

ABOUT OUR DEPARTMENT

Our department assesses indoor air quality by performing mould identification, monitoring for gases (including carbon monoxide, ammonia and sulphur dioxide, etc.) and monitoring for particulate matter.

Indoor Air Quality can be defined as “the air quality within and around buildings and structures, especially as it relates to the health and comfort of building occupants.”



CONTACT US

 P.O. Box 186, La Guerite
Basseterre St. Kitts

 869 467-1498

 sknbs@gov.kn or tbt@gov.kn

ST. KITTS & NEVIS BUREAU OF STANDARDS

AIR QUALITY DEPARTMENT



MOULD

- Type of fungus that grows in the form of multicellular filaments called hyphae.
- Untreated mould can become a serious threat to the health of the occupants of an enclosed space. Persons can have from mild to severe reactions to mould.
- Some species of mould are more harmful than others, hence it is important to check the species of mould that maybe in a space.
- Samples collected here are sent to our contracted secondary lab, who can identify approximately 18 different species of mould.
- Each sample is collected in 10 mins using an air-o-cell cassette attached to a bio pump.



GASES

- High toxic gas concentrations can also become a serious threat to the health of the occupants in an enclosed space.
- Monitoring for gases can take a minimum of 4 hours to a maximum of 24 hours per area using a gas meter.
- SKNBS monitors for approximately 9 gases including ammonia, oxygen, sulphur dioxide and carbon dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, nitric oxide, hydrogen sulphide, oxygen and TVOC. With this monitoring temperature and humidity is also checked.

PARTICULATE MATTER

- Define as “microscopic particles of solid or liquid matter suspended in the air.”
- Monitoring for particulates can take a minimum of 4 hours to a maximum of 24 hours per area.
- We focus on particles that are 2.5 micrometers and 10 micrometers, which are considered most harmful to building occupants.

