

FRAUNHOFER INSTITUTE FOR CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY ICT



Automotive interior.
Odor test by standard of comparison.

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ODOR TESTS OLFACTORY ASSESSMENT AND VOC-ANALYSES

The odor of a product is an important sign of quality. Disagreeable odors will not be accepted by potential and regular customers. As a consequence market opportunities can not be utilized, or customers might complain about the product. Usually an estimation of the sensory product characteristics is not meaningful when conducted exclusively by instrumental analysis methods. A combination of olfactory assessment and VOC-analysis is essential for the identification and elimination of disagreeable odors.

The state-of-the-art testing tool for odor studies is the standardized norm ISO 16000-28, developed by German Federal Environmental Agency (UBA) and Federal Institute for Materials Testing (BAM). The norm implements the odor test into the established emission chamber test (AgBB-scheme). The assessment regarding odor/off-odor characteristics is carried out by a qualified panel (of eight). Furthermore the established odor test according to VDA 270 of the automotive industry allows a fast and best-practice odor analysis. The evaluation of the olfactory characteristics is carried out by a qualified panel (three to five persons).

We offer qualified analyses and advisory services in the scope of olfactory assessment. Odor tests can be realized with the support of a qualified panel but also by a non-qualified random panel.

Test services at the ICT

- Odor test according to ISO 16000-28
- Odor test according to VDA 270
- Emission test according to DIN EN ISO 16000-9
- Advisory services regarding test facilities and product emissions