



**SLOVENSKI STANDARD**  
**SIST EN ISO 18265:2004**  
**01-junij-2004**

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**Kovinski materiali – Pretvorbe vrednosti trdote (ISO 18265:2003)**

Metallic materials - Conversion of hardness values (ISO 18265:2003)

Metallische Werkstoffe - Umwertung von Härtewerten (ISO 18265:2003)

Matériaux métalliques - Conversion des valeurs de dureté (ISO 18265:2003)

**Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: EN ISO 18265:2003**

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EUROPEAN STANDARD  
NORME EUROPÉENNE  
EUROPÄISCHE NORM

**EN ISO 18265**

November 2003

ICS 77.040.01

English version

**Metallic materials - Conversion of hardness values (ISO  
18265:2003)**

Matériaux métalliques - Conversion des valeurs de dureté  
(ISO 18265:2003)

Metallische Werkstoffe - Umwertung von Härtewerten (ISO  
18265:2003)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 3 October 2003.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
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EN ISO 18265:2003 (E)

<b>CORRECTED 2003-12-03</b>
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## Foreword

This document (EN ISO 18265:2003) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 164 "Mechanical testing of metals" in collaboration with Technical Committee ECISS/TC 1 "Steel - Mechanical testing", 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2004, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2004.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

## Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 18265:2003 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 18265:2003 without any modifications.

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NOTE Normative references to International Standards are listed in Annex ZA (normative).

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## Annex ZA (normative)

### Normative references to international publications with their relevant European publications

This European Standard incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this European Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies (including amendments).

NOTE Where an International Publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod.), the relevant EN/HD applies.

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>EN</u>	<u>Year</u>
ISO 6506-1	1999	Metallic materials - Brinell hardness test - Part 1: Test method	EN ISO 6506-1	1999
ISO 6507-1	1997	Metallic materials - Vickers hardness test - Part 1: Test method	EN ISO 6507-1	1997
ISO 6507-2	1997	Metallic materials - Vickers hardness test - Part 2: Verification of testing machines	EN ISO 6507-2	1997
ISO 6508-1	1999	Metallic materials - Rockwell hardness test - Part 1: Test method (scales A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, K, N, T)	EN ISO 6508-1	1999
ISO 6508-2	1999	Metallic materials - Rockwell hardness test - Part 2: Verification and calibration of testing machines (scales A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, K, N, T)	EN ISO 6508-2	1999
ISO 7500-1	1999	Metallic materials - Verification of static uniaxial testing machines - Part 1: Tension/compression testing machines	EN ISO 7500-1	1999
ISO 9513	1999	Metallic materials - calibration of extensometers used in uniaxial testing	EN ISO 9513	2002

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INTERNATIONAL  
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ISO  
18265

First edition  
2003-11-01

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**Metallic materials — Conversion of  
hardness values**

*Matériaux métalliques — Conversion des valeurs de dureté*

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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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.

ISO 18265 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 164, *Mechanical testing of metals*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Hardness testing*.

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## Introduction

The hardness conversion values given in Table A.1 were obtained in interlaboratory tests by the *Verein Deutscher Eisenhüttenleute* (VDEh) (German Iron and Steel Institute) using verified and calibrated hardness testing machines. Statistically reliable information cannot be given on the uncertainty of these values because the test conditions were not reproducible, and the number of results used to calculate the mean hardness values is not known. The conversion values in Table A.1 are in accordance with the information presented in IC No. 3 (1980) and IC No. 4 (1982) of the European Coal and Steel Community, as well as in ISO 4964:1984 and ISO/TR 10108:1989.

Annexes C, D and E contain — in a revised format — the extensive results on the conversion of hardness values presented in TGL 43212/02 to 43212/04, standards published by the former East German standards body, the *Amt für Standardisierung, Meßwesen und Warenprüfung* (ASMW). The values presented in Annex B had also been determined by the ASMW, but were published in a report of the *Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt* (PTB) <sup>[1]</sup>, the German national institute for science and technology, not in a TGL standard.

The converted hardness values in the above-mentioned TGL standards were obtained in statistically reliable hardness and tensile tests. The hardness tests were performed using ASMW normal testing machines on plane-parallel, polished specimens of various materials in different heat treatment conditions. Tensile strength was tested on machines whose force measuring and extension measuring systems had been calibrated immediately before testing. The tensile test method used is equivalent to that specified in ISO 6892, and the calibration procedures conform with those specified in ISO 7500-1 and ISO 9513.

Users of this International Standard should take note of Clause 3, especially the concluding warning.

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# Metallic materials — Conversion of hardness values

## 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the principles of the conversion of hardness values and gives general information on the use of conversion tables.

The conversion tables in Annexes A to F apply to

- unalloyed and low-alloy steels and cast iron;
- steels for quenching and tempering;
- cold working steels;
- high speed steels;
- hardmetals;
- non-ferrous metals and alloys.

NOTE The conversion tables in Annexes B to E are based on empirical results which were evaluated by means of regression analysis. Such analysis was not possible in the case of the values given in Annex A because a sufficient number of results was not available.

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## 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 6506-1:1999, *Metallic materials — Brinell hardness test — Part 1: Test method*

ISO 6507-1:1997, *Metallic materials — Vickers hardness test — Part 1: Test method*

ISO 6507-2:1997, *Metallic materials — Vickers hardness test — Part 2: Verification of testing machines*

ISO 6508-1:1999, *Metallic materials — Rockwell hardness test — Part 1: Test method (scales A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, K, N, T)*

ISO 6508-2:1999, *Metallic materials — Rockwell hardness test — Part 2: Verification and calibration of testing machines (scales A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, K, N, T)*

ISO 6892:1998, *Metallic materials — Tensile testing at ambient temperature*

ISO 7500-1:—<sup>1)</sup>, *Metallic materials — Verification of static uniaxial testing machines — Part 1: Tension/compression testing machines — Verification and calibration of the force-measuring system*

ISO 9513:1999, *Metallic materials — Calibration of extensometers used in uniaxial testing*

<sup>1)</sup> To be published. (Revision of ISO 7500-1:1999)

## ISO 18265:2003(E)

### 3 Principles of conversion

Hardness testing is a form of materials testing that provides information on the mechanical properties of a material with limited destruction of the specimen and within a relatively short period of time. In practice, it is often desirable to use hardness results to draw conclusions on the tensile strength of the same material if tensile testing is too involved or the piece to be examined is not to be destroyed.

Since the means of loading in hardness testing is considerably different from that in tensile testing, it is not possible to derive a reliable functional relationship between these two characteristic values on the basis of a model. Nevertheless, hardness values and tensile strength values are positively correlated, and so it is possible to draw up empirical relationships for limited applications.

Often it is necessary to check a given hardness value against a value gained by a different test method. This is especially the case if only a certain method can be used due to the particular specimen or coating thickness, the size of the object to be tested, surface quality, or the availability of hardness testing machines.

Conversion of hardness values to tensile values makes it possible to carry out hardness measurement in place of the measurement of tensile strength taking into account that these tensile strength values must be seen as being the least reliable form of conversion. Likewise, with conversion between hardness scales, a hardness value can be replaced with a value obtained using the desired method.

**NOTE** Sometimes a conversion relationship is drawn on a single-case basis to gain information on properties other than hardness, most often to obtain a good estimate of tensile strength. Special relationships are sometimes also drawn for hardness-to-hardness conversions. This may be done as long as the following conditions are fulfilled.

- The hardness test method is only used internally, and the results obtained not be compared with those of other methods, or the details of the test procedure are defined precisely enough so that results can be reproduced by another laboratory or at another time.
- The conversion tables used have been derived from a sufficiently large number of parallel experiments using both scales and carried out on the material in question.
- Complaints may not be made on the basis of converted values.
- Converted results are expressed in such a manner that it is clear which method was used to determine the original hardness value.

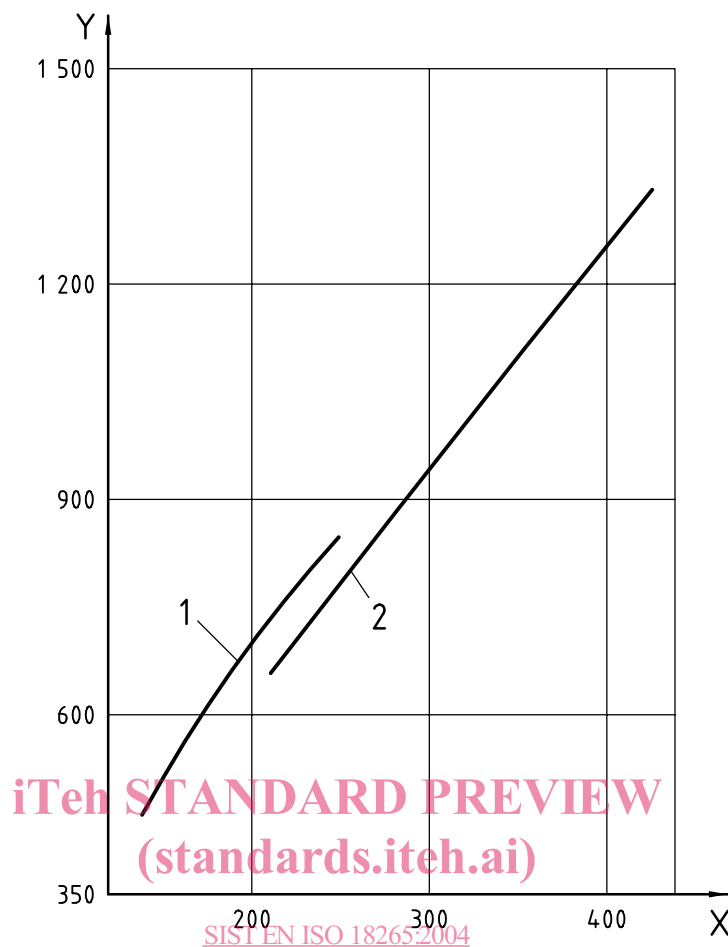
**WARNING —** In practice, an attempt is often made to establish a strong relationship between the original and converted values without taking into consideration the characteristics of the material under test. As Figures 1 and 2 show, this is not possible. Therefore, users of this International Standard should ensure that all conditions for conversion are met (see also [2] and [3]).

### 4 Application of conversion tables

#### 4.1 General

Conversion from one hardness value to another, or from a hardness value to a tensile strength value, involves uncertainties which must be taken into account. Extensive investigations have shown that it is not possible to establish universally applicable conversion relationships between hardness values obtained by different methods, no matter how carefully the tests had been carried out. This lies in the fact that there is a complex relationship between the indentation behaviour of a material and its elasticity. For this reason, the given conversion relationship provides greater equivalence the more similarity there is between the elasticity of the tested material and that of the material used to establish the relationship. Likewise, a better equivalence can be expected for methods with similar indentation processes (i.e. where the differences in the force application-indentation procedures and the test parameters is minimal). Therefore, conversion from hardness values to tensile values must be seen as being the least reliable form of conversion.

**NOTE** In many cases, the yield strength or the 0,2 % proof strength provides information on the elastic behaviour of a material.



X Hardness, HV 30

Y Tensile strength,  $R_m$ , MPa

#### Key

- 1 untreated, soft annealed, normalized
- 2 quenched and tempered

**Figure 1 —HV 30/ $R_m$  curves for quenching and tempering steels in various heat treatment conditions**

It should be noted that each hardness determination is only applicable to the immediate area of the indentation. Where hardness varies, e.g. at an increasing distance from the surface, Brinell or Vickers hardness values, or even tensile strength values can deviate from the converted values solely as a result of the different rate of elongation within the area under consideration.

Hardness values should only be converted when the prescribed test method cannot be used, e.g. because a suitable machine is not available, or if the required samples cannot be taken. A suitable test method can be selected with the aid of Figures 3 and 4. Values obtained by conversion may only be taken as the basis of complaints if so agreed in the delivery contract.

If hardness or tensile strength values are determined by conversion in accordance with this International Standard, this shall be stated, as shall the hardness test method used (see ISO 6506-1, ISO 6507-1, ISO 6508-1).