

Saving Costs by Using FLUXANA Calibration Sets



Introduction

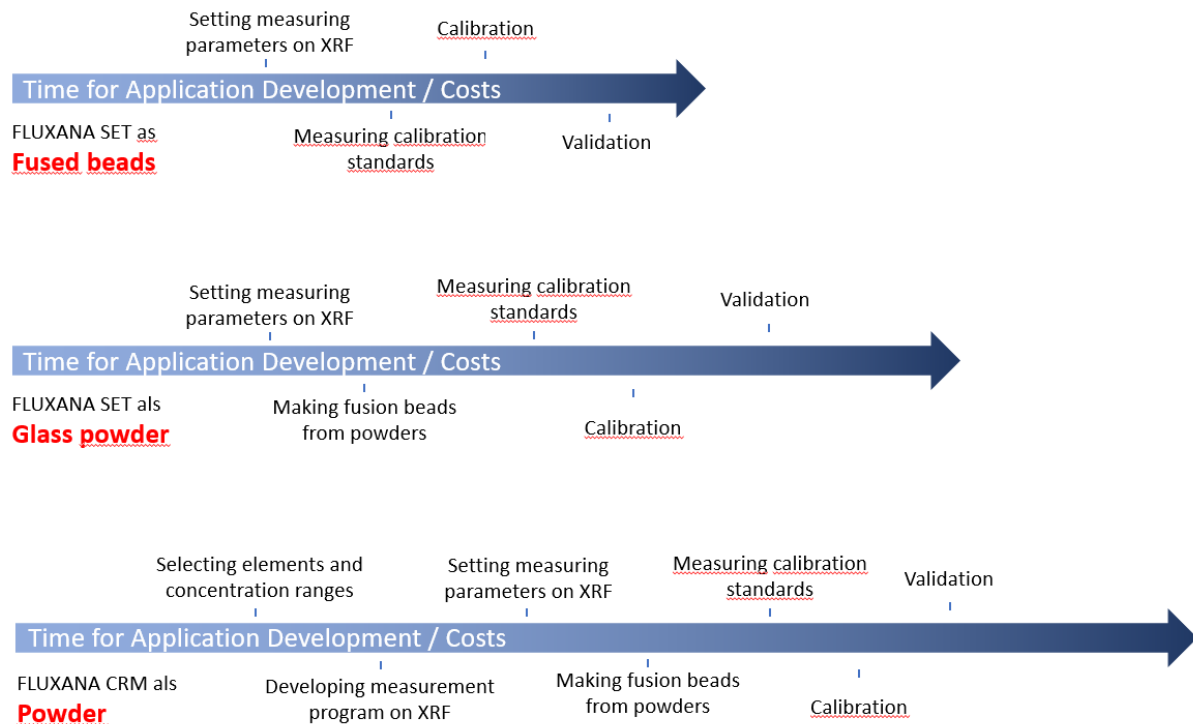
In order to use X-ray fluorescence analysis (XRF) quantitatively, the analytical system must be calibrated. Calibration standards are required for this. The usual procedure begins with the purchase of reference materials as powders, these samples are prepared as, e.g., fusion beads, they are measured as calibration standards and, finally, calibration and validation are conducted.

Depending on the user's experience level, the entire method development procedure is more or less cost and time intensive.

FLUXANA has spent a great deal of time with the task of reducing these costs and, thus, also the development time for the user.

Saving Costs by Using FLUXANA Calibration Sets

Comparison of Development Costs and Time Required



The purchase of certified reference materials is expensive and time consuming. Since FLUXANA has most of the materials available in its laboratory, the first step to reducing costs is to purchase only as much material as is actually needed to conduct a calibration. FLUXANA offers pre-conditioned calibration sets with 10 g per bottle for several applications, e.g., cement or raw materials.

In this case, however, it is still always necessary to prepare the powder as fusion beads. FLUXANA can also save this step by providing the user with a ready-to-use calibration set already prepared as fused beads. This works whenever the user utilizes a FLUXANA VITRIOX GAS or ELECTRIC. Because then the compatibility of FLUXANA is guaranteed.

The use of glass powders constitutes an intermediate step. Here, the CRM are already fused with the flux, but then ground back to glass powder. The advantage for the user is that weighing in has already been precisely carried out and it is only necessary to fuse approximately 9 g glass powder in the fusion machine of choice.

In all the examples mentioned above, FLUXANA does most of the work for the user, which always leads to savings in costs and time in method development.

Saving Costs by Using FLUXANA Calibration Sets

Types of Calibration Standards from FLUXANA

Depending of the requested application set, FLUXANA offers three different ways to deliver calibration standards:

Powder:



The user receives a bottle with certified reference material in powder form. This can be used to prepare a calibration standard for XRF, e.g. pressed pellet or fused bead.

Advantage: the user retains all flexibility in sample preparation.

Glass Powder:



The customer receives a glass powder that contains a standard and flux. By directly filling the powder into the platinum crucible, a glass bead can be melted as a calibration standard for XRF without accurate weighing.

Advantage: the user can use any fusion method.

Beads:



All users with FLUXANA® fusion machines can purchase calibration standards directly as glass beads, thus saving time and money on sample preparation.

Advantage: the user receives a complete calibration package, which includes more than 10 years experience in sample preparation and XRF analysis.

Saving Costs by Using FLUXANA Calibration Sets

Frequently Asked Questions About Calibration Sets

01 What kind of applications does FLUXANA® offer?
FLUXANA® offers „ready-to-go“ application sets for cement, raw materials, ash, glass and glass raw materials, continuous casting powders, silicon carbide, ferro alloys, slags, filter dusts and more.

02 What is the content of an application set?
Depending on the application set and on your needs, it contains calibration standards, drift monitors, validation samples, onsite calibration on your machines, staff training and all preparation tools FLUXANA® has to offer.

03 In what form are the standards delivered?
Depending on the set, there are three different types of calibration standards: powders for highest flexibility, vials as customer - specific standards and glass beads which include more than 15 years of XRF preparation experience.

04 I require a specific element range, can FLUXANA® offer it?
In addition to the usual element ranges, we are able to offer extended calibration ranges. If you are unsure about the element range, our laboratory staff will gladly check your data and offer the best solution for you.

05 Can someone help me with the calibration?
Yes, FLUXANA® has a service team of XRF experts that can come to your location and install the calibration in your laboratory. Our team also offers onsite training for your laboratory staff on different XRF related topics.

06 How can I be sure about the quality?
All application packages are operated in the FLUXANA® application laboratory under ISO 17025 conditions. In addition, we offer regular proficiency tests according to ISO 17043 to control your installed applications.

07 Where do I find the application packages?
All available application packages can be found at:
www.fluxana.com/application/packages
If you are not sure, our laboratory staff will gladly help. Contact us at:
info@fluxana.com

08 What kind of preparation machine do I need?
To achieve the best possible solution, all applications are optimized for FLUXANA® gas or electrical fusion machines. In special cases, we are able to adapt our methods to allow us to use other brands of fusion machines.

Saving Costs by Using FLUXANA Calibration Sets

Example of a calibration set by FLUXANA (Cement)

Item No.	Application	Description
CS-0001-CB	Cement	Calibrationset, 21 glass beads 40mm , made from international reference materials
or: CS-0001-CP10b	Cement	Calibrationset, 21 powders a 10g , made from international reference materials
CS-0001-VP10a	Cement	Validationset, 2 powders a 10g , made from international reference materials
FLX-Z1	Cement	Drift monitor
FLX-Z2	Cement	Drift monitor
FLX-C3	Cement	Drift monitor
CS-0001-SE	Cement	Sample preparation kit (flux, additives, etc.)
or: CS-0001-SG	Cement	Sample preparation kit (flux, additives, etc.)
CS-0001-K	Cement	Performance Calibration on customers XRF incl. 2 days of working time on site for calibration
	Cement	Extra requirements: none

Calibration Sets Available from FLUXANA

Item No.	Application	Item No.	Application
CS-0001-CB	Cement	CS-0003i-CB	FeW
CS-0007-CB	RAW Materials	CS-0003j-CB	FeMn/SiMn
CS-0005-CB2	RAW Oxides Professional	CS-0008-CB	CC - Continuous Casting
CS-0002-CB	Ash	CS-0017-CB	Slag
CS-0003a-CB	FeMo	CS-0030-CB	SiC
CS-0003c-CB	FeSi	CS-0032-CB	Raw CC
CS-0003d-CB	FeCr	CS-0033-CB	Iron Ore
CS-0003e-CB	FeTi	CS-0031-CP	Cement pressed pellet
CS-0003g-CB	FeV	CS-0016-CD	Glass
CS-0003h-CB	FeNb	CS-0022-CB	Raw Glass

Saving Costs by Using FLUXANA Calibration Sets

Literature

- [1] Rainer Schramm, Röntgenfluoreszenzanalyse in der Praxis, korrigierte Auflage II, FLUXANA (2017).
- [2] www.fluxana.com