

POLYMER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FROM SWITZERLAND

August 2015

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS OF THE METRASTAT FLUOSCAN REFLECTOMETER

- Double track scanning reflectometer for the evaluation of either the progressive color change or the fluorescence intensity of polymer samples previously exposed to heat in either a METRASTAT testing oven or any other similar equipment operating according to the principle of an incremental motion of test samples emerging from a heating enclosure kept at a constant temperature
- Two detector heads, both connected to a spectrophotometer, operate separately in two distinct modes of illumination of the samples, one in white light, the other in UV light.
- In either one of these two modes, the reflectometer generates, on its touch screen, a calibrated scaled image of the sample showing any change in color or fluorescence occurring in the sample during the scanning operation after exposure to heat.
- Precise and reproducible information on the color composition of the sample is then given in all three coördinates of the CIE L\*a\*b\* color space in the form of images, tables or curves, on screen or in an exportable format.
- The following curves, representative of color trends and other useful variables can hence be easily generated by the instrument.
- L\* Lightness Curve
- +a\* (>0) Reddening Curve
- -a\* (<0) Greening Curve
- +b\* (>0) Yellowing Curve
- -b\* (<0) Blueing Curve
- YI Yellowness Index (ASTM E313)

In its fluorescence mode, the reflectometer reveals an increase in the concentration of short chain unsaturations in the polymer and so, an increase of stabilizer consumption during exposure to heat. This phenomenon, otherwise invisible to observation under day light with the naked eye, applies to halogenated polymers such as PVC, PVDF, etc. but also to other polymers undergoing thermal degradation by auto-oxydation such as PE, PP, PA, etc. All data collected by the reflectometer is processed and stored on the dedicated computer of the instrument and can be exported in Excel format, or printed directly.



The manufacturer retains the right to modify the technical specifications above, any time and without prior notice.

METRASTAT SA Technopôle 4, 3960 Sierre (Valais), Switzerland Tel : + 41 78 74 138 74 • www.metrastat.com • info@metrastat.com