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English Version

Characterisation of waste - Compliance leaching test - One stage batch leaching test for monoliths at fixed liquid to surface area ratio (L/A) for test portions with fixed minimum dimensions

Caractérisation des déchets - Essai de lixiviation de conformité - Essai de lixiviation en bâchée unique pour des monolithes avec un rapport liquide/surface (L/A) fixe, pour des prises d'essai de dimensions minimales fixes

Charakterisierung von Abfällen - Auslaugung zur Übereinstimmungsuntersuchung - Einstufiges Auslaugungsverfahren für monolithische Abfälle bei festgelegtem Flüssigkeit/Oberfläche-Verhältnis (L/A) für Prüfmengen mit festgelegten Mindestabmessungen

This Technical Specification (CEN/TS) was approved by CEN on 6 December 2010 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.

CEN members are required to announce the existence of this CEN/TS in the same way as for an EN and to make the CEN/TS available promptly at national level in an appropriate form. It is permissible to keep conflicting national standards in force (in parallel to the CEN/TS) until the final decision about the possible conversion of the CEN/TS into an EN is reached.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels

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Foreword

This document (CEN/TS 15862:2012) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 292 "Characterization of waste", the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document has been developed primarily to support the requirements for compliance testing within the EU and EFTA countries.

This document was elaborated on the basis of:

- NF X 31-211:2000;
- NEN 7345:1995;
- ÖNORM S 2116-4.

This document specifies compliance tests. For basic characterization a methodology for the determination of the leaching behaviour of waste has been developed and formulated in EN 12920.

Anyone dealing with waste and sludge analysis should be aware of the typical risks of that kind of material irrespective of the parameter to be determined. Waste and sludge samples can contain hazardous (e.g. toxic, reactive, flammable, infectious) substances, which can be liable to biological and/or chemical reaction.

Consequently these samples should be handled with special care. Gases which can be produced by microbiological or chemical activity are potentially flammable and will pressurise sealed bottles. Bursting bottles are likely to result in hazardous shrapnel, dust and/or aerosol. National regulations should be followed with respect to all hazards associated with this method.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to announce this Technical Specification: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Introduction

In the different European countries, tests have been developed to characterize and assess the constituents which can be leached from waste materials. The release of soluble constituents upon contact with water is regarded as a main mechanism of release which results in a potential risk to the environment during the disposal of waste materials. The intent of these tests is to identify the leaching properties of waste materials. The complexity of the leaching process makes simplifications necessary. Not all of the relevant aspects of leaching behaviour can be addressed in one standard.

Procedure to characterize the behaviour of waste materials can generally be divided into three steps, using different tests in relation to the objective. The following test hierarchy is taken from the Landfill Directive¹ and the Decision on Annex II of this Directive² for disposal of waste.

- a) Basic characterization constitutes a full characterization of the waste by gathering all the necessary information for a safe management of the waste in the short and long term. Basic characterization may provide information on the waste (type and origin, composition, consistency, leachability, etc.), information for understanding the behaviour of waste in the considered management scenario, comparison of waste properties against limit values, and detection of key variables (critical parameters as liquid/solid (L/S) ratios, leachant composition, factors controlling leachability such as pH, redox potential, complexing capacity and physical parameters) for compliance testing and options for simplification of compliance testing. Characterization may deliver ratios between test results from basic characterization and results from simplified test procedures as well as information on a suitable frequency for compliance testing. In addition to the leaching behaviour, the composition of the waste should be known or determined by testing. The tests used for basic characterization should always include those to be used for compliance testing.
- b) Compliance testing is used to demonstrate that the sample of today fits the population of samples tested before by basic characterization and through that, is used to carry out compliance with regulatory limit values. The compliance test should therefore always be part of the basic characterization program. The compliance test focuses on key variables and leaching behaviour identified by basic characterization tests. Parts of basic characterization tests can also be used for compliance purposes.
- c) On-site verification tests are used as a rapid check to confirm that the waste is the same as that which has been subjected to characterization or compliance tests. On-site verification tests are not necessarily leaching tests.

The procedure described in this document is a compliance leaching test and falls in category b).

¹ Council Directive 1999/31/EC of 26 April 1999 on the landfill of waste.

² Council Decision 2003/33/EC of 19 December 2002.

1 Scope

This Technical Specification specifies a compliance test for routine testing providing information on the leaching of monolithic waste which can be obtained under the experimental conditions specified hereafter with a single batch leaching test at a specified liquid to surface area ratio (L/A) of 12 (cm³·cm⁻²). It applies to test portion of monolithic waste of regular shape, with a minimum dimension of 40 mm in all directions, obtained e.g. by cutting, coring or moulding.

This document is not applicable if the surface area of the test portion cannot be determined by simple geometrical means.

This document has been developed to determine the release of mainly inorganic constituents from wastes. It does not take into account the particular characteristics of organic constituents nor the consequences of microbiological processes in organic degradable wastes.

The test procedure specified in this document produces an eluate which subsequently need to be characterized physically and chemically, according to appropriate standard methods.

NOTE 1 If, in order to comply with the requirement of regular shape, the test portion is prepared by cutting or coring, then new surfaces are exposed which can lead to change(s) in leaching properties.

NOTE 2 This procedure may not be applicable to materials reacting with the leachant, leading for example to excessive gas emission or an excessive heat release.

This leaching test does not provide information by itself on dynamic leaching behaviour, as specified in EN 12920. It does not give information on equilibrium conditions. For specific situations or basic characterization, other tests are available in the toolbox of CEN/TC 292 "Characterization of waste".

This document does not address issues related to health and safety.

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.

EN 14346, Characterisation of waste — Calculation of dry matter by determination of dry residue or water content

EN 15002, Characterisation of waste — Preparation of test portions from the laboratory sample

EN ISO 3696, Water for analytical laboratory use — Specification and test methods (ISO 3696)

EN ISO 5667-3, Water quality — Sampling — Part 3: Guidance on the preservation and handling of water samples (ISO 5667-3)