
**Natural gas — Format for data from
gas chromatograph analysers for
natural gas — XML file format**

*Gaz naturel — Format pour les données des analyseurs de
chromatographie en phase gazeuse pour le gaz naturel — Format de
fichier XML*



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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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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 www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO /TC 193, *Natural gas*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Analysis of natural gas*.

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

There are multiple suppliers of gas chromatograph analysers for measurement of natural gas composition. If correctly set up, there is no reason to prefer any one in particular, since they give comparable results. However, the situation gives rise to a variety of methods of reporting data, which can create confusion over the use of such data for off-line calculation of properties or evaluation of analyser performance.

Therefore, a uniform method of data presentation, independent of the source of the analyser, as presented in this document is considered valuable.

Natural gas — Format for data from gas chromatograph analysers for natural gas — XML file format

1 Scope

This document specifies a text file format - XML file format - for reporting natural gas analysis results and other data relevant to natural gas. The file name is applicable when it includes the extension of .XML (case insensitive).

The XML file format is useful for output from ISO 6974-1^[1] for composition and ISO 6974-2^[2] for uncertainty, for input for ISO 6976^[3] and for input for ISO 10723^[4] for performance evaluation. Typically these would be the gas composition as provided on an analysis certificate, or results from a performance evaluation that would be read into an Excel spreadsheet for data processing.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 8601, *Date and time — Representations for information interchange — Part 1: Basic rules*

3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

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/>

4 Basic instructions

The following steps shall be obeyed to come to a correct XML representation:

- Unambiguous, reasonably concise, non-proprietary, and since the chemical formula is part of the InChI it is often clear what the component is. The alternative of using Chemical Abstracts Registry Number (CAS RN) is not so understandable and is proprietary.
- Attributes in tags should be avoided, e.g. not `<amount unit="mol%">1,2</amount>` but `<amount><value>1,2</value><unit>mol%</unit></amount>`
- The XML should have some checksum (at the end), e.g. CRC-16 check (hexadecimal) sum as displayed by ZIP programs, at the end of the file as an XML comment, e.g. `<!--D86A3640-->`. This is not intended for security purposes, merely as a confidence check that the file contents have not been corrupted.
- Date and time are tagged `<date_time>` and use the convention specified in ISO 8601, e.g. `<date_time>2018-07-10T13:59:00+01</date_time>`

This data may be used for

- date and time of sample registration,