

Rapid and Simple Determination of Phthalates in Plastic Toys by Thermal Desorption-GC/MS Method

Tetsuro YUZAWA ^{*a)}, *Chuichi WATANABE* ^{a)}, *Robert R. FREEMAN* ^{b)} and *Shin TSUGE* ^{c)}

*a) Frontier Laboratories Ltd., 1-8-14 Saikon, Koriyama, Fukushima, 963-8862, Japan

EMAIL address: yuzawa@frontier-lab.com, Tel: +81-24-935-5100, Fax: +81-24-935-5102

b) Quantum Analytics, 363 Vintage Park Drive, Foster City, CA 94404-1185, U.S.A

c) Nagoya University, Furo-cho, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya, 464-8603, Japan

ABSTRACT: Thermal desorption (TD)-GC/MS method was applied for the determination of phthalates in plastic children's toys. The method, which does not need any cumbersome sample pretreatment such as solvent extraction, filtration and derivatization, has been proved to be utilized not only as a sensitive analytical method to evaluate phthalate concentration in the toys, but also as a rapid and practical screening method to check whether the concentration exceed the regulatory limit.