



**ISO-17025 Accredited Testing Laboratory**

PJLA ISO-17025/IEC 17025:2005 Testing Accreditation # 59423

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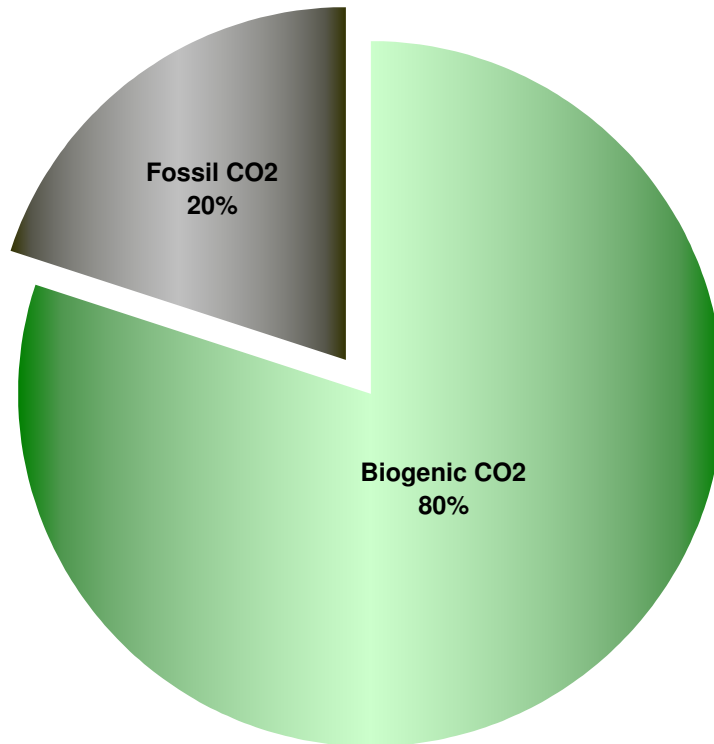
**Report of Biogenic CO2 Content Analysis using ASTM-D6866**

Submitter: XYZ Company  
Submitter Label: 1  
Laboratory Number: Beta-0001  
Material Analyzed: CARBON DIOXIDE  
Date Received: April 6, 2009  
Date Reported: April 10, 2009

Example

**Biogenic CO2: 80% \***  
(carbon-neutral CO2) (renewable carbon to total carbon)

**Proportions Biogenic CO2 vs. Fossil CO2 indicated by C14 content**



\* ASTM-D6866 cites precision on the mean Biomass CO2 Result as +/- 3% (absolute). This is the most conservative estimate of error in the measurement of complex biomass containing solids and liquids based on empirical results. Real precision for readily combustible and homogenous materials (e.g. gasoline) and especially samples recieved as CO2 (e.g. flue gas or CEMS exhaust) can be as low as +/- 0.5-2%. The result only applies to the analyzed material. Fluctuations in carbon content within a batch of product, gasoline or flue gas must be determined separately (e.g. averaged measurements of multiple solids or liquids, and single measurement of the combination of gas aliquots collected over time). The accuracy of the result as it applies to the analyzed product, fuel, or flue gas relies upon all the carbon in the analyzed material originating from either recently respired atmospheric carbon dioxide (within the last few decades) or fossil carbon (more than 50,000 years old). "Percent biomass" specifically relates % renewable (or fossil) carbon to total carbon, not to total mass or molecular weight. Mean Biomass CO2 estimates greater than 100% are assigned a value of 100% for simplification.



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**Summary of Results : Biogenic Determination using ASTM-D6866**

<b>Submitter: Mr. Smith</b>	<b>Date Received</b>	<b>April 6, 2009</b>
<b>Company: XYZ Company</b>	<b>Date Reported</b>	<b>April 10, 2009</b>

Laboratory Number	Submitter Label	Material	Mean Biomass CO2 Content*
Beta-0001	1	CARBON DIOXIDE	80%

\* ASTM-D6866 cites precision on the Mean Biomass CO2 Content as +/- 3% (absolute). This is the most conservative estimate of error in the measurement of complex biomass containing solids and liquids based on empirical results. Real precision for readily combustible and homogenous materials (e.g. gasoline) and especially samples recieved as CO2 (e.g. flue gas or CEMS exhaust) can be as low as +/- 0.5-2%. The result only applies to the analyzed material. Fluctuations in carbon content within a batch of product, gasoline or flue gas must be determined separately (e.g. averaged measurements of multiple solids or liquids, and single measurement of the combination of gas aliquots collected over time). The accuracy of the result as it applies to the analyzed product, fuel, or flue gas relies upon all the carbon in the analyzed material originating from either recently respired atmospheric carbon dioxide (within the last decade) or fossil carbon (more than 50,000 years old). "Percent biomass" specifically relates % renewable (or fossil) carbon to total carbon, not to total mass or molecular weight. Mean Biomass CO2 estimates greater than 100% are assigned a value of 100% for simplification.



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## **Explanation of Results**

### **Biomass Analysis using ASTM-D6866**

The application of ASTM-D6866 to derive a "Biomass CO<sub>2</sub> content" for carbon dioxide effluents is built upon the same concepts as those used by the US Department of Agriculture to derive the biobased content of manufactured products containing biomass carbon. It is done by comparing a relative amount of radiocarbon (C<sup>14</sup>) in an unknown sample to that of a modern reference standard. The ratio in contemporary biomass will be 100% and the ratio in fossil materials will be zero. Carbon dioxide derived from combustion of a mixture of present day biomass and fossil carbon will yield an ASTM-D6866 result that directly correlates to the amount of biomass carbon combusted and carbon-neutral CO<sub>2</sub> generated.

The modern reference standard is a National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) standard with a defined radiocarbon content of 100% contemporary carbon for the year AD 1950. AD 1950 was chosen since it represented a time prior to thermo-nuclear weapons testing which introduced large amounts of excess radiocarbon into the atmosphere with each explosion (termed "bomb carbon"). This was a logical point in time to use as a reference since this excess bomb carbon would change with increased or decreased weapons testing. A fixed correction for this effect is applied per the ASTM-D6866 requirements, applying specifically to carbon removed from the atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> reservoir since about 1996. Carbon removed prior to about 1996 will contain elevated radiocarbon signatures, not directly applicable to the ASTM-D6866 correction. Typical areas to which the correction may not apply are landfills more than 5-10 years old and to trees which began to grow more than 20 years ago.

Carbon dioxide effluent derived from combustion of 100% present day biomass will yield results of 100% renewable content. Carbon dioxide effluent derived from the combustion of 100% fossil fuel will yield results of 0% renewable content. Carbon dioxide produced from mixed fuels (biomass plus fossil fuel) will yield a percentage result in direct proportion to the biomass carbon consumed vs. fossil carbon consumed in the combustion. The final result is referred to as the MEAN BIOMASS CO<sub>2</sub> CONTENT and assumes all the carbon in the carbon dioxide was derived from either present day living or fossil sources.

The results provided in this report involved materials provided without any source information. This situation is highly probable in a real life situation. The MEAN VALUE quoted in this report encompasses an absolute range of 6% (plus and minus 3% on either side of the MEAN BIOMASS CO<sub>2</sub> CONTENT to account for variations in end component radiocarbon signatures (a conservative approximation). It is presumed that all materials are present day or fossil in origin and that the desired result is the amount of biomass component "present" in the material, not the amount of biomass material "used" in the manufacturing process. The most conservative interpretation of the reported percentages is as maximum values.

ASTM-D6866 results relate directly to the percentage carbon-neutral CO<sub>2</sub> in an incineration effluent. A value of 71% renewable content measured on CO<sub>2</sub> effluent would indicate that 71% of the exhausted CO<sub>2</sub> was from biomass (29% from fossil fuel). It does not represent the weight of biomass combusted or the weight of fossil fuel combusted. This is advantageous since the weight of the fuels only indirectly relate to the up-take of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The respiration uptake compound was carbon dioxide and the combustion effluent was carbon dioxide. The ASTM-D6866 result directly and specifically relates to the amount of carbon-neutral CO<sub>2</sub> consumed and expelled.