

ProWeigh[®] FAQs

Of what material are the ProWeigh filters made?

The ProWeigh filters are made of binderless glass fiber with a porosity of 1.5 microns.

How are the ProWeigh filters cut?

Our ProWeigh filters are laser cut to ensure accuracy and smooth edges. Traditionally, filters have been cut using a click press. This can fray the filter material which can be lost during testing thereby affecting the final weight.

How is the Proweigh different from a standard glass fiber filter?

The Environmental Express Proweigh[™] filters are prepared according to *Standard Methods* requirements. The 1.5 µm borosilicate glass fiber filters are vacuum rinsed with three aliquots of deionized water and then dried at 104°C, cooled, and desiccated for 24 hours. After preparation, the filters are weighed robotically to the nearest 0.1 mg using a certified balance. Each filter comes in an aluminum dish that has the weight of the filter and the filter identification number printed on the label. The Proweigh Filters are a convenient and accurate way to perform Total and Volatile Suspended Solids.

Are they approved?

Yes, the Environmental Express Proweigh[™] filters are prepared according to *Standard Methods* requirements. They are mentioned by name in Standard Methods 2540 and fulfill the requirements and “Good Laboratory Practices” in the manufacturing of these filters. ProWeigh filters meet or exceed all requirements found in *Standard Methods* for filters and their preparation for methods 2540D and 2540E and European Standard EN 872 – Water quality- Determination of suspended solids- Method by filtration through glass fiber filters. ProWeigh filters are a duplication of the required tasks for TSS, not a new test method. In Standard Methods, Section 3.c., “Procedure” states, “If pre-prepared glass fiber filter disks are used, eliminate this step.” “This step” is the entire filter prep procedure: the washing with 3 x 20 mL aliquots of DI water, drying at 103-105°C for an hour, desiccating to room temperature, and then weighing to 0.0001 g and reweighing for stability. Environmental Express’ “pre-prepared glass fiber filter disks” – ProWeigh filters – are listed by name as acceptable filters in 2540 C.2.a. of the 21st Edition.

Who manufactures ProWeigh filters?

Environmental Express is the sole manufacturer of the Proweigh filters.

Do the ProWeigh pan labels burn off in the muffle furnace when doing Volatile Suspended Solids (VSS) testing?

Yes, the pan labels will burn off in the muffle furnace during VSS testing. Labels are not going to survive the oven temperature of 550°C which is what the VSS test requires. We recommend that you either create a “map” of your pans/filters in the muffle furnace or take a pen or pencil and indent the bottom of each pan with the ID and weight of the filter to retain the pertinent filter identification and weight information.

How do I verify the filter tare weights printed on the label?

To verify the initial filter weight, place the filter in a 104°C oven for 1 hour. The filter is then cooled in a desiccator to balance temperature and then reweighed. The measured weight should be within ± 0.5 mg of the printed weight on the label, as per the tolerances specified in *Standard Methods 2540D*.

