INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO 13927

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Plastics — Simple heat release test using a conical radiant heater and a thermopile detector

Plastiques — Essai simple pour la détermination du débit calorifique au moyen d'un radiateur conique et d'une sonde à thermopile

Reference number
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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).

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. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: Foreword - Supplementary Information

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Burning behaviour*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 13927:2001), which has been technically revised.

Introduction

Fire is a complex phenomenon; its behaviour and effects depend upon a number of interrelated factors. The behaviour of materials and products depends upon the characteristics of the fire, the method of use of the materials, and the environment in which they are exposed (see also ISO 13943).

A test such as the one specified in this International Standard deals only with a simple representation of a particular aspect of the potential fire situation, typified by a radiant heat source, and it cannot alone provide any direct guidance on the behaviour or safety in fire. A test of this type can, however, be used for comparative purposes or to ensure the existence of a certain quality of performance (in this case, heat release from a composite material or an assembly) considered to have a bearing on fire performance generally. It would be wrong to attach any other meaning to performance in this test.

The attention of all users of this test is drawn to the warning that immediately precedes Clause 10.

Plastics — Simple heat release test using a conical radiant heater and a thermopile detector

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a method suitable for the production control or product development purposes for assessing the heat release rate of essentially flat products exposed in the horizontal orientation to controlled levels of radiant heating with an external igniter. The heat release rate is determined by the use of a thermopile instead of the more accurate oxygen consumption techniques. The time to ignition (sustained flaming) is also measured in this test. Test specimen mass loss can also be measured optionally.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 291, *Plastics — Standard atmospheres for conditioning and testing*

ISO 13943, *Fire safety — Vocabulary*

ISO 14934-3, *Fire tests — Calibration and use of heat flux meters — Part 3: Secondary calibration method*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 13943 and the following apply.

3.1
essentially flat surface
surface whose irregularity from a plane does not exceed ±1 mm

3.2
ignition
onset of *sustained flaming* (3.7)

3.3
material
single substance or uniformly dispersed mixture, for example, metal, stone, timber, concrete, mineral fibre, or polymer

3.4
orientation
plane in which the exposed face of the specimen is located during testing either vertical or horizontal face upwards

3.5
product
material, composite or assembly, about which information is required

3.6
test specimen
representative piece of the product which is to be tested together with any substrate or surface treatment

Note 1 to entry: The test specimen may include an air gap.