INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Hard coal and coke — Mechanical sampling —

Part 7: Methods for determining the precision of sampling, sample preparation and testing

Houille et coke — Échantillonnage mécanique —

Partie 7: Méthodes pour la détermination de la fidélité de l'échantillonnage, de la préparation de l'échantillon et de l'essai

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ISO copyright office
Ch. de Blandonnet 8 • CP 401
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland
Tel. +41 22 749 01 11
Fax +41 22 749 09 47
copyright@iso.org
www.iso.org

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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).

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

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 WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see the following URL: Foreword - Supplementary information

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 27, *Solid mineral fuels*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Sampling*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 13909-7:2001), which has been technically revised.

ISO 13909 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Hard coal and coke — Mechanical sampling*:

— *Part 1: General introduction*

— *Part 2: Coal — Sampling from moving streams*

— *Part 3: Coal — Sampling from stationary lots*

— *Part 4: Coal — Preparation of test samples*

— *Part 5: Coke — Sampling from moving streams*

— *Part 6: Coke — Preparation of test samples*

— *Part 7: Methods for determining the precision of sampling, sample preparation and testing*

— *Part 8: Methods of testing for bias*

Introduction

Two different situations are considered when a measure of precision is required. In the first, an estimate is made of the precision that can be expected from an existing sampling scheme and, if this is different from that desired, adjustments are made to correct it. In the second, the precision that is achieved on a particular lot is estimated from the experimental results actually obtained using a specifically designed sampling scheme.

The formulae developed in this part of ISO 13909 are based on the assumption that the quality of the fuel varies in a random manner throughout the mass being sampled and that the observations will follow a normal distribution. Neither of these assumptions is strictly correct. Although the assumption that observations will follow a normal distribution is not strictly correct for some fuel parameters, this deviation from assumed conditions will not materially affect the validity of the formulae developed for precision checking since the statistics used are not very sensitive to non-normality. Strictly speaking, however, confidence limits will not always be symmetrically distributed about the mean. For most practical uses of precision, however, the errors are not significant.

NOTE In the text, the term "fuel" is used where both coal and coke would be applicable in the context and either "coal" or "coke" where that term is exclusively applicable.

Hard coal and coke — Mechanical sampling —

Part 7:
Methods for determining the precision of sampling, sample preparation and testing

1 Scope

In this part of ISO 13909, formulae are developed which link the variables that contribute to overall sampling precision. Methods are described for estimating overall precision and for deriving values for primary increment variance which can be used to modify the sampling scheme to change the precision. Methods for checking the variance of sample preparation and testing are also described.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 13909-1, *Hard coal and coke — Mechanical sampling — Part 1: General introduction*

ISO 13909-2, *Hard coal and coke — Mechanical sampling — Part 2: Coal — Sampling from moving streams*

ISO 13909-3, *Hard coal and coke — Mechanical sampling — Part 3: Coal — Sampling from stationary lots*

ISO 13909-4, *Hard coal and coke — Mechanical sampling — Part 4: Coal — Preparation of test samples*

ISO 13909-5, *Hard coal and coke — Mechanical sampling — Part 5: Coke — Sampling from moving streams*

ISO 13909-6, *Hard coal and coke — Mechanical sampling — Part 6: Coke — Preparation of test samples*

ISO 13909-8, *Hard coal and coke — Mechanical sampling — Part 8: Methods of testing for bias*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 13909-1 apply.

4 General

When designing a sampling scheme in order to meet a required precision of results, formulae are necessary that link certain fuel and sampling characteristics to that precision. The main factors to be considered are the variability of primary increments, preparation and testing errors, the number of increments and samples taken to represent the lot, and the mass of the samples. These formulae are derived in Clause 5. Methods for estimating the parameters used in those formulae are given in Clause 6.

Once a sampling system has been designed and installed, the precision which is being achieved on a routine basis should be checked. An estimate of the precision can be obtained from the primary increment variance, V_I, the numbers of increments, n, and sub-lots, m, (see Clause 5) and the preparation and testing variance, V_{PT}. The preparation component of V_{PT} is made up of on-line sample processing and off-line sample preparation.