International Standard 8215

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Surface active agents — Washing powders — Determination of total silica content — Gravimetric method

Agents de surface — Poudres à laver — Dosage de la silice totale — Méthode gravimétrique

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Foreword

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Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council. They are approved in accordance with ISO procedures requiring at least 75 % approval by the member bodies voting.

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Users should note that all International Standards undergo revision from time to time and that any reference made herein to any other International Standard implies its latest edition, unless otherwise stated.

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Surface active agents — Washing powders — Determination of total silica content — Gravimetric method

1 Scope and field of application

This International Standard specifies a gravimetric method for the determination of the total silica content of all types of commercial washing powders, except those which contain acid-insoluble substances other than silica.

2 Reference

ISO 607, *Surface active agents and detergents — Methods of sample division.*

3 Principle

Removal of all the ethanol-soluble matter from a test portion by extraction with ethanol. Gravimetric determination of silica on the ethanol-insoluble fraction.

4 Reagents

During the analysis, use only reagents of recognized analytical grade and only distilled water or water of equivalent purity.

4.1 Ethanol, anhydrous or denatured.

4.2 Hydrochloric acid, ϱ 1,16 to 1,19 g/ml.

4.3 Silver nitrate, 5 g/l solution.

4.4 Pumice stones, particle size 2 to 4 mm, or equivalent as boiling aid.

5 Apparatus

Ordinary laboratory apparatus and

5.1 Soxhlet extractor, with flask of capacity 500 ml, and extractor tube of capacity 200 ml (see the figure).

5.2 Glass thimble extractor, of porosity P 1,6 (1,6 µm), diameter about 36 mm, length about 95 mm.

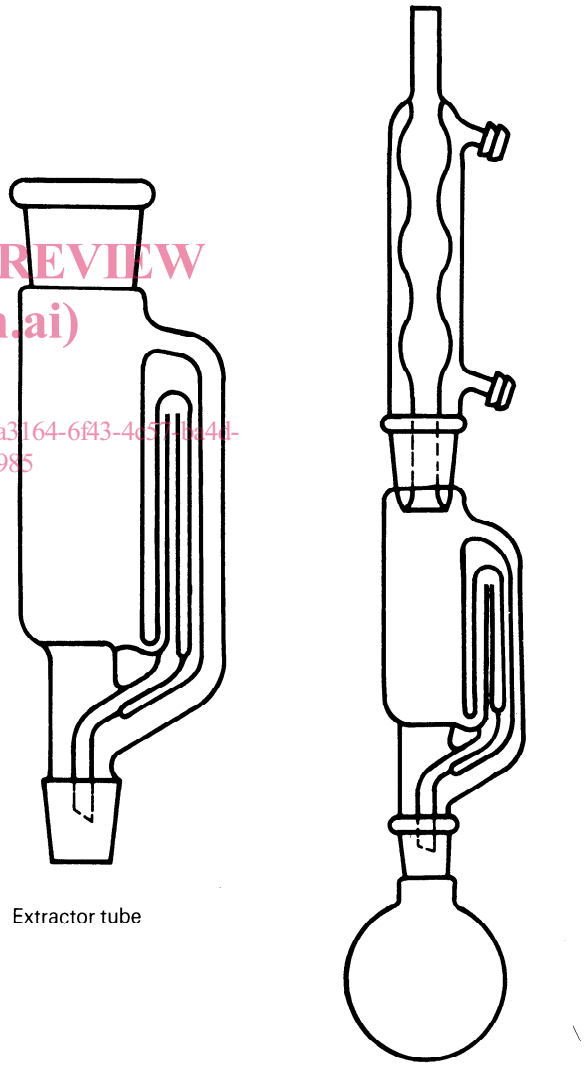

Figure — Soxhlet extractor

5.3 Oven, capable of being controlled at 105 ± 2 °C.

5.4 Filtering crucible, in porcelain, porosity P 4 (1,6 to 4 µm).

5.5 Platinum crucible.

5.6 Furnace, capable of being controlled at 900 to 960 °C.

6 Sampling

The washing powder laboratory sample shall be prepared and stored in accordance with ISO 607.

7 Procedure

7.1 Test portion

Weigh, to the nearest 0,01 g, about 10 g of the laboratory sample in a 600 ml beaker or in the extraction thimble (5.2).

7.2 Removal of organic materials

One of the two following procedures may be used:

7.2.1 Soxhlet extraction

Introduce 300 ml of the ethanol (4.1) into the 500 ml round-bottom flask of the Soxhlet extractor (5.1) and a few pumice stones (4.4).

Place the thimble (5.2) with the test portion (7.1) in the extractor tube of the Soxhlet extractor and assemble the equipment (flask, extractor tube, condenser).

Start the extraction and continue with a fairly rapid rate of extraction for 2 h 30 min after the initial siphoning.

Allow to cool, and transfer the remaining ethanol of the extractor to the flask and discard the ethanol-soluble fraction.

7.2.2 Extraction by treatment in beaker

Add approximately 250 ml of ethanol (4.1) to the test portion (7.1).

Cover with a watch-glass, heat and stir with a mechanical or magnetic stirrer until the ethanol is boiling.

Continue boiling and stirring for 5 min.

Allow the beaker to cool and the insoluble matter to settle. Filter the ethanolic phase through a medium-grade filter paper.

Repeat this extraction twice more with new portions of the ethanol (4.1) using the same filter paper.

Add approximately 75 ml of the hot ethanol (50 to 60 °C) to the beaker containing the insoluble matter and break any remaining hard lumps with a glass rod. Allow the insoluble matter to settle and filter through the same filter paper.

Repeat this operation twice more.

Puncture the bottom of the filter paper and wash with about 50 ml of hot water to transfer any residue to the beaker containing the insoluble matter.

7.3 Determination

After extraction (7.2.1), remove the thimble from the Soxhlet extractor (5.1) and, using hot water (50 to 75 ml), quantitatively transfer the contents to a 400 ml beaker; or use the 600 ml beaker and alcohol-insoluble matter obtained as specified in 7.2.2.

Add 10 ml of the hydrochloric acid (4.2) to the beaker. Stir with a glass rod.

Evaporate to dryness on a steam bath.

Add 35 to 40 ml of water. Heat, with occasional stirring, for 10 min. Again add 10 ml of the hydrochloric acid (4.2), stir and evaporate to dryness as before.

Dissolve the residue, add 10 ml of hydrochloric acid (4.2), stir, and evaporate to dryness a third time. Place the beaker and residue in the oven (5.3), maintained at 105 ± 2 °C, for 1 h. Add 50 ml of hot water and 10 ml of the hydrochloric acid (4.2). Heat for 10 min on a steam bath, with occasional stirring.

Filter through the tared porcelain filtering crucible (5.4) under vacuum or through a hardened ashless grade fast filter paper. Before taring, heat the porcelain crucible in the furnace (5.6), controlled at 900 °C, and allow to cool in a desiccator.

Wash the residue on to the filter with hot water and continue washing until free of chlorides as shown by testing with a few drops of the silver nitrate solution (4.3).

In the case of a filter paper, place it in the platinum crucible (5.5) previously tared after heating in the furnace (5.6), controlled at 900 °C, and allowing to cool in a desiccator.

Gradually heat the crucible and contents to 900 °C, then leave in the furnace (5.6), controlled at 900 to 960 °C, for 30 min. Allow to cool in a desiccator and weigh to the nearest 0,001 g.

8 Expression of results

8.1 Method of calculation

The total silica content, expressed as a percentage by mass, is given by the formula

$$\frac{m_1}{m_0} \times 100$$

where

m_0 is the mass, in grams, of the test portion (7.1);

m_1 is the mass, in grams, of the residue.

8.2 Precision

Comparative analysis, on two samples containing respectively 3,3 % (*m/m*) and 6,7 % (*m/m*) of silica, carried out in nine laboratories, has given the statistical results shown in the following table.

Silica content	3 to 7 % (*m/m*)
Repeatability	0,15 %
Reproducibility	0,29 %

9 Test report

The test report shall include the following particulars:

a) all information necessary for the complete identification of the sample;

b) the reference of the method used (reference to this International Standard);

c) the results and the method of expression used;

d) the test conditions;

e) any operational details not included in this International Standard or in the International Standard to which reference is made, or regarded as optional, as well as any incidents likely to have affected the results.

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