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Imaging materials — Photographic films — Specifications for safety film

*Matériaux pour image — Films photographiques — Spécifications pour le
film de sécurité*



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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 International Standard may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard ISO 18906 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 42, *Photography*.

This first edition cancels and replaces the second edition of ISO 543:1990, of which it constitutes a minor revision.

This International Standard is one of a series of International Standards dealing with the physical properties and stability of imaging materials. To facilitate identification of these International Standards, they are assigned a number within the block from 18900 – 18999 (see annex A).

Annexes A to D of this International Standard are for information only.

Introduction

Although the manufacture of films not complying with this International Standard is currently very rare, if it takes place at all, there remains a great amount of such films stored in archives and libraries. Due to the risk of ignition caused by careless handling, of self-ignition after long and adverse storage conditions, or rapid burning characteristics, it is necessary to provide film owners with a method of determining whether their film is "safety photographic film". That is the objective of this International Standard.

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Imaging materials — Photographic films — Specifications for safety film

1 Scope

This International Standard provides specifications and test procedures for establishing the safety of photographic films with respect to hazards from fire. The specifications are applicable to both unprocessed and processed¹⁾ films on any type of currently known plastic support.

These specifications cover silver films (both gelatin and non-gelatin types), colour films, diazo films, vesicular films, and striped or full-width magnetic films. Magnetic tapes and video recording tapes are excluded.

A field test for burning behaviour is described in informative annex B, and methods of marking film are defined in informative annex C. A simple test to distinguish non-safety nitrate-base film from cellulose ester and polyester-base film is given in informative annex D.

2 Term and definition

For the purposes of this International Standard, the following term and definition applies.

2.1

safety photographic film

photographic film which passes the ignition time test and burning time test as specified in this International Standard

3 Property requirements

3.1 Ignition time

Photographic films are classified as having passed the ignition time test when the ignition time is not less than 10 min when tested as specified in clause 4.

3.2 Burning time

Photographic films having a thickness equal to or greater than 0,08 mm are classified as having passed the burning time test when the burning time is greater than 45 s when tested as specified in clause 5.

Photographic films having a thickness less than 0,08 mm are classified as having passed the burning time test when the burning time is greater than 30 s.

1) Normally, unprocessed and processed films have the same safety characteristics, so either one may be tested for conformance to these specifications. If an additional treatment, such as a lacquer coating, has been applied after processing, the safety characteristics may or may not be affected. In case of doubt, both unprocessed and processed films must be tested.