality management system:

Certipur® Secondary buffer solutions have been prepared and certified under an ISO 9001 quality management system in accordance to

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

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

ISO Guide 31: Reference materials – Contents of certificates and labels

Eurachem / CITAC Guide: Quantifying uncertainty in analytical measurement

Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in measurement (GUM)

DIN EN ISO / IEC 17025: General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories

The vibrant M, Supelco, Certipur and Sigma-Aldrich are trademarks of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany or its affiliates.

Detailed information on trademarks is available via publicly accessible resources.  
© 2023 Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany and/or its affiliates. All Rights Reserved.

**The life science business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany operates as MilliporeSigma in the U.S. and Canada.**

