Customer Guidance: Ammonia Contamination from Sodium Potassium Tartrate

Instructions:

There have been concerns with ammonia contamination in sodium potassium tartrate specifically causing issues with TKN analyses.

The following is a procedure to drive off the ammonia contamination through alkaline boil:

1) Dissolve the requested amount of sodium potassium tartrate trihydrate in the required amount of ammonia-free deionized water.
2) Add 3 to 5 pellets of NaOH.
3) Boil the solution, with stirring, for 1 hour to drive off ammonia contamination.
4) Add make-up water as needed. Do not allow the solution to boil dry.
5) Cover the flask and cool to room temperature.
6) Add acid drop-wise (sulfuric or hydrochloric, about 5 normal) to reach a pH of
   7.5 ± 0.5.

This solution can be stored in the refrigerator for up to 6 months.