

Operation Manual

Shodex™ HILICpak™ VC-50 2D

(Please read this manual carefully before using the column to ensure performance and life.)

1. Introduction

Shodex HILICpak VC series is packed with a hydrophilic polymeric gel containing chemically bonded carboxyl group. Especially about analysis of cationic substances like amines and basic-amino acids, the VC column provides high resolution and reproducibility.

2. Handling Instructions <Important>

Caution! Please consult the SDS for the reagents and solvents used with the columns for health concerns caused by acute exposure due to leakage from the column or adjoining tubing.

Attention! Use the column within the regular range of flow rate, pressure and temperature.

The column performance may deteriorate when it is handled beyond the permissible range even for a short time. See the Section 4. Usable Conditions for the permissible ranges.

3. Specifications

Product code	Product name	Size (mm)		Particle size (μm)	Plate Number (per column)
		ID	Length		
F7630700	VC-50 2D	2.0	150	5	≥3,500
F6711600	VC-50G 2A	2.0	10		(Guard column)

Packing material : Polyvinyl alcohol

Functional group : Carboxyl group

Column material : PEEK

Screw type : Unified Thread Standard No. 10-32 UNF

Shipping solvent : H₂O

4. Usable Conditions

Product name	Flow rate (mL/min)		Max pressure (MPa)	pH range	Temperature range (°C)
	Standard	Max			
VC-50 2D	0.1-0.3	0.5	10	2-12	4-60
VC-50G 2A	0.1-0.3	0.5	-		

Attention! High-temperature operation may result in the generation of an air bubble, necessitating degassing. Low-temperature operation may require reduced flow rates, because of increased eluent viscosity.

5. System Clean up

Clean up the LC system including the injector and the sample loop by switching the valve, and flow the eluent before column installation.

Attention! The previous eluent used for analyses in the system may damage the column, if it is not compatible with the column.

Attention! When replacing nonpolar solvent to water, replace first with methanol and then replace with water. When replacing buffer solution to acetonitrile/water, replace first with 100% water and then replace with eluent. Substances adsorbed in the pump and tubing may not be compatible with the column.

6. Column Installation

Install and use the VC column with the flow through the column matching the flow direction arrow on the column tag. Set the flow rate at 0.1 mL/min, and connect the column. Flow at the low rate until the column temperature increases to the setting temperature, and then increase the flow rate to the analytical condition.

Attention! The column should always be installed in the manner above, for safe and effective operation.

7. Eluents

	HILIC mode
Operational solvents	<p>Aqueous solutions of acetonitrile at any ratio, is used as eluent.^{*1}</p> <p>Any salts^{*2} soluble in the solution above are available.</p> <p>^{*1} Methanol is not available as the eluent. Other organic solvents including methanol are not guaranteed as the eluent.</p> <p>^{*2} Maximum concentration of the buffer depends on the ratio of acetonitrile. Please note any precipitation of salt when using buffer!</p>
Eluent modes	Isocratic, gradient, or stepwise elution

Attention! Filter the eluent with a membrane filter (0.45 µm) to prevent chromatogram noise and column performance deterioration by small particles or undissolved materials.

Attention! Column equilibration for using acetonitrile/buffer eluent

Cations in the buffer interact with the carboxyl functional groups of VC packing gel. The reproducibility of the analysis will not be attained until the ionic equilibrium is attained between the cations and the carboxyl groups. In such case, the equilibration time may be shortened by the operation below. This equilibrium operation is not needed when acetonitrile/water or buffer eluents are used.

	HILIC mode	
Eluent	Acetonitrile / buffer	Acetonitrile / water
Solution	The same buffer without acetonitrile	Unnecessary
Quantity	10 to 20 times the column volume	
Flow rate	Lower than half of the normal flow rate	

8. Sample Preparation

Optimum separation efficiency is generally obtained with sample matrix similar to the eluent composition. Use acetonitrile in the sample matrix whenever possible.

Attention! Filter the sample with a membrane filter (0.45 µm) to prevent blockage.

Attention! In case of gradient condition, dilute the sample with the initial eluent.

9. Column Cleaning

Elution characteristics of a column may change considerably after long, repeated usage, due to the accumulation of pollution components on the packing material, for example metal ions from the LC system or the sample. The cleaning procedures outlined below may be used.

Clean the guard column and analytical column separately by flowing the cleaning solution in the opposite direction of the arrow on the column tag. The applied flow rate should be lower than 0.1 mL/min.

Cleaning method

	Cleaning solution	VC-50 2D	VC-50G 2A
1	H ₂ O	10min	2min
2	25mM HNO ₃ aq. / CH ₃ CN = 70 / 30	60min	12min
3	H ₂ O	10min	2min
6	Eluent	60min	12min

Attention! Complete the washing procedure steps continuously. Do not store the column with either acid solution as it will advance the deterioration of the column.

10. Column Inspection

Column inspection method is described in Certificate of Analysis (CoA).

Attention! Assessment of the column's functional integrity prior to initial and later use by standardized comparison of the certificate of analysis is recommended. Please see CoA for the detailed analysis conditions and sample preparation.

11. Attention

- 1) Do not remove the end fittings of the column to prevent performance deterioration and for safety reasons.
- 2) Do not make a strong impact on the column: such as hitting or dropping on the floor.
- 3) Replace the solvent in the LC system with the eluent to be used before connecting the column.
- 4) Connect the column so that the flow direction corresponds to the arrow mark on the tag.
- 5) When the column is not used for two weeks or more, replace the in-column solvent with the shipping solvent, remove it from the LC system, close each end with a stopper, and store it at controlled room temperature.
- 6) Contact Shodex website (<http://www.shodex.com/>) or Shodex partners regarding product and analysis applications.

12. Warranty (Ver. 3)

1) Showa Denko K. K. warrants that the Shodex™ Column, at the time of delivery to the user, will conform to the specification of the attached Certificate of Analysis, if the Shodex Column is used in accordance with the attached operating manual. The foregoing warranty is exclusive and is in lieu of all other warranties with respect to the Shodex Column, whether written, oral, implied, statutory or otherwise. No warranties by Showa Denko K. K. are implied or otherwise created, including, but not limited to, the warranty of merchantability and fitness for particular purposes.

2) Any claim of inconformity to the specification must be notified to Showa Denko K.K. within ten (10) days after delivery to the user. User's exclusive remedy and Showa Denko K.K.'s exclusive liability for such claim are limited to the replacement of the Shodex Column in question. In no event is Showa Denko K.K. liable for any indirect, incidental or consequential damage arising out of in connection with the Shodex Column, whether or not such damage is allegedly based on breach of warranty, negligence or otherwise.

3) No warranty is made in any of the following cases:

3-1 If the Shodex Column is not used in accordance with the operating manual

3-2 If the Shodex Column is remodeled by anyone other than person or firm designated by Showa Denko K.K.

3-3 If the Shodex Column is disposed of

3-4 If the Shodex Column is resold by the user without giving prior written notice to Showa Denko K.K.

3-5 If the performance of the Shodex Column is not conform to the specification of the attached Certificate of Analysis due to any of the reasons below:

a) Computer virus

b) Impurities contained in the sample, reagent, gas air or cooling water provided by the user

c) Breakdown or malfunction of equipment, apparatus or component used in combination with the Shodex Column

d) Force majeure such as fire, earthquake, flood, other natural disaster, crime, riot, act of terrorism, war or radioactive contamination

4) In no event is Showa Denko K.K. liable for

4-1 the results of analyses or preparations using the Shodex Column or any portion of the same, including, but not limited to, the reliability, accuracy, efficacy and safety of said results, and

4-2 the occupational hazard in the use of the Shodex Column, whether or not such use is made in accordance with the attached Conditions for use.

5) The Shodex Column is for laboratory use only. It must not be used for clinical diagnosis. Showa Denko K.K. is not liable for any use of the Shodex Column except laboratory use.