

# Model 3475 Condensation Monodisperse Aerosol Generator

*A controlled condensation technique produces highly monodisperse aerosol*

The Model 3475 Condensation Monodisperse Aerosol Generator (CMAG) produces highly monodisperse solid or liquid particles in concentrations greater than  $10^6$  particles per cubic centimeter. It generates spherical and nearly charge-neutral particles from 0.1 to 8 micrometers in diameter.\* Particle size and concentration can be varied easily.

The CMAG works according to the principle of controlled heterogeneous condensation. This forced condensation enables you to produce a constant output and a high grade of monodispersity, even at very high number concentrations.

### Applications

The Model 3475 is compact, lightweight, and easy to maintain. It is intended for any application requiring the production of high-concentration monodisperse aerosols, including:

- Human and animal exposure studies
- Filter testing
- Particle-sizing instrument evaluation and calibration
- Smoke-detector performance analyses
- Wind-tunnel seeding
- Laser Doppler velocimeter (LDV) seeding
- General-purpose test-aerosol production

\* Depends upon particle material used.



## Operation

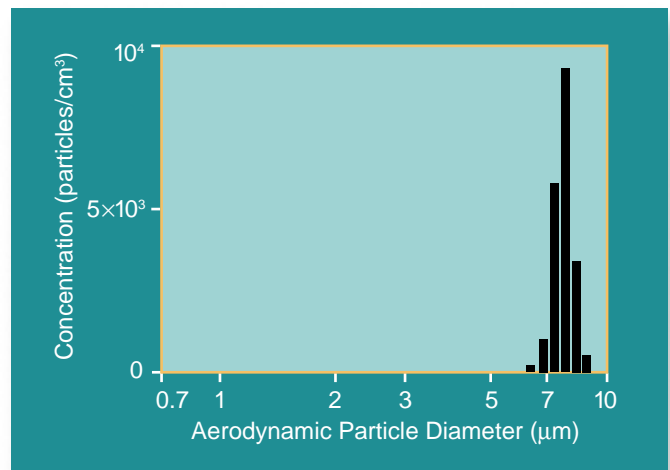
The Model 3475 CMAG uses a controlled condensation technique to produce monodisperse aerosols. Based on the Sinclair-LaMer principle, this operational approach involves condensing a vapor onto condensation nuclei.

Using nitrogen as the carrier gas, an atomizer inside the CMAG produces a spray from a low-concentration, aqueous solution of sodium chloride. The droplets pass through a drying column, where they dry to form a high-concentration nuclei aerosol. The condensation nuclei travel to a thermostatically controlled saturator vessel and bubble through a substance with low volatility, such as diethylhexyl sebacate (DEHS), dioctyl phthalate (DOP), Emery 3004, or paraffin or carnauba waxes.

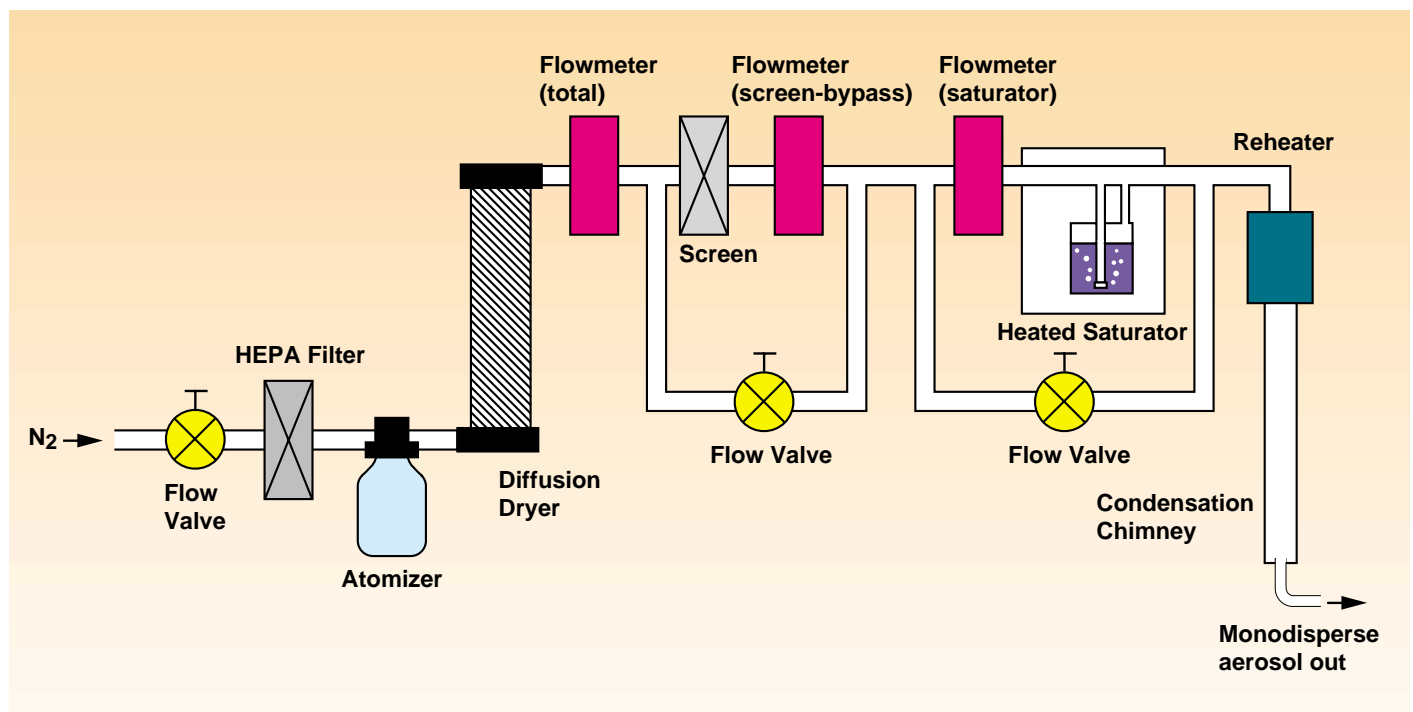
The carrier gas, nuclei, and vaporized substance move from the saturator into a reheater unit, which serves to ensure that the aerosol material is completely vaporized. From the reheater unit, the nuclei and vapor move into an air-cooled condensation chimney. It is here that, once a preset supersaturation level has been reached, the controlled heterogeneous condensation process begins, resulting in a highly monodisperse aerosol.

Mean particle size is dependent on the ratio of the vapor concentration to the nuclei number concentration. You can control vapor concentration, and therefore, particle size by adjusting the saturator temperature and the proportion of the total flow passing through the saturator unit.

The CMAG allows you to make very rapid changes to particle size over a limited range by varying the saturator flow rate alone. For instance, with DOP or DEHS, only three different temperature settings are required to cover the range from 0.1 to 5 micrometers. The generator's specially designed aerosol outlet meets the requirement for high monodispersity by selecting the central flow where the temperature gradient is lowest and, consequently, the size distribution is narrowest. To produce monodisperse aerosol with particles up to 8 micrometers, you must divert a portion of the nuclei through a filter, reducing the nuclei number concentration in a controlled manner until you achieve a higher relative concentration of vapor.



Monodisperse aerosol produced by the Model 3475 using the reduction of the nuclei number concentration



## Specifications

### Model 3475 Condensation Aerosol Generator

Mode of Operation	Modified Sinclair-LaMer generator
Particle Type	
Liquid	DES (nontoxic), DOP, or Emery 3004
Solid	Carnauba wax (nontoxic), paraffin, or stearic acid
Particle-Size Range for Selected Materials	
DEHS, DOP	0.1 to 8 $\mu\text{m}$
Carnauba Wax	0.1 to 4 $\mu\text{m}$
Stearic Acid	0.1 to 9 $\mu\text{m}$
Aerosol Geometric Standard Deviation	<1.10 from 0.5 to 8 $\mu\text{m}$ , <1.25 from 0.1 to 0.5 $\mu\text{m}$
Concentration	>10 <sup>6</sup> particles/cm <sup>3</sup>
Flow Rate	3.5 to 4.0 L/min
Compressed Gas Requirements	CP Nitrogen at approximately 6 bar or 116 psi
Radioactive or Fluorescent Labeling	Possible
Uniform Unipolar Charging	Possible
Power Requirements	110/220 VAC, 50/60 Hz
Dimensions (LWH)	250 mm $\times$ 300 mm $\times$ 550 mm (10 in. $\times$ 12 in. $\times$ 22 in.)
Weight	17 kg (37 lb)

## Bibliography

Altmann J and C Peters, The Adjustment of the Particle Size at a Sinclair-La Mer-Type Aerosol Generator, *J. Aerosol Science* 23(Supplement 1):S277-S280 (1992).

Peters C and J Altmann, Monodisperse Aerosol Generation with Rapid Adjustable Particle Size for Inhalation Studies, *J. Aerosol Medicine* 6(4):307-315 (1993). (TSI paper A86)

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## To Order

Specify	Description
3475	Condensation Monodisperse Aerosol Generator

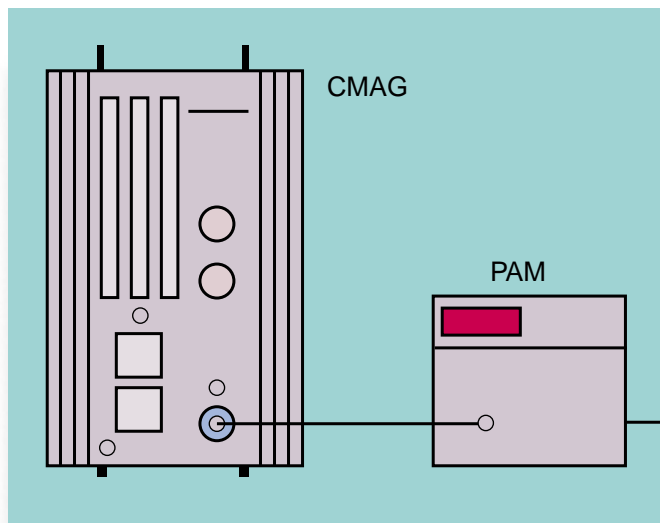
### Optional Accessory

Specify	Description
3375	Process Aerosol Monitor (see drawing and description below)

Please specify voltage requirements. Models 3475 and 3375 are produced in Germany and marketed by TSI Incorporated. Availability is limited in Europe. Contact your TSI representative for details.

## Process Aerosol Monitor Accessory

An accessory is available to measure the mean particle size and concentration of monodisperse aerosols produced with TSI's Condensation Monodisperse Aerosol Generator (CMAG). The **Model 3375 Process Aerosol Monitor (PAM)** connects directly to the CMAG outlet, monitoring output aerosol on a continuous basis. As the highly concentrated aerosol flows through a measuring volume, the PAM uses a photodetector to correlate particle size and concentration with laser intensity. It measures particles in the 0.5 to 10-micrometer range. Concentration is determined independent of the extinction coefficient.



The PAM monitors monodisperse aerosol produced using a Model 3475 CMAG.



**TSI Incorporated**

500 Cardigan Road, Shoreview, MN 55126 U.S.A.

**Tel:** 651 490 2811 **Toll Free:** 1 800 874 2811 **Fax:** 651 490 3824 **E-mail:** [particle@tsi.com](mailto:particle@tsi.com)

**TSI Germany**

Neuköllner Str. 4, 52068 Aachen, Germany

**Tel:** +49-241-52303 0 **Fax:** +49-241-5230349 **E-mail:** [particle-europe@tsi.com](mailto:particle-europe@tsi.com)

