
**Hydraulic fluid power — Compatibility
between fluids and standard elastomeric
materials**

*Transmissions hydrauliques — Compatibilité des fluides avec les
caoutchoucs normalisés*



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ISO copyright office
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47
E-mail copyright@iso.ch
Web www.iso.ch

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Contents

Page

Foreword.....	iv
Introduction.....	v
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	2
4 Test elastomers	2
4.1 General.....	2
4.2 Standard acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber (NBR 1).....	2
4.3 Standard acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber (NBR 2).....	4
4.4 Standard fluoroelastomer (FKM 2) (vinylidene fluoride hexafluoropropylene copolymer)	6
4.5 Standard ethylene propylene diene rubber (EPDM 1)	7
4.6 Standard hydrogenated NBR (HNBR 1).....	9
5 Determination of elastomer compatibility index (ECI).....	10
5.1 General.....	10
5.2 Test conditions	11
5.3 Determination of percentage change in volume	12
5.4 Determination of change in hardness	14
5.5 Determination of percentage change in tensile strength and elongation at break	14
5.6 Test report	15
6 Identification statement (Reference to this International Standard).....	16
Annex A (informative) Information report	17
Annex B (informative) Example of test report — Fluid-elastomer compatibility index (ECI).....	19
Annex C (informative) Guidelines on elastomer compatibility.....	20

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.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. 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 International Standard may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 6072 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 131, *Fluid power systems*, Subcommittee SC 7, *Sealing devices*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 6072:1986), which has been technically revised.

Annexes A, B and C of this International Standard are for information only.

Introduction

In hydraulic fluid power systems, power is transmitted and controlled through a liquid under pressure within an enclosed circuit. Elastomers are used as seals in fluid power systems. Elastomeric materials are any substances having the ability to return to original size and shape after deformation. Hydraulic fluids are water, oil or other fluids which are forced through an orifice or an enclosed circuit. Elastomeric materials and hydraulic fluids are defined as compatible if they are not significantly altered by chemical reaction or physical swell.

From the changes in volume, hardness, tensile strength and elongation at break, which standard test specimens of the suitable standard test elastomer undergo when immersed in a certain fluid under specified test conditions (see Table 11), an elastomer compatibility index (ECI) can be established for this fluid and can be expressed in the format given in clause 5. The ECI (which should be quoted by oil suppliers) allows selection of suitable combinations of fluids and elastomeric materials without prolonged testing and may provide enough information so as to eliminate totally unsuitable elastomer/fluid combinations without having to resort to extensive screening tests.

Representative standard compositions of various types of elastomers permit evaluation of the effect of hydraulic fluids on such compositions and comparison with commercial elastomeric materials for actual service. They could also assist producers of additives and hydraulic fluids in the development of hydraulic fluids compatible with different elastomer types.

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Hydraulic fluid power — Compatibility between fluids and standard elastomeric materials

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies test methods for the evaluation of fluids exposed to standard elastomeric materials that have been manufactured in accordance with the specified processes. It allows baseline comparisons of fluids with standard elastomers.

This International Standard provides formulations, mixing and vulcanization procedures for five types of elastomeric compositions:

- a) acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber (NBR 1 and NBR 2);
- b) fluoroelastomers (FKM 2);
- c) ethylene propylene diene rubber (EPDM 1);
- d) hydrogenated NBR (HNBR 1).

These procedures evaluate the effect of mineral-based, fire-resistant and biodegradable hydraulic fluids on such compositions by measurement, under controlled conditions, of physical properties of standard test pieces of the suitable test elastomer before and after immersion in the fluids.

This International Standard does not provide formulations of elastomeric materials for actual service, however service elastomers may be tested using these compatibility procedures if required.

NOTE The elastomeric materials used in these formulations are sensitive to fluid variations and have comparatively high swelling characteristics. Stable cure systems should be used to give adequate storage life.

2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this International Standard 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 37:1994, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Determination of tensile stress-strain properties*

ISO 48:1994, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Determination of hardness (hardness between 10 IRHD and 100 IRHD)*

ISO 289-1:1994, *Rubber, unvulcanized — Determinations using a shearing-disc viscometer — Part 1: Determination of Mooney viscosity*

ISO 815:1991, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Determination of compression set at ambient, elevated or low temperatures*

ISO 1629:1995, *Rubber and latices — Nomenclature*

ISO 1817:1999, *Rubber, vulcanized — Determination of the effect of liquids*

ISO 2393:1994, *Rubber test mixes — Preparation, mixing and vulcanization — Equipment and procedures*

ISO 2781:1988, *Rubber, vulcanized — Determination of density*

ISO 5598:1985, *Fluid power systems and components — Vocabulary*

ISO 6743-4:1999, *Lubricants, industrial oils and related products (class L) — Classification — Part 4: Family H (Hydraulic systems)*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this International Standard, the terms and definitions given in ISO 5598 and the following apply.

3.1 elastomer

macromolecular, rubber-like material that returns rapidly to approximately its initial dimensions and shape after substantial deformation by a weak stress and release of the stress

3.2 test elastomer

rubber vulcanizate with a known composition, used for evaluating the effect of media on elastomers

NOTE In order to minimize error, a test elastomer contains only the most essential ingredients for a vulcanizate.

3.3 commercial rubber

elastomeric material for actual service, the composition of which is not given by the manufacturer and which contains many more ingredients than the standard rubbers in order to fulfil processing and service requirements

NOTE It is not advisable to use commercial rubbers for quality control of media as they are generally subject to larger quality tolerances than test elastomers.

4 Test elastomers

4.1 General

The mixing and vulcanization procedures for these test elastomers as given in ISO 2393 shall be followed.

A single source for each of the ingredients of the test elastomers shall be used and the quality of each batch produced shall be checked.

4.2 Standard acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber (NBR 1)

4.2.1 Composition by mass

The composition by mass is given in Table 1.