



**International  
Standard**

**ISO 9773**

**Plastics — Determination of  
burning behaviour of thin flexible  
vertical specimens in contact with a  
small flame ignition source**

*Plastiques — Détermination du comportement au feu  
d'éprouvettes minces verticales souples au contact d'une petite  
flamme comme source d'allumage*

**Third edition  
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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 document 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](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

ISO draws attention to the possibility that the implementation of this document may involve the use of (a) patent(s). ISO takes no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of any claimed patent rights in respect thereof. As of the date of publication of this document, ISO had not received notice of (a) patent(s) which may be required to implement this document. However, implementers are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information, which may be obtained from the patent database available at [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents). ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

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For an explanation of 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 [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Burning behaviour*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 249, *Plastics*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 9773:1998), which has been technically revised. It also incorporates the Amendment ISO 9773:1998/Amd. 1:2003.

The main changes are as follows:

- the required light level in the chamber has been added;
- informations on conditioning, laboratory and timing have been amended;
- conditioning of cotton prior to testing has been added;
- information on specimen thickness has been amended;
- information on retesting has been amended;
- mandatory information is provided throughout the document;
- normative references clause has been updated.

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](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

# Plastics — Determination of burning behaviour of thin flexible vertical specimens in contact with a small flame ignition source

## 1 Scope

**1.1** This document specifies a small-scale laboratory screening procedure for comparing the relative burning behaviour of vertically oriented thin and relatively flexible plastics specimens exposed to a low-energy-level flame ignition source.

NOTE These specimens cannot be tested using method B of IEC 60695-11-10:2013 since they distort or shrink away from the applied flame source without igniting.

**1.2** This test method determines the afterflame and afterglow times of specimens.

**1.3** The classification system described in [Annex A](#) is intended for quality control and the preselection of component materials for products. The classification established by this method of test is applicable only to the material used for the specimens.

NOTE Test results are influenced by material components, e.g. pigments, fillers, concentrations of fire retardants.

## 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 845:2006, *Cellular plastics and rubbers — Determination of apparent density*

ISO 10093:2020, *Plastics — Fire tests — Standard ignition sources*

ISO 13943:2023, *Fire safety — Vocabulary*

IEC 60695-11-4:2011, *Fire hazard testing — Part 11-4: Test flames — 50 W flame — Apparatus and confirmational test method*

IEC 60695-11-5:2016, *Fire hazard testing — Part 11-5: Test flames — Needle-flame test method — Apparatus, confirmatory test arrangement and guidance*

IEC 69695-11-10:2013, *Fire hazard testing — Part 11-10: Test flames — 50 W horizontal and vertical flame test methods*

## 3 Terms and definitions

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

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

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

— IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>