**collection efficiency**

*in atmospheric chemistry*

A term which characterizes an entire sampling and sample pretreatment procedure, usually represented as a percentage of the original amount of the analyte which is left for measurement (signal formation) after having passed through this procedure. This term also applies to the efficiency of collection of an air pollutant by an arrestment plant. For particulates, the collection efficiency is size related.

*Source:*

PAC, 1990, 62, 2167 (*Glossary of atmospheric chemistry terms (Recommendations 1990)*) on page 2181