INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Determination of hardness —

Part 1: Introduction and guidance

Caoutchouc vulcanisé ou thermoplastique — Détermination de la dureté —

Partie 1: Introduction et lignes directrices

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 45, *Rubber and rubber products*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Testing and analysis*.

This first edition of ISO 48-1 cancels and replaces ISO 18517:2015, of which it constitutes a minor revision. The changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

— a new standard number has been given.

— in the Introduction, an explanation of the purpose of the grouping work has been added.

A list of all parts in the ISO 48 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user’s national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

ISO/TC 45/SC 2 established a principle that it would be helpful for users if standards on the same subject but covering different aspects or methods were grouped together, preferably with an introductory guidance standard, rather than being scattered throughout the numbering system. This has been achieved for some subjects, for example curemeters (ISO 6502) and dynamic properties (ISO 4664).

In 2017, it was decided to group standards for hardness and, subsequently, it was agreed that they would be grouped under the ISO 48 number. The new standards together with the previously numbered standards are listed below.

— ISO 48-1: former ISO 18517

— ISO 48-2: former ISO 48

— ISO 48-3: former ISO 27588

— ISO 48-4: former ISO 7619-1

— ISO 48-5: former ISO 7619-2

— ISO 48-6: former ISO 7267-1

— ISO 48-7: former ISO 7267-2

— ISO 48-8: former ISO 7267-3

— ISO 48-9: former ISO 18898

Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Determination of hardness —

Part 1: Introduction and guidance

1 Scope

This document provides guidance on the determination of the hardness of vulcanized and thermoplastic rubbers.

It is intended to provide an understanding of the significance of hardness as a material property and to assist in the selection of an appropriate test method.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

3.1
international rubber hardness degrees
IRHD
hardness scale chosen so that "0" represents the hardness of material having a Young's modulus of zero and "100" represents the hardness of a material of infinite Young's modulus

Note 1 to entry: The following conditions are fulfilled over most of the normal range of hardness:

a) one international rubber hardness degree always represents approximately the same proportional difference in Young's modulus;

b) for highly elastic rubbers, the IRHD and Shore A scales are comparable.

3.2
standard hardness
S
hardness, in international rubber hardness degrees, obtained using the procedures described in ISO 48-2 on test pieces of the standard thickness and not less than the minimum lateral dimensions specified

3.3
apparent hardness
hardness, in international rubber hardness degrees, obtained using the procedures described in ISO 48-2 on test pieces of non-standard dimensions