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**Determination of particle size distribution  
by centrifugal liquid sedimentation  
methods —**

**Part 1:  
General principles and guidelines**

*Détermination de la distribution granulométrique par les méthodes de  
sédimentation centrifuge dans un liquide —*

*Partie 1: Principes généraux 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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this part of ISO 13318 may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard ISO 13318-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 24, *Sieves, sieving and other sizing methods*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Sizing by methods other than sieving*.

ISO 13318 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Determination of particle size distribution by centrifugal liquid sedimentation methods*:

- *Part 1: General principles and guidelines*
- *Part 2: Centrifugal photosedimentation method*
- *Part 3: Centrifugal X-ray method*

Annexes A and B of this part of ISO 13318 are for information only.

## Introduction

Centrifugal sedimentation particle size analysis methods are among those in current use for determining size distribution of many powders. Typically, centrifugal methods apply to samples in the 0,1  $\mu\text{m}$  to 5  $\mu\text{m}$  size range and where the sedimentation condition for a Reynolds number  $< 0,25$  is satisfied.

No single method of size analysis can be specified to cover the many different types of material encountered, but it is possible to recommend procedures that may be applied to the majority of cases. The purpose of this part of ISO 13318 is to obtain uniformity in procedure of centrifugal methods in order to facilitate comparisons of size analysis made in different laboratories.

Centrifugal sedimentation methods may be undertaken:

- as part of a research project involving an investigation of the particle size distribution of a material;
- as part of a control procedure for the production of a material where the particle size distribution is important;
- as the basis of a contract for the supply of material specified to be within stated specification limits.

Gravitational sedimentation methods are discussed in ISO 13317-1, ISO 13317-2 and ISO 13317-3.

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# Determination of particle size distribution by centrifugal liquid sedimentation methods —

## Part 1: General principles and guidelines

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO 13318 covers methods for determining the particle size distributions of particulate materials, typically in the size range 0,1  $\mu\text{m}$  to 5  $\mu\text{m}$ , by centrifugal sedimentation in a liquid.

**NOTE** This part of ISO 13318 may involve the use of hazardous materials operations and equipment. This part of ISO 13318 does not purport to address all the safety problems associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this part of ISO 13318 to establish appropriate safety and health practices and to determine the applicability of the regulatory limitations prior to its use.

The methods of determining the particle size distribution described in this part of ISO 13318 are applicable to slurries, particulate materials which can be dispersed in liquids and some emulsions. A positive density difference between the discrete and continuous phases is necessary, although centrifugal photosedimentation can be used for emulsions where the droplets are less dense than the liquid in which they are dispersed.

### 2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO 13318. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this part of ISO 13318 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 758, *Liquid chemical products for industrial use — Determination of density at 20 °C.*

ISO 787-10, *General methods of test for pigments and extenders — Part 10: Determination of density — Pycnometer method.*

ISO 2591-1, *Test sieving — Part 1: Methods using test sieves of woven wire cloth and perforated metal plate.*

ISO 8213, *Chemical products for industrial use — Sampling techniques — Solid chemical products in the form of particles varying from powders to coarse lumps.*

ISO 9276-1, *Representation of results of particle size analysis — Part 1: Graphical representation.*

ISO 14887, *Sample preparation — Dispersing procedures for powders in liquids.*