

Australian Standard™

**Determination of particle size
distributions—Electrical sensing zone
method**

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee CH-032, Particle Size Analysis. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 28 February 2003 and published on 10 April 2003.

The following are represented on Committee CH-032:

Australian Pre-Mixed Concrete Association
CSIRO Land and Water
Queensland University of Technology
Royal Australian Chemical Institute
Scientific Suppliers Association of Australia
University of South Australia
University of Sydney

Keeping Standards up-to-date

Standards are living documents which reflect progress in science, technology and systems. To maintain their currency, all Standards are periodically reviewed, and new editions are published. Between editions, amendments may be issued. Standards may also be withdrawn. It is important that readers assure themselves they are using a current Standard, which should include any amendments which may have been published since the Standard was purchased.

Detailed information about Standards can be found by visiting the Standards Australia web site at www.standards.com.au and looking up the relevant Standard in the on-line catalogue.

Alternatively, the printed Catalogue provides information current at 1 January each year, and the monthly magazine, *The Australian Standard*, has a full listing of revisions and amendments published each month.

We also welcome suggestions for improvement in our Standards, and especially encourage readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Contact us via email at mail@standards.com.au, or write to the Chief Executive, Standards Australia International Ltd, GPO Box 5420, Sydney, NSW 2001.

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 02431.

Australian Standard™

**Determination of particle size
distributions—Electrical sensing zone
method**

First published as AS 5012—2003.

COPYRIGHT

© Standards Australia International

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher.

Published by Standards Australia International Ltd
GPO Box 5420, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia

ISBN 0 7337 5104 0

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee CH-032, Particle Size Analysis. This Standard is identical with and has been reproduced from ISO 13319:2000 *Determination of particle size distributions—Electrical sensing zone method*.

The objective of this Standard is to specify guidance on the measurement of the size distributions of particles dispersed in an electrolyte solution using the electrical sensing zone method. It does not address the specific requirement of the particle size measurement of specific materials. The method described in this Standard measures particle volumes and reports in the range from 0.6 μm to 1600 μm .

The term 'informative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the annex to which it applies. An 'informative' annex is only for information and guidance.

As this Standard is reproduced from an International Standard, the following applies:

- (a) Its number appears on the cover and title page while the International Standard number appears only on the cover.
- (b) In the source text, 'this International Standard' should read 'this Australian Standard'.
- (c) A full point should be substituted for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.
- (d) Substitute 'mL' for 'ml' wherever it appears.
- (e) Clause 3, page 2, symbol 'x' used to denote particle size should be replaced by symbol 'd'. It is recognized that the symbol 'd' is used more commonly in Australia.

CONTENTS

1	Scope	1
2	Terms and definitions	1
3	Symbols	1
4	Principle.....	2
5	General operation	3
6	Operational procedures	4
7	Calculation of results	10
8	Analysis	11
9	Validation.....	11
Annex A (informative)	Table of materials and electrolyte solutions.....	12
Annex B (informative)	Technique using two (or more) sensors	23
Annex C (informative)	Example of calibration by mass integration	25
Annex D (informative)	Calibration and control of frequently used orifices	27
Annex E (informative)	Data sheet	28
	Bibliography	30

NOTES

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

Determination of particle size distributions—Electrical sensing zone method

1 Scope

This International Standard gives guidance on the measurement of the size distributions of particles dispersed in an electrolyte solution using the electrical sensing zone method. It does not address the specific requirements of the particle size measurement of specific materials. The method described in this International Standard measures particle volumes and reports in the range about from 0,6 μm to 1 600 μm .

2 Terms and definitions

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

2.1

dead time

time during which the electronics are not able to detect particles due to the signal processing of a previous particle

2.2

orifice

small-diameter hole through which suspension is drawn

2.3

sensing zone

volume of electrolyte solution within, and around, the orifice in which a particle is detected

2.4

sampling volume

volume of suspension that is analysed

3 Symbols

D	orifice diameter, in μm
K_d	calibration constant of diameter
\bar{K}_d	calibration constant of mean diameter
$\sigma_{\bar{K}_d}$	standard deviation of mean calibration constant
m	mass of sample in beaker, in g
V_T	volume of electrolyte solution in which m is dispersed, in ml
V_m	analysis volume, in ml
ΔN_i	number of counts in a size interval i
ρ	mass of the particles per volume of the electrolyte it displaces, in $\text{g}\cdot\text{ml}^{-1}$
\bar{V}_i	arithmetic mean volume for a particular size interval i , in ml