

**Health and safety in welding and allied processes -  
Laboratory method for sampling fume and gases - Part  
1: Determination of fume emission during arc welding  
and collection of fume for analysis**

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

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## Foreword

This document (EN ISO 15011-1:2009) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 44 "Welding and allied processes" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 121 "Welding" the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by April 2010, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by April 2010.

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## Contents

Page

<b>Foreword .....</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>1 Scope .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>4 Principle .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>5 Equipment and materials.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>6 Tests procedures.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>6.1 Welding procedure selection .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>6.2 Manual metal arc welding .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>6.3 Continuous wire processes .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6.4 Analysis of the fume collected.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>7 Calculating and reporting the results.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Annex A (informative) Possible designs of test chamber .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Annex B (informative) Equipment notes.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Annex C (informative) Welding parameters .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Annex D (normative) Test procedures.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Annex E (normative) Test report .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Bibliography.....</b>	<b>20</b>

## Introduction

Welding and allied processes generate fume and gases, which, if inhaled, can be harmful to human health. Knowledge of the composition and the emission rate of the fume and gases can be useful to occupational health professionals in assessing worker exposure and in determining appropriate control measures.

Absolute exposure is dependent upon factors such as welder position with respect to the plume and draughts and cannot be predicted from emission rate data. However, in the same work situation, a higher emission rate is expected to correlate with a higher exposure and a lower emission rate with a lower exposure. Hence, emission rate data can be used to predict relative changes in exposure that might occur in the workplace under different welding conditions and to identify measures for reducing such exposure, but they cannot be used to calculate ventilation requirements.

This part of ISO 15011 specifies a method for measuring fume emission rate and for collecting fume for subsequent analysis. The procedure simply prescribes a methodology, leaving selection of the test parameters to the user, so that the effects of different variables can be evaluated.

Emission rates vary considerably depending upon the exact test conditions; therefore, test parameters are prescribed in ISO 15011-4 for the generation of fume emission rate data, which can be used for comparing emission rates of welding consumables.

It is assumed that the executions of the provisions and the interpretation of the results obtained in this part of ISO 15011 are entrusted to appropriately qualified and experienced people.

# Health and safety in welding and allied processes — Laboratory method for sampling fume and gases —

## Part 1: Determination of fume emission rate during arc welding and collection of fume for analysis

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO 15011 defines a laboratory method for measuring the emission rate of fume from arc welding. It also defines a method of collecting the fume for subsequent analysis and refers to suitable analytical techniques. The methods described are suitable for use with all open arc welding processes except tungsten inert gas (TIG) welding, which produces little fume.

The emission rate method can be used to evaluate the effects of welding electrodes and wires, welding parameters, processes, shielding gases, test piece composition and test piece surface condition on fume emission rate. Following analysis of the fume collected, the effects of test parameters on fume composition can also be determined.

### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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/TR 25901, *Welding and related processes — Vocabulary*

ISO/IEC Guide 98-3, *Uncertainty of measurement — Part 3: Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement (GUM:1995)*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO/TR 25901 and the following apply.

#### 3.1

##### **bubble flow meter**

primary device for measuring gas flow rate, where the time for a bubble of gas, defined by a soap film, to pass through a calibrated volume in a vertical tube is measured

#### 3.2

##### **test chamber**

semi-enclosed, continuously extracted chamber used in emission rate tests performed during arc welding, cutting or gouging operations