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## Natural gas — Vocabulary

*Gaz naturel — Vocabulaire*



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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](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

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 193, *Natural gas*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 14532:2001/Cor. 1:2002).

## Introduction

ISO/TC 193 Natural Gas was established in May, 1989, with the task of creating new standards and updating existing standards relevant to natural gas. This includes gas analysis, direct measurement of properties, quality designation, and traceability.

In these activities, a comprehensive and uniform review of the definitions, symbols, and abbreviations used in the standards was not previously systematically pursued. The development of standards with terminology created to suit specific purposes often resulted in the detriment of uniformity and cohesiveness between standards.

Thus, there is the need for a work of harmonization of the terminology used in the standards pertaining to natural gas. The intention of this International Standard is to incorporate the reviewed definitions into the ISO/TC 193 source International Standard.

As the aim is to create a coherent body of standards which support each other with regard to their definitions, common and unambiguous terms and definitions used throughout all International Standards is the starting point for the understanding and application of every International Standard.

The presentation of this International Standard has been arranged to facilitate its use as follows:

- Major headings pertain to specific fields of the natural gas industry. All definitions that fall under these headings, as gleaned from ISO International Standards issued through ISO/TC 193, are listed under that heading. A review of the contents will serve to facilitate finding specific terms.
- Notes are given under numerous definitions where it was deemed important to give informative guidance for a given definition. The Notes are not considered a part of the definition.



# Natural gas — Vocabulary

## 1 Scope

This International Standard establishes the terms, definitions, symbols, and abbreviations used in the field of natural gas.

The terms and definitions have been reviewed and studied in order to cover all aspects of any particular term with input from other sources such as European Standards from CEN (The European Committee for Standardization), national standards, and existing definitions in the IGU Dictionary of the Gas Industry.

**The definitive intention of this document is to incorporate the reviewed definitions into the ISO/TC 193 source standards.**

## 2 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

### 2.1 General conditions

#### 2.1.1 Natural gas

##### 2.1.1.1

##### **natural gas**

##### **NG**

complex gaseous mixture of hydrocarbons, primarily methane, but generally includes ethane, propane and higher hydrocarbons, and some non-combustible gases such as nitrogen and carbon dioxide

Note 1 to entry: Natural gas can also contain components or containments such as sulfur compounds and/or other chemical species.

##### 2.1.1.2

##### **raw gas**

unprocessed gas taken from well heads, through gathering lines, to processing or treating facilities

Note 1 to entry: Raw gas can also be partially processed well-head gas, taken from basic upstream processing facilities.

##### 2.1.1.3

##### **substitute natural gas**

##### **SNG**

gas from non-fossil origin which is interchangeable in its properties with natural gas

##### 2.1.1.4

##### **manufactured gas**

##### **synthetic gas**

gas which has been treated and can contain components that are not typical of natural gas

Note 1 to entry: Manufactured (synthetic) gases can contain substantial amounts of chemical species that are not typical of natural gases or common species found in atypical proportions as in the case of wet and sour gases.

Note 2 to entry: Manufactured gases fall into two distinct categories, as follows:

a) those that are intended as synthetic or substitute natural gases, and that closely match true natural gases in both composition and properties;