

## DUKE STANDARDS™ Microsphere Size Standards NIST Traceable Mean Diameter

**1. DESCRIPTION.** These particle size standards provide accurate and traceable size calibration for particle size analysis. They are part of a series of polymer microspheres with calibrated mean diameters traceable to the Standard Meter through the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Diameters from 20 nanometers (nm) to 160 micrometers (μm) are available as aqueous suspensions in dropper-tipped vials, calibrated by photon correlation spectroscopy (PCS), transmission electron microscopy (TEM) or optical microscopy. The aqueous medium has been prepared to promote dispersion and reduce clumping of the particles. The approximate particle concentration in percent solids is given to facilitate dilution for the calibration and validation of particle analyzers. Diameters from 200 μm to 1000 μm are available as dry spheres, calibrated by optical microscopy. The certified mean diameter is traceable to NIST. Other values are for information only and should not be used as calibration values.

### 2. PHYSICAL DATA

Certified Mean Diameter:  
Standard Deviation:  
Coefficient of Variation:  
Microsphere Composition:  
Microsphere Density:  
Index of Refraction:  
Approximate Concentration:

Catalog Number: 4205, 4205A and 4205C, Nominal 5 μm  
5.027 μm ± 0.047 μm, k=2  
0.05 μm  
1.0%  
Polystyrene  
1.05 g/cm<sup>3</sup>  
1.59 @ 589 nm  
0.32% solids

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## CERTIFICATE OF CALIBRATION AND TRACEABILITY

This certifies that the calibrated mean diameter dimension of this product was transferred by optical microscopy from a stage micrometer calibrated by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (SRM 2800 SN411). NIST Standard Reference Materials 1690, 1692, 1960, and 1961 were used to validate the accuracy and traceability of the calibration methods.

Catalog Number: 4205, 4205A and 4205C, Duke Standards™ Microsphere Size Standards  
Certification Date: April 7, 2016  
Certified Batch: 4205-017  
Production Batch: 4205-099  
Certified Mean Diameter: 5.027 μm  
Expanded Uncertainty: ± 0.047 μm, k=2



*Joe Vasiliou* 08-03-17  
Joe Vasiliou, Senior Metrology Engineer  
Thermo Fisher Scientific Particle Technology

Packaging Lot # 189112

Expiration Date: SEP'20

**3. MEASUREMENT METHODOLOGY** The certified diameter of this product was transferred by optical microscopy from an stage micrometer, a glass slide with a scale with line spacing calibrated by NIST in micrometers. The uncertainty is calculated from the calibration transfer uncertainty and the random error of the measurements per NIST Technical Note 1297. The uncertainty listed is the expanded uncertainty, with a coverage factor of 2 ( $k=2$ ). To validate the accuracy of our optical methods, NIST certified microsphere standards were measured by the same method. The size distribution (standard deviation) was obtained by optical microscopy, electron microscopy or electrical resistance analysis depending on the size of the particles. The coefficient of variation is the standard deviation as a percentage of the mean diameter.

**4. CERTIFICATE** Except for the purposes of record keeping, this certificate may not be reproduced. Rebottling or relabeling voids the warranty and invalidates the certification and traceability of these products. The Certified Batch is the master batch of material that is measured and certified with a NIST traceable mean diameter. The Production Batch represents the intermediate material from which the final product is made. Several Production Batches can be made from one Certified Batch.

**5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS** For ease of use, standards with mean diameters below 200  $\mu\text{m}$  are packaged in an aqueous suspension. They must be thoroughly dispersed in the bottle to ensure statistically consistent samples. To disperse the particles, gently invert the bottle several times, then immerse in a low power ultrasonic bath (10 seconds). Do not shake the bottle, as the small bubbles formed may introduce statistical artifacts. Before using, clear the tip of residue by dispensing 2 - 3 drops into a waste container. Dispense immediately after dispersion using the dropper tip. Standards 200  $\mu\text{m}$  and larger are dry and should not be shaken as this may produce static, making the particles hard to handle.

**6. SAFETY AND HANDLING PRECAUTIONS** Avoid aerosol production in the workplace while handling these products, or wear a suitable filter respirator when necessary. Avoid inhalation or ingestion of the particles. These products should only be used by trained scientific personnel. A Material Safety Data Sheet is included with each package.

**7. STORAGE AND DISPOSAL** Keep the bottle tightly sealed to avoid contamination. Store aqueous standards upright to prevent clogging the tip with particles. Refrigeration is not required for storage. Do not freeze the particles. In case of spills, wash or wipe the area thoroughly. Caution: surfaces covered with dry spheres may be very slippery. Wipe area with damp cloth. Dispose of as normal laboratory waste. There are no special disposal procedures. Each bottle has a limited shelf life and should not be used after its expiration date.

**8. LIMITED WARRANTY** These products are intended for laboratory use by trained scientific personnel. Determination of their suitability for a specific end-use is the responsibility of the user, who assumes all liability for loss or damage arising out of the use of the product. Rebottling or relabeling voids the warranty and certification. Microgenics Corporation's warranty is limited to replacement of defective products if returned with our authorization within 60 days of purchase date.

THE FOREGOING WARRANTY SHALL BE IN LIEU OF ANY OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. IN NO EVENT SHALL MICROGENICS BE LIABLE FOR INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES.