# TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION SPÉCIFICATION TECHNIQUE TECHNISCHE SPEZIFIKATION

## **CEN/TS 15590**

March 2007

ICS 75,160,10

**English Version** 

### Solid recovered fuels - Determination of potential rate of microbial self heating using the real dynamic respiration index

Combustibles solides de récupération - Détermination du taux d'activité microbienne utilisant l'index de respiration dynamique

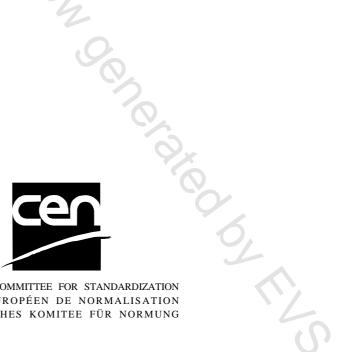
Feste Sekundärbrennstoffe - Bestimmung des potenziellen Grades der mikrobiellen Selbstererhitzung mittels des realen dynamischen Respirationsindexes

This Technical Specification (CEN/TS) was approved by CEN on 1 January 2007 for provisional application.

The period of validity of this CEN/TS is limited initially to three years. After two years the members of CEN will be requested to submit their comments, particularly on the question whether the CEN/TS can be converted into a European Standard.

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Foreword

This document (CEN/TS 15590:2007) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 343 "Solid Recovered Fuels", the secretariat of which is held by SFS.

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### Introduction

This document specifies the method used for determining the current rate of potential microbial self-heating of SRF using the real dynamic respiration index.

Spontaneous combustion can occur when SRF from municipal solid waste or biomasses are stored and/or transported. The microbial activity, because of aerobic degradation of easily degradable organic matter, acts as a primer causing the waste temperature to increase until autoxidation and the self-combustion processes takes place.

The potential self-heating of SRF can be indirectly measured by the real dynamic respiration index (RDRI), which determines the extent to which easily biodegradable organic matter of a SRF has decomposed. Therefore, the RDRI identifies the actual point reached in the decomposition process and represents a rt gradation on a recognized scale of values, which thus enables a comparison of potential self-heating.

## 1 Scope

This Technical Specification specifies a method to determine the current rate of potential microbial self-heating of a solid recovered fuel. The methods indirectly estimate the potential risk of microbial self-heating, odour production, vector attraction etc. The current rate of biodegradation can be expressed in milligrams  $O_2$  kg TDS<sup>-1</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>.

### 2 Normative references

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

CEN/TS 15357:2006, Solid recovered fuels — Terminology, definitions and descriptions

#### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in CEN/TS 15357:2006 and the following apply.

#### 3.1

#### current rate of potential microbial self-heating

measure of the metabolic activity of aerobic micro-organisms expressed as the rate of oxygen uptake

#### 3.2

#### respiration index

rate of oxygen uptake expressed as milligram oxygen per kilogram total dry solids (TDS) per hour

#### 3.3

#### real dynamic respiration test

test measuring the respiration index under specific conditions including forced air flow

#### 3.4

#### real dynamic respiration index

#### RDRI

average value of the respiration indexes representing 24 h showing the highest aerobic microbial activity (see Figure A.1)

#### 3.5

#### lag or latency phase

interval of time required for the microbial flora to acclimatize during the course of the real dynamic respirometric test

#### 3.6

#### total dry solids

#### TDS

solid fraction of a sample that does not evaporate following the determination of the humidity (dry at 105 °C to a constant weight)

#### 3.7

#### easily biodegrable organic compounds

organic substances available for decomposition by micro-organisms within a real dynamic respiration test