

Steels - Micrographic determination of the apparent grain size (ISO 643:2019, Corrected version 2020-03)

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

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English Version

Steels - Micrographic determination of the apparent grain size (ISO 643:2019, Corrected version 2020-03)

Aciers - Détermination micrographique de la grosseur de grain apparente (ISO 643:2019, Version corrigée 2020-03)

Stahl - Mikrophotographische Bestimmung der erkennbaren Korngröße (ISO 643:2019, korrigierte Fassung 2020-03)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 26 October 2018.

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EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

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European foreword

This document (EN ISO 643:2020) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 17 "Steel" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 459/SC 1 "Test methods for steel (other than chemical analysis)" the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by July 2020, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by July 2020.

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

This document supersedes EN ISO 643:2012.

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Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 643:2019, Corrected version 2020-03 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 643:2020 without any modification.

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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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For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 17, *Steel*, Subcommittee SC 7, *Methods of testing (other than mechanical tests and chemical analysis)*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 643:2012), which has been technically revised. The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- [7.1.2](#) has been modified;
- the original [Annex B](#) has been deleted and the original Annex C has been renumbered as [Annex B](#).

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

This corrected version of ISO 643:2019 incorporates the following corrections:

- minus sign replaced with plus sign between the values in [Formula B.9](#).

Steels — Micrographic determination of the apparent grain size

1 Scope

This document specifies a micrographic method of determining apparent ferritic or austenitic grain size in steels. It describes the methods of revealing grain boundaries and of estimating the mean grain size of specimens with unimodal size distribution. Although grains are three-dimensional in shape, the metallographic sectioning plane can cut through a grain at any point from a grain corner, to the maximum diameter of the grain, thus producing a range of apparent grain sizes on the two-dimensional plane, even in a sample with a perfectly consistent grain size.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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.

ASTM E112, *Standard Test Methods for Determining Average Grain Size*

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:

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

3.1 Grains

3.1.1 grain

closed polygonal shape with more or less curved sides, which can be revealed on a flat cross-section through the sample, polished and prepared for micrographic examination

3.1.2 austenitic grain

crystal with a face-centred cubic crystal structure which may, or may not, contain annealing twins

3.1.3 ferritic grain

crystal with a body-centred cubic crystal structure which never contains annealing twins

Note 1 to entry: Ferritic grain size is generally estimated for unalloyed steels with a carbon content of 0,25 % or less. If pearlite islands of identical dimensions to those of the ferrite grains are present, the islands are then counted as ferrite grains.