Novel CEM gas detection system for SO₂, NO_x and CO/CO₂ monitoring based on small size NDIR- and NDUV –Technology

Prof. Dr. Gerhard Wiegleb University of Applied Sciences Dortmund Department of Electrical Engineering Sonnenstrasse 96 Dortmund/Germany Dipl.-Ing. Sebastian Wiegleb Wi.Tec-Sensorik GmbH R&D Department Schepersweg 41-61 Wesel/Germany

Continuous emission monitoring (CEM) is a rapidly growing market worldwide. Especially in developing countries the demand of low cost equipment, with sufficient measurement performance, is significant. Another important application is the mobile/portable flue gas analysis. In this case small size and low power operation are required. For both applications we developed a novel CEM gas detection system based on photometric absorption technique.

The detection of Sulfur dioxide SO₂ and Nitrogen dioxide NO₂ in the UV range is a well-known method to measure these components at a low level (<ppm) and without water vapor interference. Selective radiation sources are used for this purpose at $\lambda \approx 285$ nm (SO₂) and $\lambda \approx 400$ nm (NO₂). Typical ranges are 50ppm SO₂ and 100ppm NO₂ with a detection limit 4· σ < 250ppb. The detection of both gases takes place simultaneously in the same photometric device (ULTRA.sens[®]). This design saves cost and space for the different applications. By using the NO₂ gas concentration (direct measurement) it is possible to substitute the costly catalytic NO₂ \rightarrow NO converter (indirect measurement) in regular CEM systems.

In the infra-red range a broad band micro machined IR-Source is used for the gas detection. It is possible to modulate the IR-Source up to 10 Hz in order to get low noise signals and fast response concentration readings. By using multiple wavelengths IR detectors up to 3 gases could be measured simultaneously in one arrangement (INFRA.sens[®]). Based on this technique a combination of Nitrogen monoxide NO, Carbon monoxide CO and Carbon dioxide CO_2 at different concentration levels is feasible (e.g. 1000ppm NO, 1000ppm CO and 20 Vol.-% CO_2).

The individual modules are sealed by O-ring connections. With this modular design, sample cell lengths from 1 mm to 250 mm can be achieved for optimal adaptation to the required measuring range. Optionally, the system can be equipped with coated aluminum or stainless steel sample cells. With corresponding pressure-resistant window materials, working pressures of up to 16 bar can be achieved (Option).

The signal conditioning main board could run both technologies (INFRA.sens[®] and ULTRA.sens[®]) simultaneously with a 16bit resolution. The data interface is based on RS232 and CANopen. The operation voltage is 24VDC with a power consumption of less than 1Watt. Furthermore a pressure sensor and humidity sensor (HUMI.sens) could be connected to the main board. Using the HUMI.sens signal it is possible to compensate the residual water vapor interference in the INFRA.sens[®].