

ACIRS-H9-2022-Lot #2

Certified Reference Material

for Hardgrove Grindability Index (Set of 4)

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Table 1 ACIRS-H9-2022-Lot#2 Certified Values

ACIRS-H9-2022-Lot#2 CERTIFIED VALUES*					
	Hardgrove Grindability Index ^a (HGI)	Standard Deviation ^b	Expanded Uncertainty ^c (k=2)	No. of Samples Tested	Repeatability
Sample A	30	0.5	1.7	19	3 units
Sample B	45	0.3	1.7	19	3 units
Sample C	62	0.4	1.7	19	3 units
Sample D	87	0.4	1.7	19	3 units

* This is an empirical method. All values are provided in HGI units which have no absolute value. Certified values are valid when tested in accordance with ASTM D409/D409M-16 and equivalent methods. The grindability characteristics of samples may be altered by conditions during drying and preparation. Table 3 reflects average sample moisture and relative humidity at the time of testing.

NOTES

- a. HGI property values are the best estimate of the true HGI value and are based on the unweighted mean of means. Characterisation was tested by ASTM D409/D409M-16 with a primary certified reference material set supplied by Penn State University using the Australian national Hardgrove machine.
- b. Standard deviation (sd) is the standard deviation of sample means tested under repeatability conditions.
- c. Expanded uncertainty provides the user with information on the likely range of the true (but unknown) HGI value and has been estimated in accordance with the Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement (GUM) with a coverage factor k=2, corresponding to a level of confidence of about 95%. It has been derived from the observed standard deviations of the production process population means and includes contribution from sample inhomogeneity and instability.

Certified: 30/06/2024
 Valid to: 31/09/2025
 Report Number: ACIRS-H9-2022-Lot#2-CoA-rev0
 Previous ACIRS-H series: Supersedes ACIRS-H9-2022-CoA-rev01



**Accredited for compliance with ISO 17034
 Accreditation Number 21027**

*NATA is a signatory to the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement for the mutual recognition of the equivalence of testing, medical testing, calibration, inspection, proficiency testing scheme providers and reference materials producers reports and certificates

1. Introduction

This report describes the preparation and certification of ACIRS-H9-2022-Lot#2.

ACIRS-H9-2022-Lot#2 is a Certified Reference Material (CRM) comprising a set of four jars each having a different Hardgrove Grindability Index (HGI) value. Samples have a nominal mass of 1 kg prepared to $-4.75+0.3$ mm.

The intended use of these samples is as a quality control tool and for calibration of Hardgrove grindability machines.

2. Description of the Samples and Preparation

For the ACIRS-H9-2022 production lot, bulk samples of mass greater than 400 kg of each of 4 coals were obtained:

Sample A: High volatile thermal coal, South-East Qld

Sample B: High volatile thermal coal, Hunter Valley, NSW

Sample C: High rank bituminous thermal coal, Central Qld

Sample D: High rank bituminous coking coal, Central Qld

192 x 1kg sub-samples for each of A, B, C and D were prepared to $-4.75+0.3$ mm top size by an AS ISO/IEC 17025 accredited facility tested to Annex A1-A2 of ASTM D409/D409M. Blending was conducted by multiple rotary sample division steps.

3. Instructions for Handling and Use

Sample bottles should be kept tightly sealed and stored in a cool, dark place. Do not freeze.

This set of CRMs **must** be thoroughly mixed by end-over-end rotation before subsampling. ACIRS cannot be held responsible for any changes that occur after the sample bottle has been opened.

Due to variation in the rank of these coal samples it is critical that these samples have ample exposure time to ensure equilibration of the material and it is stable before use. In some cases, may require additional equilibration time.

Minimum sample mass, sample preparation and analysis should be in accordance with the most recent version of ASTM D409/D409M or equivalent test methods.

4. Homogeneity Assessment and Characterisation

Confirmation of satisfactory homogeneity was tested to Annex A3 of ASTM D409/D409M. The Australian national HGI machine was calibrated against primary certified reference materials as shown in Table 2. This data was used in the creation of the calibration graph used to certify for ACIRS-H9-2022¹.

19 samples² were selected from each of lots A, B, C and D by a process of random systematic sampling and analysed in duplicate against this calibration line.

¹ Continuity of calibration was confirmed by comparing calibration lines used for certification of ACIRS-H9-2022 (Lot #1).

² This represents 10% of the total production size for ACIRS-H9-2022

The data in Table 3 represents homogeneity of the full production lot and initial certification conducted concurrently, i.e. certification of ACIRS-H9-2022. The analysis conducted for the determination of satisfactory homogeneity is equivalent to certification.

In June 2024 further testing was conducted on five random samples from each of lots A, B, C and D. Each sample was divided by rotary sample division into two and then each sample tested in duplicate (n = 10 for each of A, B, C and D). Data was assessed using ACIRS-H9-2022-Lot#1 regression based on Penn State University (PSU) ASTM Primary HGI RM Set 2022-42-16 (Samples A, B, C) and 2022-42-20 (Sample D) and ACIRS-H9-2022-Lot#2 regression based on PSU ASTM Primary HGI RMs Set 2024-45-23 (Samples A, B, C, D).

This testing and assessment confirmed that HGI values from the original (Lot#1) certification were stable with no significant changes. Therefore, Lot#2 of ACIRS-H9-2022 maintains the same HGI values as for original certification (see Table 1).

Table 2 Calibration of National Hardgrove Machine

PSU CRM set			
Serial number	HGI (units)	Mean mass - 75 µm (g)	Repeatability (units)
2022-42-16 (Sample A)	43	4.18	3
2022-42-16 (Sample B)	59	7.14	3
2022-42-16 (Sample C)	71	8.77	3
2022-42-20 (Sample D)*	92	11.27	3
Linear regression HGI = 6.892x + 12.229 (R ² = 0.986)**			

*Sample D from the 2022-42-16 set was replaced by Penn State University by 2022-42-20

**Regression based on full dataset.

Table 3 ACIRS-H9-2022 Homogeneity and Certification Data*

	SAMPLE A		SAMPLE B		SAMPLE C		SAMPLE D	
	-75 µm mass (g)	HGI						
Average	2.52	29.6	4.71	44.7	7.27	62.3	10.87	87.1
Standard Deviation	0.07	0.49	0.04	0.25	0.05	0.37	0.06	0.43
No. samples	19		19		19		19	
% Yield, -1.18 x 0.6 mm	69.6		69.1		68.5		63.5	
Environmental conditions during testing								
Relative Humidity (%)	Mean: 52 Range: 38 - 70		Mean: 56 Range: 45 - 71		Mean: 57 Range: 50 - 62		Mean: 57 Range: 50 - 62	
Air dried moisture (%)	Mean: 8.6 Range: 8.0 – 9.4		Mean: 3.0 Range: 2.4 - 3.3		Mean: 1.6 Range: 1.5 – 1.8		Mean: 1.6 Range: 1.5 – 1.8	

* Based on Regression Equation in Table 2

5. Metrological Traceability

Empirical HGI values for ACIRS-H9-2022-Lot#2 are traceable to the primary set of CRMs produced by PSU, as listed in Table 2, when analysed by ASTM D409/D409M and equivalent methods.

6. Period of Validity

Property values are considered stable until September 2025. The stability of this sample will be monitored by ACIRS. It is the responsibility of the user to obtain the most recent Certificate for this set of CRMs available at www.acirs.com.au/products/hardgrove-grindability/.

7. Health and Safety

Samples shall be handled in accordance with the Safety Data Sheet available at www.acirs.com.au/products/hardgrove-grindability/.

8. Revision History

Document Number	Summary	Date
ACIRS-H9-2022-Lot#2-CoA-rev0	Original	3/07/2024

9. Legal Notice

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10. Authorisation

Approved by: Andrew Swanson (ACIRS Commercial Director)
 Australian Coal Industry Reference Samples (ACIRS)
 PO Box 2315, DANGAR NSW 2309, AUSTRALIA
 Phone +61 (2) 4926 4870
 Fax +61 (2) 4926 4902
 Email acpsnational@acps.com.au