



# National Institute of Standards & Technology

## Certificate of Analysis

### Standard Reference Material® 3112a

#### Spectrometric Standard Solution

#### Chromium

#### Batch Code 590105

This Standard Reference Material (SRM) is intended for use in atomic absorption spectrometry, inductively coupled plasma spectrometry, spectrophotometry, or any other analytical technique that requires aqueous standard solutions for calibrating instruments. SRM 3112a is a single element solution prepared gravimetrically to contain a nominal 10 mg/mL of chromium with an approximate nitric acid volume fraction of 10. %. The certified value ( $Y$ ) is based on the mass of high-purity metal dissolved and diluted to known volume. The value has been adjusted upward by 0.1 % relative, based on estimated transpiration losses of solvent through the container walls of 0.2 % relative per year. The density of the solution at 22 °C is 1.082 g/mL.

Metal	Concentration (mg/mL)	Source Purity, %	Acid Volume Fraction, Approximate
Chromium	10.00 ± 0.03	Cr Metal (99.90)*	HNO <sub>3</sub> , 10 %

\* This high-purity material was analyzed for gaseous constituents using inert gas fusion for oxygen, nitrogen, and vacuum hot extraction for hydrogen. The metallic impurity levels were determined by inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry. The metal was found to contain 400 mg/kg of dissolved gases and less than 100 mg/kg of total metallic impurities.

The uncertainty in the certified value is calculated as

$$U = (2u_c + 0.001Y) \text{ mg/mL}$$

where  $u_c$  is the "combined uncertainty" calculated according to the ISO Guide [1]. The value  $u_c$  is intended to represent, at the level of one standard deviation, the combined effect of uncertainty components associated with volumetric and gravimetric factors, as well as the purity of the starting material. The additional quantity, 0.001 $Y$ , is an allowance for transpiration of solution through the container walls, which is estimated to be ± 0.1 % of the certified value during the one-year period of validity of the certification.

The combined uncertainty consists of a Type A component associated with replicate weighings of the chromium metal and Type B components due to uncertainty in the material purity, material handling, and dilution.

SRM 3112a was prepared by T.A. Butler of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division. Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometric analysis of the starting material was performed by G.C. Turk of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division. Gas analyses were performed at Luvák, Inc., Boyleston, MA.

The support aspects involved in the preparation, certification, and issuance of this SRM were coordinated through the Standard Reference Materials Program by B.S. MacDonald.

Gaithersburg, MD 20899  
June 22, 1995

Thomas E. Gills, Chief  
Standard Reference Materials Program

## Procedures for Use

**Stability:** This certification is valid for one year from the shipping date, provided the solution is kept tightly capped and stored under normal laboratory conditions. NIST will monitor the stability of representative solutions from the SRM lot; and if any changes occur that invalidate this certification, NIST will notify purchasers.

**Preparation of Working Standard Solutions:** All solutions should be brought to  $22\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 1\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  before use and all glass or plastic surfaces coming into contact with the standard must have been previously cleaned. A working standard solution can be prepared from the SRM solution by serial dilution. Dilutions should be made with certified volumetric class A flasks and 5 or 10 mL class A pipets. All volumetric transfers of solutions should be performed using a proven analytical technique. Each dilution should be acidified with an appropriate high-purity acid and diluted to calibrated volume using high-purity water. The stability of the working standard solution will depend on the final acid concentration; therefore, care should be exercised to ensure that the final acid concentration of the dilution closely approximates that of the SRM. The analyst should prepare daily working solutions from 100  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  dilutions of the original SRM solution.

## REFERENCE

- [1] *"Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement"*, ISBN 92-67-10188-9, 1st Ed. ISO, Geneva, Switzerland, (1993).