
**Metallic materials — Method of
constraint loss correction of CTOD
fracture toughness for fracture
assessment of steel components**

*Matériaux métalliques — Méthode de correction de perte de
contrainte du CTOD de la ténacité à la rupture pour l'évaluation de la
rupture des composants en acier*



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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.

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For an explanation on 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.

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 164 *Mechanical Testing of Metals*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Toughness testing — Fracture (F), Pendulum (P), Tear (T)*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 27306:2009), which has been technically revised.

Metallic materials — Method of constraint loss correction of CTOD fracture toughness for fracture assessment of steel components

1 Scope

In fracture assessments of steel structures containing cracks, it has generally been assumed that the fracture resistance of fracture toughness specimens is equal to the fracture resistance of structural components. However, such an assumption often leads to excessively conservative fracture assessments. This is due to a loss of plastic constraint in structural components, which are subjected mainly to tensile loading. By contrast, fracture toughness specimens hold a constrained stress state near the crack-tip due to bending mode. The loss of constraint is significant for high strength steels with high yield-to-tensile ratios (= yield stress/tensile strength) which have been extensively developed and widely applied to structures in recent years.

This International Standard specifies a method for converting the CTOD (crack-tip opening displacement) fracture toughness obtained from laboratory specimens to an equivalent CTOD for structural components, taking constraint loss into account. This method can also apply to fracture assessment using the stress intensity factor or the J -integral concept (see [Clause 9](#)).

This International Standard deals with the unstable fracture that occurs from a crack-like defect or fatigue crack in ferritic structural steels. Unstable fracture accompanied by a significant amount of ductile crack extension and ductile fractures are not included in the scope hereof.

The CTOD fracture toughness of structural steels is measured in accordance with the established test methods, ISO 12135¹⁾ or BS 7448-1. The fracture assessment of a cracked component is done using an established method such as FAD (Failure Assessment Diagram) in the organization concerned, and reference is not made to the details thereof in this International Standard.

This International Standard can be used for eliminating the excessive conservatism frequently associated with the conventional fracture mechanics methods and accurately assessing the unstable fracture initiation limit of structural components from the fracture toughness of the structural steel. This is also used for rationally determining the fracture toughness of materials to meet the design requirements of performance of structural components.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this International Standard. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For updated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 12135, *Metallic materials — Unified method of test for the determination of quasistatic fracture toughness*

BS 7448-1, *Fracture mechanics toughness tests —Part 1: Method for determination of K_{Ic} , critical CTOD and critical J values of metallic materials*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 12135 and the following apply.

1) To be published.