
**Plain bearings — Terms, definitions,
classification and symbols —**

**Part 3:
Lubrication**

*Paliers lisses — Termes, définitions, classification et symboles —
Partie 3: Lubrification*



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ISO copyright office
Ch. de Blandonnet 8 • CP 401
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland
Tel. +41 22 749 01 11
Fax +41 22 749 09 47
copyright@iso.org
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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 123, *Plain bearings*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Terms and common items*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 4378-3:2009), which has been technically revised. The following changes have been made:

- editorial revision of the document;
- addition of 12 new figures;
- revision of clause numbers.

A list of all the parts in the ISO 4378 series can be found on the ISO website.

Introduction

As there is a large number of multiple designations in the domain of plain bearings, there is a considerable risk of error in the interpretation of standards and technical literature. This uncertainty leads to the continuous addition of supplementary designations, which only serves to increase the misunderstanding.

This document is an attempt to establish a uniform basic system of designations of lubrication.

Plain bearings — Terms, definitions, classification and symbols —

Part 3: Lubrication

1 Scope

This document specifies the most commonly used terms relating to lubrication of plain bearings with their definitions and classification.

For some terms and word combinations, their short forms are given, which can be used where they are unambiguous. Self-explanatory terms are given without definitions.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

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- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

3.1 General terms

3.1.1 lubrication

technique to reduce friction force, wear and deterioration of the surfaces of two bodies in contact and in relative motion due to the action and effect of lubricant

3.1.2 method of lubrication

method of supplying lubricant into the space between two bodies in contact and in relative motion

3.2 Types of lubrication and classification

3.2.1 Classification according to physical state of the lubricant

3.2.1.1 gas-film lubrication

lubrication (3.1.1) in which the interacting surfaces in relative motion are separated by a *gaseous lubricant* (3.4.1.1)