



# CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

# ERM®-AE121

Boric acid in water				
Certified quantity 1)	Certified value 1)	Uncertainty 2)		
δ <sup>11</sup> B <sub>NIST 951</sub> in ‰	19.9	0.6		

<sup>1)</sup>  $\delta^{11}B$  is a measure for the isotope variation. It is expressed as the shift of the isotopic composition relative to an internationally accepted standard given in per mill. It is calculated according to the following equation, with NIST SRM 951 (isotope reference material for boron) being used as reference:  $\delta^{11}B = ((R_{sample}/R_{reference})-1)\cdot 10^3$ . This certified reference material (CRM) is traceable to the international  $\delta$ -scale for boron with the origin being represented by NIST SRM 951.

This certificate is valid for 10 years for units with unbroken seal stored under required conditions. This validity may be extended as further evidence of stability becomes available.

# **NOTE**

European Reference Material ERM®-AE121 was produced and certified under the responsibility of BAM Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und –prüfung according to the principles laid down in the technical guidelines of the European Reference Materials® co-operation agreement between BAM-LGC-IRMM. Information on these guidelines is available on the Internet (<a href="http://www.erm-crm.org">http://www.erm-crm.org</a>).

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<sup>2)</sup> Expanded uncertainty U with a coverage factor of k=2, as defined in the Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement (GUM), including the repeatability of the measurement and of the determination of correction factors for systematic errors as well as contributions from certified values.

Indicative Values				
Quantity	Indicative value 1)	Uncertainty <sup>2)</sup>		
Isotope abundance ratio $R(^{10}B/^{11}B)$	0.24233	0.00032		
Isotope abundance ratio $R(^{11}B/^{10}B)$	4.127	0.006		
Isotope abundance <sup>10</sup> B	0.19506	0.00021		
Isotope abundance <sup>11</sup> B	0.80494	0.00021		
Molar mass of Boron in solution <i>M</i> (B), in g·mol <sup>-1</sup>	10.81495	0.00021		
Mass fraction of boron in solution, <i>w</i> ( <i>B</i> ) in mg·kg <sup>-1</sup>	100.0	2.0		

<sup>1)</sup> The isotopic composition is being determined by TIMS and is given as indicative value. The boron mass fraction was determined by isotope dilution mass spectrometry and gravimetry and is considered as indicative value only. It is traceable to the International System of units (SI) in the shortest possible way. Every measurement and correction is being calibrated using SI traceable calibrators.

# **DESCRIPTION OF THE SAMPLE**

ERM-AE121 is composed of an aqueous boric acid solution and is filled in PFA-bottles of approximately 20 mL, sealed in a plastic bag. It is designed for calibration and validation of all procedures (e.g. TIMS, ICPMS) being used for the determination of  $\delta^{11}$ B-values.

The atomic weights used in the calculation, are the following ones:

<sup>10</sup>B: 10.0129371 (3) <sup>11</sup>B: 11.0093055 (4)

The certified values with their combined standard uncertainties (k=1) are given in the following table:

Certified quantity	Certified value	Standard uncertainty
δ <sup>11</sup> B <sub>NIST 951</sub> in ‰	19.88	0.30

# **ANALYTICAL METHOD USED FOR CERTIFICATION**

The certified values are determined by TIMS using the  $Na_2BO_2^+$  as well as the  $Cs_2BO_2^+$ /graphite technique. The measurements were calibrated by using the primary boron isotope reference materials IRMM-011 and NIST SRM 951. More details can be obtained from the certification report, which can be requested from BAM.

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<sup>2)</sup> Expanded uncertainty U with a coverage factor of k=2, as defined in the Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement (GUM) and includes the repeatability of the measurement and of the determination of correction factors for systematic errors as well as contributions from certified values. The uncertainty value is traceable to the SI.



#### **PARTICIPANTS**

BAM Division I.1, Working Group Metallomics

#### SAFETY INFORMATION

The usual laboratory safety precautions apply.

# **INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE**

The solution should be withdrawn by pouring in another bottle or container and never by pipettes and the like. Any contamination will result in a bias of the  $\delta^{11}$ B value.

#### **STORAGE**

This CRM should be stored under cool (5±3)°C and dark conditions to reduce evaporation effects.

However, BAM cannot be held responsible for changes that happen during storage of the material at the customer's premises, especially of opened samples.

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

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# **NOTE**

A detailed technical report describing the production, characterisation as well as the analytical procedures applied and the treatment of the analytical data used to certify ERM®-AE121 is available on request from BAM.

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