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**Measurement of fluid flow in closed  
conduits — Velocity area method using  
Pitot static tubes**

*Mesurage du débit des fluides dans les conduites fermées — Méthode  
d'exploration du champ des vitesses au moyen de tubes de Pitot  
doubles*



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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 3966 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 30, *Measurement of fluid flow in closed conduits*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Velocity and mass methods*.

This second edition results from the reinstatement of ISO 3966:1977 which was withdrawn in 2003 and with which it is technically identical.

# Measurement of fluid flow in closed conduits — Velocity area method using Pitot static tubes

## 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a method for the determination in a closed conduit of the volume rate of flow of a regular flow:

- a) of a fluid of substantially constant density or corresponding to a Mach number not exceeding 0,25;
- b) with substantially uniform stagnation temperature across the measuring cross-section;
- c) running full in the conduit;
- d) under steady flow conditions.

In particular, it deals with the technology and maintenance of Pitot static tubes, with the calculation of local velocities from measured differential pressures and with the computation of the flow rate by velocity integration.

## 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 2186, *Fluid flow in closed conduits — Connections for pressure signal transmissions between primary and secondary elements*

ISO 7194, *Measurement of fluid flow in closed conduits — Velocity area methods of flow measurement in swirling or asymmetric flow conditions in circular ducts by means of current meters or Pitot static tubes*