

Measurements of Criteria Pollutants at T1 and QA/QC of mobile units during the MILAGRO campaign

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The Ambient Air Monitoring System in Mexico City consists of 35 fully automated remote stations deployed at fixed locations in the Mexico City Metropolitan Area for the determination of criteria pollutants (O₃, SO₂, NO_x, CO, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}) and meteorological parameters (WS, WD, T, RH, UVA, UVB and BP). This information is used for the determination and dissemination of the Air Quality Index (IMECA) on an hourly basis as a protective measure for the people's health.

In addition, there are other 16 sites for the sampling of TSP, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} using manual equipment, for the observance of suspended matter health standards.

QA/QC of the air monitoring equipment is conducted with the use of primary standards and a comprehensive program of preventive and corrective maintenance program. The Ambient Air Monitoring System in Mexico City is audited regularly by the US EPA.

A mobile unit with criteria pollutants analyzers and monitors and meteorological sensors will be deployed at T1 to support the ground based measurements during the MILAGRO campaign. The experienced personnel of the Ambient Air Monitoring System will conduct a multipoint calibration at all the criteria pollutants analyzers in the mobile units that will be deployed surrounding the city prior to the beginning of the campaign and at the end of it, as well as a zero-span check out at the middle of the campaign in order to ensure the proper operation of the field equipment and warranty the data representativeness.