
**Arc welding and cutting —
Nonconsumable tungsten electrodes
— Classification**

*Soudage et coupage à l'arc — Électrodes non consommables en
tungstène — Classification*



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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).

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).

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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 44, *Welding and allied processes*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Welding consumables*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 6848:2004), which has been technically revised.

Introduction

Tungsten electrodes are used in a variety of welding and allied processes, including tungsten inert gas welding, plasma arc welding and cutting, plasma spraying, and atomic hydrogen welding. In contrast to most other welding electrodes, tungsten electrodes are not intended to become part of the weld deposit. Nevertheless, the chemical composition of a tungsten electrode has an important effect on its range of usage in welding and allied processes. Therefore, tungsten electrodes are classified according to their chemical composition.

Requests for official interpretations of any aspect of this International Standard should be directed to the Secretariat of ISO/TC 44/SC 3 via your national standards body. A complete listing of national standards bodies can be found at www.iso.org.

Arc welding and cutting — Nonconsumable tungsten electrodes — Classification

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies requirements for classification of nonconsumable tungsten electrodes for inert gas shielded arc welding, and for plasma welding, cutting and thermal spraying.

Information on conditions of use of these electrodes is given in [Annex A](#) (informative).

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 80000-1:2009, *Quantities and units — Part 1: General*

3 Classification

Classification of a tungsten electrode is based upon its chemical composition.

4 Symbols and requirements

4.1 Symbol for the product/process

The symbol for gas shielded tungsten arc processes is the letter W.

4.2 Symbol for the chemical composition

The symbol for the chemical composition of the tungsten electrode is the chemical symbol(s) for the principal oxide additive(s) followed by digits indicating the nominal mass percent of the oxide additive multiplied by 10. If there is no additive, the symbol is the letter P. [Table 1](#) lists the composition requirements for the various classifications.

5 Chemical analysis

Chemical analysis shall be performed on specimens of the electrode being classified. Any analytical technique may be used but, in cases of dispute, reference shall be made to established published methods.

6 Retests

If any test fails to meet the requirement, that test shall be repeated twice. The results of both retests shall meet the requirements. Specimens for retesting may be taken from the original test specimen or from a new test specimen. For chemical analysis, retests need only be for those specific elements that failed to meet their test requirement. If the results of one or both retests fail to meet the requirement, the material under test shall be considered as not meeting the requirements of this specification for that classification.