
**Rolling bearings — Explanatory notes
on ISO 281 —**

Part 1:
**Basic dynamic load rating and basic
rating life**

Roulements — Notes explicatives sur l'ISO 281 —

Partie 1: Charges dynamiques de base et durée nominale de base



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ISO copyright office
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47
E-mail copyright@iso.org
Web www.iso.org

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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 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. 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.

In exceptional circumstances, when a technical committee has collected data of a different kind from that which is normally published as an International Standard ("state of the art", for example), it may decide by a simple majority vote of its participating members to publish a Technical Report. A Technical Report is entirely informative in nature and does not have to be reviewed until the data it provides are considered to be no longer valid or useful.

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.

ISO/TR 1281-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 4, *Rolling bearings*, Subcommittee SC 8, *Load ratings and life*.

This first edition of ISO/TR 1281-1, together with the first edition of ISO/TR 1281-2, cancels and replaces the first edition of ISO/TR 8646:1985, which has been technically revised.

ISO/TR 1281 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Rolling bearings — Explanatory notes on ISO 281*:

- *Part 1: Basic dynamic load rating and basic rating life*
- *Part 2: Modified rating life calculation, based on a systems approach of fatigue stresses*

Introduction

ISO/R281:1962

A first discussion on an international level of the question of standardizing calculation methods for load ratings of rolling bearings took place at the 1934 conference of the International Federation of the National Standardizing Associations (ISA). When ISA held its last conference in 1939, no progress had been made. However, in its 1945 report on the state of rolling bearing standardization, the ISA 4 Secretariat included proposals for definition of concepts fundamental to load rating and life calculation standards. This report was distributed in 1949 as document ISO/TC 4 (Secretariat-1)1, and the definitions it contained are in essence those given in ISO 281:2007 for the concepts “life” and “basic dynamic load rating” (now divided into “basic dynamic radial load rating” and “basic dynamic axial load rating”).

In 1946, on the initiative of the Anti-Friction Bearing Manufacturers Association (AFBMA), New York, discussions of load rating and life calculation standards started between industries in the USA and Sweden. Chiefly on the basis of the results appearing in Reference [1], an AFBMA standard, *Method of evaluating load ratings of annular ball bearings*, was worked out and published in 1949. On the same basis, the member body for Sweden presented, in February 1950, a first proposal to ISO, “Load rating of ball bearings” [doc. ISO/TC 4/SC 1 (Sweden-1)1].

In view of the results of both further research and a modification to the AFBMA standard in 1950, as well as interest in roller bearing rating standards, in 1951, the member body for Sweden submitted a modified proposal for rating of ball bearings [doc. ISO/TC 4/SC 1 (Sweden-6)20] as well as a proposal for rating of roller bearings [doc. ISO/TC 4/SC 1 (Sweden-7)21].

Load rating and life calculation methods were then studied by ISO/TC 4, ISO/TC 4/SC 1 and ISO/TC 4/WG 3 at 11 different meetings from 1951 to 1959. Reference [2] was then of considerable use, serving as a major basis for the sections regarding roller bearing rating.

The framework for the Recommendation was settled at a TC 4/WG 3 meeting in 1956. At the time, deliberations on the draft for revision of AFBMA standards were concluded in the USA and ASA B3 approved the revised standard. It was proposed to the meeting by the USA and discussed in detail, together with the Secretariat's proposal. At the meeting, a WG 3 proposal was prepared which adopted many parts of the USA proposal.

In 1957, a Draft Proposal (document TC 4 N145) based on the WG 3 proposal was issued. At the WG 3 meeting the next year, this Draft Proposal was investigated in detail, and at the subsequent TC 4 meeting, the adoption of TC 4 N145, with some minor amendments, was concluded. Then, Draft ISO Recommendation No. 278 (as TC 4 N188) was issued in 1959, and ISO/R281 accepted by ISO Council in 1962.

ISO 281/1:1977

In 1964, the member body for Sweden suggested that, in view of the development of improved bearing steels, the time had come to review ISO/R281 and submitted a proposal [ISO/TC 4/WG 3 (Sweden-1)9]. However, at this time, WG 3 was not in favour of a revision.

In 1969, on the other hand, TC 4 followed a suggestion by the member body for Japan (doc. TC 4 N627) and reconstituted its WG 3, giving it the task of revising ISO/R281. The AFBMA load rating working group had at this time started revision work. The member body for the USA submitted the Draft AFBMA standard, *Load ratings and fatigue life for ball bearings* [ISO/TC 4/WG 3 (USA-1)11], for consideration in 1970 and *Load ratings and fatigue life for roller bearings* [ISO/TC 4/WG 3 (USA-3)19] in 1971.

In 1972, TC 4/WG 3 was reorganized and became TC 4/SC 8. This proposal was investigated in detail at five meetings from 1971 to 1974. The third and final Draft Proposal (doc. TC 4/SC 8 N23), with some amendments, was circulated as a Draft International Standard in 1976 and became ISO 281-1:1977.

The major part of ISO 281-1:1977 constituted a re-publication of ISO/R281, the substance of which had been only very slightly modified. However, based mainly on American investigations during the 1960s, a new clause was added, dealing with adjustment of rating life for reliability other than 90 % and for material and operating conditions.

Furthermore, supplementary background information regarding the derivation of mathematical expressions and factors given in ISO 281-1:1977 was published, first as ISO 281-2, *Explanatory notes*, in 1979; however, TC 4/SC 8 and TC 4 later decided to publish it as ISO/TR 8646:1985.

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Rolling bearings — Explanatory notes on ISO 281 —

Part 1: Basic dynamic load rating and basic rating life

1 Scope

This part of ISO/TR 1281 gives supplementary background information regarding the derivation of mathematical expressions and factors given in ISO 281:2007.

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.

ISO 281:2007, *Rolling bearings — Dynamic load ratings and rating life*

3 Symbols

		Clause
A	constant of proportionality	7
A_1	constant of proportionality determined experimentally	4
B_1	constant of proportionality determined experimentally	4
C_1	basic dynamic radial load rating of a rotating ring	4, 5
C_2	basic dynamic radial load rating of a stationary ring	4, 5
C_a	basic dynamic axial load rating for thrust ball or roller bearing	4, 6
C_{a1}	basic dynamic axial load rating of the rotating ring of an entire thrust ball or roller bearing	4
C_{a2}	basic dynamic axial load rating of the stationary ring of an entire thrust ball or roller bearing	4
C_{ak}	basic dynamic axial load rating as a row k of an entire thrust ball or roller bearing	4
C_{a1k}	basic dynamic axial load rating as a row k of the rotating ring of thrust ball or roller bearing	4
C_{a2k}	basic dynamic axial load rating as a row k of the stationary ring of thrust ball or roller bearing	4
C_e	basic dynamic load rating for outer ring	5
C_i	basic dynamic load rating for inner ring	5
C_r	basic dynamic radial load rating for radial ball or roller bearing	4, 5, 6