
**Paints, varnishes and plastics —
Determination of non-volatile-matter
content**

Peintures, vernis et plastiques — Détermination de l'extrait sec



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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.

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 3251 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 35, *Paints and varnishes*, Subcommittee SC 10, *Test methods for binders for paints and varnishes*, in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 139, *Paints and varnishes*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 3251:2003), which has been technically revised. The main changes are as follows:

- a) The heating time, heating temperature and test-portion mass have to be agreed in each case. The tables giving values of these parameters have therefore been moved to an informative annex where they are intended to serve as proposals. Values suitable for reactive systems such as car refinish paints have been added.
- b) The precision data have been corrected.

Paints, varnishes and plastics — Determination of non-volatile-matter content

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a method for determining the non-volatile-matter content by mass of paints, varnishes, binders for paints and varnishes, polymer dispersions and condensation resins such as phenolic resins (resols, novolak solutions, etc.).

The method is also applicable to formulated dispersions containing fillers, pigments and other auxiliaries (e.g. thickeners and film-forming agents). For the method to be usable for unplasticized polymer dispersions and rubber latices, the non-volatile residue (which consists essentially of the polymeric material and of small quantities of auxiliaries such as emulsifiers, protective colloids, stabilizers, solvents added as film-forming agents and — especially for rubber latex concentrate — preserving agents) has to be chemically stable under the test conditions. For plasticized samples, the residue, by definition, normally includes the plasticizer.

NOTE 1 The non-volatile-matter content of a product is not an absolute quantity but depends upon the temperature and period of heating used for the determination. Consequently, when using this method, only relative and not true values for non-volatile-matter content are obtained owing to solvent retention, thermal decomposition and evaporation of low molecular mass constituents. The method is therefore primarily intended for testing different batches of the same type of product.

NOTE 2 This method is suitable for synthetic rubber latices provided heating for a specific period of time is considered appropriate (ISO 124 specifies heating until the loss in mass of a 2 g test portion following successive periods of heating is less than 0,5 mg).

NOTE 3 In-house methods for determining non-volatile matter often include drying with infrared or microwave radiation. Standardization of such methods is not possible, since they are not generally applicable. Some polymer compositions tend to decompose during such treatment and therefore give incorrect results.

ISO 3233 and ISO 23811 specify methods for determining the volume of non-volatile matter in paints, varnishes and related products.

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 123, *Rubber latex — Sampling*

ISO 124, *Latex, rubber — Determination of total solids content*

ISO 1513, *Paints and varnishes — Examination and preparation of samples for testing*

ISO 2431, *Paints and varnishes — Determination of flow time by use of flow cups*

ISO 15528, *Paints, varnishes and raw materials for paints and varnishes — Sampling*