ISS Potable Water Sampling and Chemical Analysis Results for 2016

John E. Straub II*, Debrah K. Plumlee, William T. Wallace, James T. Alverson, Mickie J. Benoit, Robert L. Gillispie, David Hunter, Mike Kuo, and Jeffrey A. Rutz
KBRwyle Science, Technology and Engineering Group
Houston, Texas

Edgar K. Hudson and Leslie J. Loh
JES Tech
Houston, Texas

Daniel B. Gazda
NASA Johnson Space Center
Houston, Texas

ABSTRACT

This paper continues the annual tradition of summarizing at this conference the results of chemical analyses performed on archival potable water samples returned from the International Space Station (ISS). 2016 represented a banner year for life on board the ISS, including the successful conclusion for two crew members of a record one-year mission. Water reclaimed from urine and/or humidity condensate remained the primary source of potable water for the crew members of ISS Expeditions 46-50. The year 2016 was also marked by the end of a long-standing tradition of U.S. sampling and monitoring of Russian Segment potable water sources. Two water samples taken during Expedition 46 in February 2016 and returned on Soyuz 44, represented the final Russian Segment samples to be collected and analyzed by the U.S. side. Although anticipated for 2016, a rise in the total organic carbon (TOC) concentration of the product water from the U.S. water processor assembly due to breakthrough of organic contaminants from the system did not materialize, as evidenced by the onboard TOC analyzer and archive sample results.

*KBRwyle Science, Technology and Engineering Group
5400 NASA Parkway
Houston, TX 77058
Phone: 281-483-5724
Fax: 281-483-3058
john.straub-1@nasa.gov