

Practical Health and Safety Solutions

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IAQ Calc Testing

Experience tells us that the most common source of indoor air quality problems is caused by inadequate ventilation – simply not enough fresh air being provided to the workspace.

Indoor air quality can be evaluated by testing for the following parameters:

- Carbon dioxide
- Carbon monoxide
- Temperature
- Humidity

Equipment specifically developed to test for these 4 criteria provides excellent data about the conditions in a building. As conditions in a building may change from day to day, due to variation in temperature, occupancy, wind direction, internal activities, etc., IAQ monitoring is normally conducted for a period of 3 days.

At the end of the sampling period, the data saved in the device is downloaded to a computer and presented as a graph of the conditions in the building. Professional bodies have developed guidelines for acceptable levels.

An example of a graph from an IAQ survey is shown below. The graph shows the carbon dioxide levels peaking during the weekday afternoons as the levels build up over the day, as well as the background levels over the weekend. Graphs for carbon monoxide, temperature, and humidity show similar results.

