

Re: GC/MS quality gases

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.chem/2007-04/msg00273.html>

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 - *Date:* 26 Apr 2007 05:43:26 -0700
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On Apr 24, 6:06 pm, d...@xxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

Hi,

Who are the best suppliers of GC/MS quality gases, i.e. helium, hydrogen, methane? Price is a consideration.

In this world we generally have to pay higher prices for higher quality goods. What do you need from your gas supplier?

Good gas— UHP grade gas is necessary. How much time do you want to spend analyzing impurities that come from the carrier gas? Here we have Matheson, Holox, Airgas as our main suppliers. I think the quality in general is close from each.

Service— can you get a cylinder promptly when you need it? The cheapest supplier doesn't seem like a bargain if they only deliver once a week and you need something tomorrow. How will they respond if you think you have a contaminated gas cylinder? Will they care? It can happen with any gas company.

Does anyone use traps

(water/oxygen/hydrocarbon) in an effort to save money on high price research quality gases?

I use traps to protect my instruments, not to try to "get away" with using low quality gasses. Do you do trace analysis? How important are high sensitivity, low background, low column bleed, long column life?

If you are measuring percent components that are well separated chromatographically why not use welding grade nitrogen for carrier gas???? Look beyond the basic cost of a gas cylinder and evaluate the total quality of a potential supplier.

Richard

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