
**Mechanical vibration — Measurement
and evaluation of machine
vibration —**

Part 1:
General guidelines

*Vibrations mécaniques — Mesurage et évaluation des vibrations de
machines —*

Partie 1: Lignes directrices générales



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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).

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 World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 108, *Mechanical vibration, shock and condition monitoring*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Measurement and evaluation of mechanical vibration and shock as applied to machines, vehicles and structures*.

This first edition of ISO 20816-1 cancels and replaces ISO 7919-1:1996, ISO 10816-1:1995 and ISO 10816-1:1995/Amd 1:2009 which have been merged and editorially revised.

A list of all parts in the ISO 20816 series can be found on the ISO website.

Introduction

Machines are now being operated at increasingly high rotational speeds and loads, as well as more flexible operation at part and full load, and under increasingly severe operating conditions. This has become possible, to a large extent, by the more efficient use of materials, although this has sometimes resulted in there being less margin for design and application errors.

At present, it is not uncommon for continuous operation to be expected and required for 2 years or 3 years between maintenance operations. Consequently, more restrictive requirements are being specified for operating vibration values of rotating machinery, in order to ensure continued safe and reliable operation.

This document is a basic document which establishes general guidelines for the measurement and evaluation of mechanical vibration of machinery, as measured on rotating and on non-rotating (and, where applicable, non-reciprocating) parts of complete machines, such as shafts or bearing housings. Recommendations for measurements and evaluation criteria pertaining to specific machine types are provided in additional parts of ISO 20816 as they become available as a replacement of the relevant parts of ISO 7919 and ISO 10816. ISO/TR 19201 gives an overview over these and further machinery vibration standards.

For some machines, measurements made on non-rotating parts are sufficient to characterize adequately their running conditions with respect to trouble-free operation. There are also types of machine, such as steam turbines, gas turbines and turbo compressors, all of which can have several modes of vibration in the service speed range, for which measurements on structural members, such as the bearing housings, might not adequately characterize the running condition of the machine, although such measurements are useful. Such machines generally contain flexible rotor shaft systems, and changes in the vibration condition can be detected more decisively and more sensitively by measurements on the rotating elements. Machines having relatively stiff and/or heavy casings in comparison to rotor mass are typical of those classes of machines for which shaft vibration measurements are frequently preferred.

Vibration measurements are used for a number of purposes, ranging from routine operational monitoring and acceptance tests to advanced experimental testing, as well as diagnostic and analytical investigations. These various measurement objectives lead to many differences in methods of interpretation and evaluation. To limit the number of these differences, this document is designed to provide guidelines primarily for operational monitoring and acceptance tests.

Three primary vibration quantities (displacement, velocity and acceleration) are defined and their limitations given. Adherence to the guidelines presented should, in most cases, ensure satisfactory service performance.

Mechanical vibration — Measurement and evaluation of machine vibration —

Part 1: General guidelines

1 Scope

This document establishes general conditions and procedures for the measurement and evaluation of vibration using measurements made on rotating, non-rotating and non-reciprocating parts of complete machines. It is applicable to measurements of both absolute and relative radial shaft vibration with regard to the monitoring of radial clearances, but excludes axial shaft vibration. The general evaluation criteria, which are presented in terms of both vibration magnitude and change of vibration, relate to both operational monitoring and acceptance testing. They have been provided primarily with regard to securing reliable, safe, long-term operation of the machine while minimizing adverse effects on associated equipment. Guidelines are also presented for setting operational limits.

NOTE 1 The evaluation criteria for different classes of machinery will be included in other parts of ISO 20816 when they become available. In the meantime, guidelines are given in [Clause 6](#).

NOTE 2 The term “shaft vibration” is used throughout ISO 20816 because, in most cases, measurements are made on machine shafts. However, the ISO 20816 series is also applicable to measurements made on other rotating elements if such elements are found to be more suitable, provided that the guidelines are respected.

For the purposes of ISO 20816, operational monitoring is considered to be those vibration measurements made during the normal operation of a machine. The ISO 20816 series permits the use of different measurement quantities and methods, provided that they are well-defined and their limitations are set out, so that the interpretation of the measurements is well-understood.

The evaluation criteria relate only to the vibration produced by the machine itself and not the vibration transmitted to it from outside.

This document does not include consideration of torsional vibration.

NOTE 3 For torsional vibration, see, for example, ISO 3046-5, ISO 22266-1 or VDI 2039.

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.

ISO 2954, *Mechanical vibration of rotating and reciprocating machinery — Requirements for instruments for measuring vibration severity*

ISO 5348, *Mechanical vibration and shock — Mechanical mounting of accelerometers*

ISO 10817-1, *Rotating shaft vibration measuring systems — Part 1: Relative and absolute sensing of radial vibration*

3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.