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## Solid biofuels — Determination of the content of volatile matter

*Biocombustibles solides — Méthode de détermination de la teneur en  
matières volatiles*



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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 238, *Solid biofuels*.

## Introduction

The volatile matter content is determined as the loss in mass, less that due to moisture, when a solid biofuel is heated out of contact with air under standardised conditions. The test is empirical and, in order to ensure reproducible results, it is essential that the rate of heating, the final temperature, and the overall duration of the test are carefully controlled. It is also essential to exclude air from the solid biofuel during heating to prevent oxidation. The fit of the crucible lid is therefore critical. The moisture content of the general analysis sample is determined at the same time as the volatile matter so that the appropriate correction can be made.



# Solid biofuels — Determination of the content of volatile matter

## 1 Scope

This International Standard aims to define the requirements and method used to determine the volatile matter content of solid biofuels. It is intended for persons and organisations that manufacture, plan, sell, erect or use machinery, equipment, tools, and entire plants related to solid biofuels, and to all persons and organisations involved in producing, purchasing, selling, and utilizing solid biofuels.

The volatile matter content is determined as the loss in mass, less that due to moisture, when solid biofuel is subject to partial pyrolysis under standardized conditions.

## 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 16559, *Solid biofuels — Terminology, definitions and descriptions*

ISO 18134-3, *Solid biofuels — Determination of moisture content — Oven dry method — Part 3: Moisture in general analysis sample*

EN 14778<sup>1)</sup>, *Solid Biofuels — Sampling*

EN 14780<sup>2)</sup>, *Solid biofuels — Sample preparation*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 16559 and the following apply.

### 3.1

#### **nominal top size**

aperture of the sieve where at least 95 % by mass of the material passes

[SOURCE: ISO 16559]

### 3.2

#### **laboratory sample**

combined sample or a sub-sample of a combined sample for use in a laboratory

[SOURCE: ISO 16559]

### 3.3

#### **test portion**

sub-sample either of a laboratory sample or a test sample

[SOURCE: ISO 16559]

1) To be replaced by ISO 18135.

2) To be replaced by ISO 14780.