

### 2.1.2 Sample Preparation

Depending on drilling mud content, cuttings samples may be water washed before they are air dried, picked free of contaminants and cavings, and then crushed to 0.1mm using a ring pulveriser.

Sidewall cores are freed of mud cake and other visible contaminants, sampled according to homogeneity, air dried and hand crushed to 0.1mm grain size.

Conventional core and outcrop samples are inspected for visible contaminants and crushed to 1/8" chips using a jaw crusher. After air drying, the chips are crushed with a ring pulveriser to small particle size (0.1mm).

Petroleum aqueous mixtures are separated into oil and water/mud fractions by decanting off the oil layer and producing a clean separation by gently centrifuging the oil. If separation by this method is not effective, the petroleum is solvent extracted.

### 2.1.3 Total Organic Carbon (TOC)

The TOC value is determined on crushed sediment. The minimum sample requirement is one gram, however, results may be obtained from as little as 0.2gm in very rich samples. Carbonate minerals are first removed by acid digest (HCl) and the remaining sample heated to 1700°C (Leco Induction Furnace) in an atmosphere of pure oxygen. The CO<sub>2</sub> produced is measured with an infra-red detector, and values calculated according to standard calibration.

TOC is expressed as % of rock and is used as a screening procedure to classify source rock richness:

Classification	Clastics	Carbonates
Poor	0.00 - 0.50	0.00 - 0.25
Fair	0.50 - 1.00	0.25 - 0.50
Good	1.00 - 2.00	0.50 - 1.00
Very Good	2.00 - 4.00	1.00 - 2.00
Excellent	> 4.00	> 2.00

### 2.1.4 Rock-Eval Pyrolysis

Although a preliminary source rock classification is made using TOC data, a more accurate assessment of organic source type and maturity is possible by Rock-Eval pyrolysis. Two types of Rock-Eval analyses are offered: "one run" which involves pyrolysis of the crushed but otherwise untreated sediment and "two run" which involves pyrolysis of both the crushed, untreated sediment and the decarbonated sediment. The "two run" method provides more accurate S<sub>3</sub> values than the "one run" method. S<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>2</sub> values are of the same accuracy in both methods.

The method requires 0.4g of sample material, although reliable results can often be obtained from smaller amounts.