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If you have questions about applying methodology described in this article to a current application, please contact our technical service chemists.
Versatile Amberlite XAD-2 Resin Available Worldwide

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When the original manufacturer decided to stop making Amberlite® XAD®-2 resin, Supelco obtained permission to continue manufacturing this popular hydrophobic adsorbent material. Widespread concern about the availability of this resin has compelled us to issue a series of announcements to assure analysts worldwide that the material is currently in production, will continue to be in production, and is available in a plentiful supply.

Amberlite XAD-2 resin is a macroreticular, styrene-divinylbenzene copolymer, nonionic bead, composed of an agglomeration of microspheres (Figure A). This structure offers excellent physical and chemical stability, and rapid mass transfer of analytes. The large bead size ensures backpressure is minimal or absent during use. The hydrophobic nature of the resin leads to reversed phase analyses. Characteristics of Amberlite XAD-2 resin are summarized in Figure A.

Amberlite XAD-2 resin has been used in a wide variety of applications, including:

- Sampling airborne semivolatile compounds
- Removing phenol, chlorinated organics, pesticides
- Removing surfactants
- Analyzing aroma compounds
- Recovering antibiotics
- Analyzing wastewater treatment
- Sample preparation

In these applications, the resin offers high capacity, can be used with aqueous or organic solvent-based solutions, and is relatively inexpensive.

A popular application for Amberlite XAD-2 resin, stack gas sampling, requires extensively cleaned resin. Because this procedure is tedious and time-consuming, we offer a dry, high-purity version of Amberlite XAD-2: Supelpak™-2 adsorbent (Figure B). This clean material is widely used for analyses of airborne semivolatile organics, particularly polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and dioxins. Supelpak-2 material can be used for source testing, as well as for monitoring ambient and indoor air.

A wet, specially cleaned version of Amberlite XAD-2 resin, Supelpak-2B, is used for determining polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in water according to the Great Lakes National Program Office.

If you have been using Amberlite XAD-2 resin, or are planning work that could involve this material, be assured that it is still in production and is in plentiful supply. More than 80 suppliers around the world are ready to meet your needs.

Ordering Information:

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These products contain media manufactured by Supelco, under license from the trademark owner.

Custom orders for larger quantities, different mesh sizes, and/or cleaning procedures can be accommodated.

Trademarks
Amberlite, XAD — Rohm and Haas Co.
SPB, Supelpak — Sigma-Aldrich Co.