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**Plastics — Determination of Charpy impact  
properties —**

**Part 1:  
Non-instrumented impact test**

*Plastiques — Détermination des caractéristiques au choc Charpy —  
Partie 1: Essai de choc non instrumenté*  
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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 3.

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 part of ISO 179 may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard ISO 179-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Mechanical properties*.

It cancels and replaces ISO 179:1993, which has been technically revised.

ISO 179 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Plastics — Determination of Charpy impact properties*:

- *Part 1: Non-instrumented impact test* [ISO 179-1:2000](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/130f0dfd-ae3-4677-8985-b5cccf2cfa5c/iso-179-1-2000)
- *Part 2: Instrumented impact test*

Annexes A and B of this part of ISO 179 are for information only.

# Plastics — Determination of Charpy impact properties —

## Part 1: Non-instrumented impact test

### 1 Scope

**1.1** This part of ISO 179 specifies a method for determining the Charpy impact strength of plastics under defined conditions. A number of different types of specimen and test configurations are defined. Different test parameters are specified according to the type of material, the type of test specimen and the type of notch.

**1.2** The method is used to investigate the behaviour of specified types of specimen under the impact conditions defined and for estimating the brittleness or toughness of specimens within the limitations inherent in the test conditions. It may also be used for the determination of comparative data from similar types of material.

**1.3** The method has a greater range of applicability than that given in ISO 180<sup>1)</sup> and is more suitable for the testing of materials showing interlaminar shear fracture or of materials exhibiting surface effects due to environmental factors.

**1.4** The method is suitable for use with the following range of materials:

- rigid thermoplastic moulding and extrusion materials, including filled and reinforced compounds in addition to unfilled types; rigid thermoplastics sheets;
- rigid thermosetting moulding materials, including filled and reinforced compounds; rigid thermosetting sheets, including laminates;
- fibre-reinforced thermosetting and thermoplastic composites incorporating unidirectional or non-unidirectional reinforcements such as mat, woven fabrics, woven rovings, chopped strands, combination and hybrid reinforcements, rovings and milled fibres, sheet made from pre-impregnated materials (prepregs), including filled and reinforced compounds;
- thermotropic liquid-crystal polymers.

**1.5** The method is not normally suitable for use with rigid cellular materials and sandwich structures containing cellular material. Also, notched specimens are not normally used for long-fibre-reinforced composites or thermotropic liquid-crystal polymers.

**1.6** The method is suited to the use of specimens which may be either moulded to the chosen dimensions, machined from the central portion of a standard multipurpose test specimen (see ISO 3167) or machined from finished or semifinished products such as mouldings, laminates and extruded or cast sheet.

**1.7** The method specifies preferred dimensions for the test specimen. Tests which are carried out on specimens of different dimensions or with different notches, or specimens which are prepared under different conditions, may produce results which are not comparable. Other factors, such as the energy capacity of the apparatus, its impact

1) ISO 180:2000, *Plastics — Determination of Izod impact strength*.

velocity and the conditioning of the specimens can also influence the results. Consequently, when comparative data are required, these factors must be carefully controlled and recorded.

**1.8** The method should not be used as a source of data for design calculations. Information on the typical behaviour of a material can be obtained, however, by testing at different temperatures, by varying the notch radius and/or the thickness and by testing specimens prepared under different conditions.

## 2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO 179. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this part of ISO 179 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 291:1997, *Plastics — Standard atmospheres for conditioning and testing.*

ISO 293:1986, *Plastics — Compression moulding test specimens of thermoplastic materials.*

ISO 294-1:1996, *Plastics — Injection moulding of test specimens of thermoplastic materials — Part 1: General principles, and moulding of multipurpose and bar test specimens.*

ISO 294-3:1996, *Plastics — Injection moulding of test specimens of thermoplastic materials — Part 3: Small plates.*

ISO 295:1991, *Plastics — Compression moulding of test specimens of thermosetting materials.*

ISO 1268:1974<sup>2)</sup>, *Plastics — Preparation of glass fibre reinforced, resin bonded, low pressure laminated plates or panels for test purposes.*

ISO 2602:1980, *Statistical interpretation of test results — Estimation of the mean — Confidence interval.*

ISO 2818:1994, *Plastics — Preparation of test specimens by machining.*

ISO 3167:—<sup>3)</sup>, *Plastics — Multipurpose test specimens.*

ISO 10724-1:1998, *Plastics — Injection moulding of test specimens of thermosetting powder moulding compounds (PMCs) — Part 1: General principles and moulding of multipurpose test specimens.*

ISO 13802:1999, *Plastics — Verification of pendulum impact-testing machines — Charpy, Izod and tensile impact-testing.*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this part of ISO 179, the following terms and definitions apply.

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2) Under revision as a series of 11 parts.

3) To be published. (Revision of ISO 3167:1993)

**3.1****Charpy unnotched impact strength** $a_{cU}$ 

impact energy absorbed in breaking an unnotched specimen, referred to the original cross-sectional area of the specimen

NOTE It is expressed in kilojoules per square metre (kJ/m<sup>2</sup>).

**3.2****Charpy notched impact strength** $a_{cN}$ 

impact energy absorbed in breaking a notched specimen, referred to the original cross-sectional area of the specimen at the notch, where N = A, B or C depending on the notch type (see 6.3.1.1.2)

NOTE It is expressed in kilojoules per square metre (kJ/m<sup>2</sup>).

**3.3****edgewise impact****e**

direction of blow parallel to the dimension  $b$ , with impact on the narrow longitudinal surface  $h \times l$  of the specimen (see Figure 1, left, and Figures 2 and 4)

**3.4****flatwise impact****f**

direction of blow parallel to the dimension  $h$ , with impact on the broad longitudinal surface  $b \times l$  of the specimen (see Figure 1, right, and Figures 3 and 4)

**3.5****normal impact****n**

(laminar-reinforced plastics) impact with the direction of blow normal to the plane of reinforcement (see Figure 4)

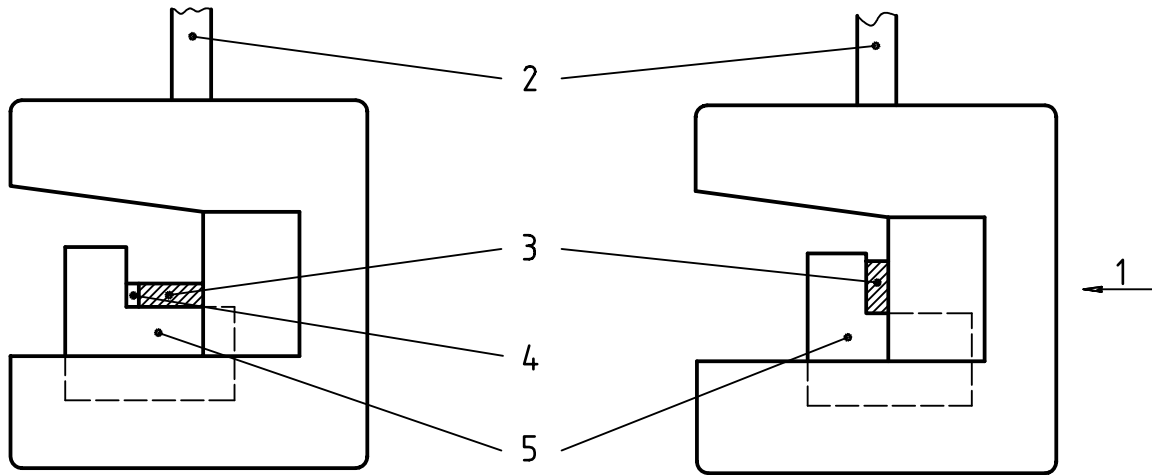
**3.6****parallel impact****p**

(laminar-reinforced plastics) impact with the direction of blow parallel to the plane of reinforcement (see Figure 4)

**4 Principle**

The test specimen, supported near its ends as a horizontal beam, is impacted by a single blow of a striker, with the line of impact midway between the supports, and bent at a high, nominally constant, velocity.

In the case of edgewise impact with notched specimens, the line of impact is directly opposite the single notch (see Figure 1, left, and Figure 2).



**Key**

- 1 Direction of blow
- 2 Rod of pendulum
- 3 Test specimen
- 4 Notch
- 5 Support

Figure 1 — Striking edge and support blocks for type 1 test specimen at moment of impact

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**5 Apparatus**

[ISO 179-1:2000](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/130f0dfd-ae3-4677-8985-b5cccf2cfa5c/iso-179-1-2000)

**5.1 Test machine**

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The principles, characteristics and verification of suitable test machines are detailed in ISO 13802.

**5.2 Micrometers and gauges**

Micrometers and gauges capable of measuring the essential dimensions of test specimens to an accuracy of 0,02 mm are required. For measuring the dimension  $b_N$  of notched specimens, the micrometer shall be fitted with an anvil of width 2 mm to 3 mm and of suitable profile to fit the shape of the notch.

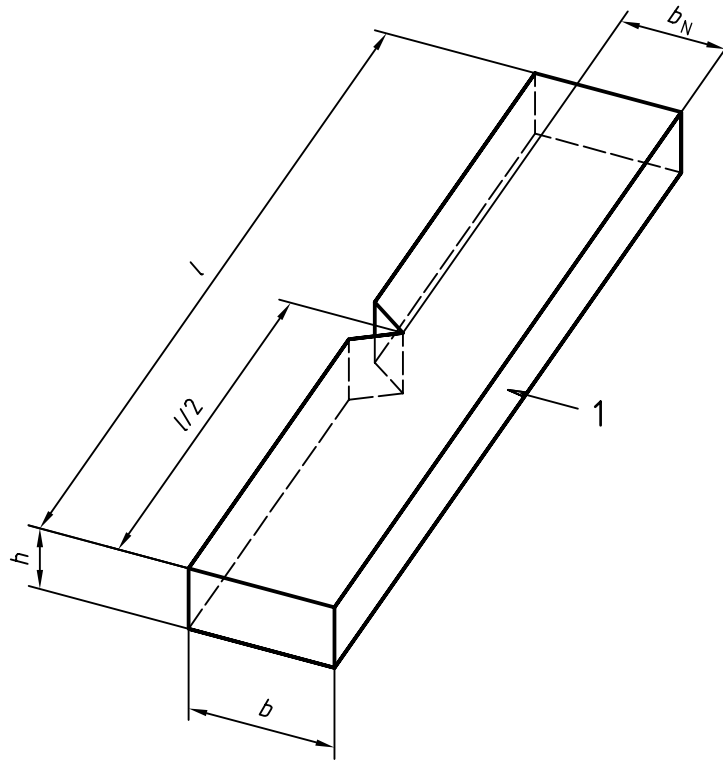
**6 Test specimens**

**6.1 Preparation**

**6.1.1 Moulding and extrusion compounds**

Specimens shall be prepared in accordance with the relevant material specification. When none exists, and unless otherwise specified, specimens shall be either directly compression moulded or injection moulded from the material in accordance with ISO 293, ISO 294-1, ISO 294-3, ISO 295 or ISO 10724-1 as appropriate, or machined in accordance with ISO 2818 from sheet that has been compression or injection moulded from the compound. Type 1 specimens may be cut from multipurpose test specimens complying with ISO 3167, type A.



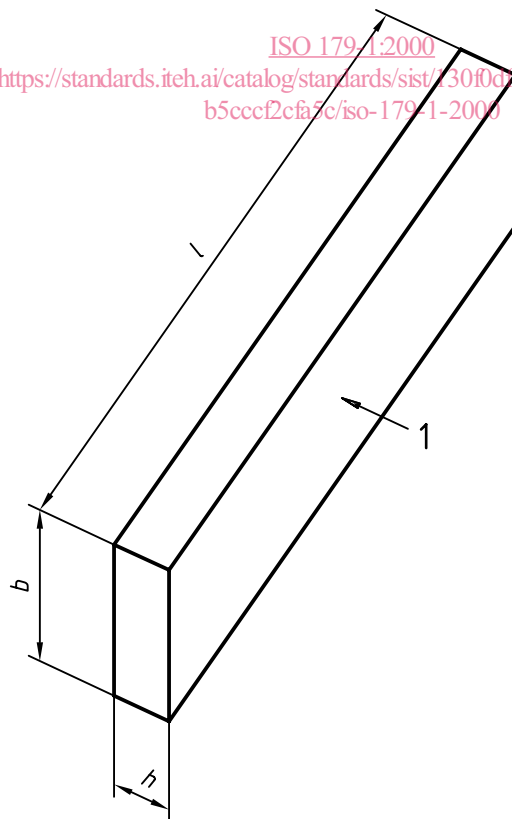


**Key**

1 Direction of blow

**Figure 2 — Charpy edgewise impact (e) with single-notched specimen**  
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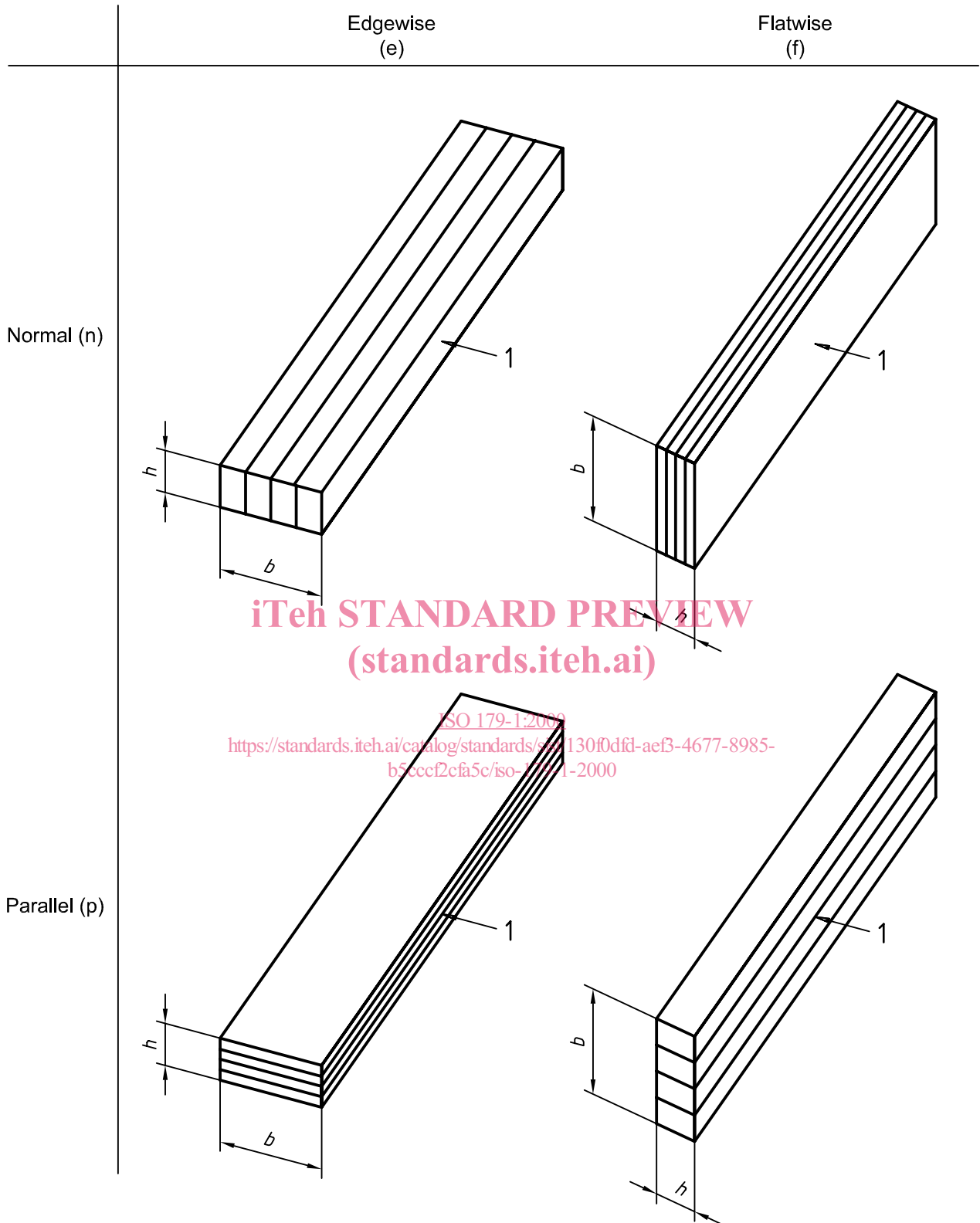
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**Key**

1 Direction of blow

**Figure 3 — Charpy flatwise impact (f)**



**Key**

1 Direction of blow

Edgewise (e) and flatwise (f) indicate the direction of the blow with respect to the specimen thickness  $h$  and specimen width  $b$ . Normal (n) and parallel (p) indicate the direction of the blow with respect to the laminate plane.

The Charpy “fn” and “ep” tests are used for laminates, while the Charpy “e” test is used for all other materials. The Charpy “f” test is used for testing materials exhibiting surface effects.

**Figure 4 — Scheme of designations describing the direction of blow**

### 6.1.2 Sheets

Specimens shall be machined from sheets in accordance with ISO 2818.

### 6.1.3 Long-fibre-reinforced materials

A panel shall be prepared in accordance with ISO 1268 or another specified or agreed upon preparation procedure. Specimens shall be machined in accordance with ISO 2818.

### 6.1.4 Checking

The specimens shall be free of twist and shall have mutually perpendicular parallel surfaces. The surfaces and edges shall be free from scratches, pits, sink marks and flash.

The specimens shall be checked for conformity with these requirements by visual observation against straightedges, squares and flat plates, and by measuring with micrometer callipers.

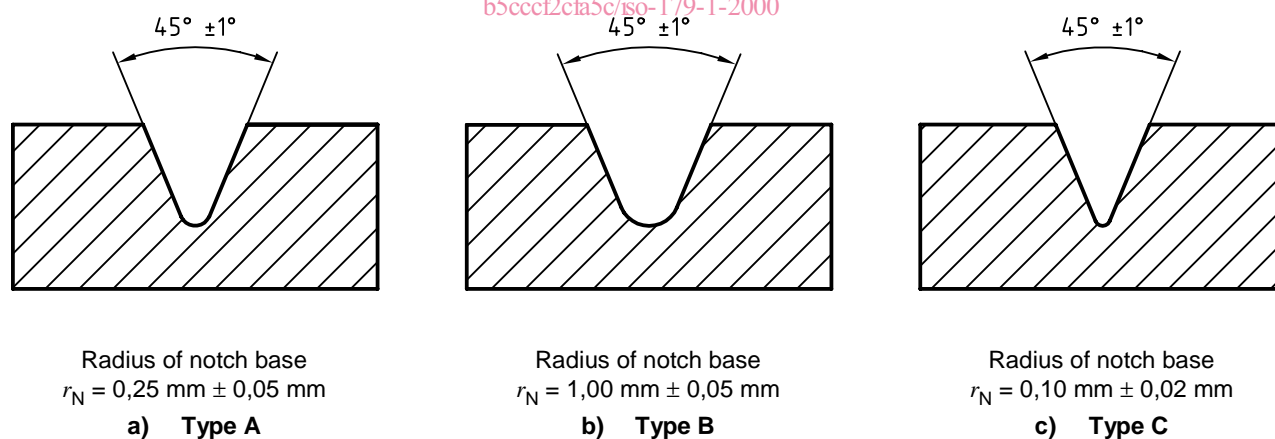
Specimens showing measurable or observable departure from one or more of these requirements shall be rejected or machined to proper size and shape before testing.

### 6.1.5 Notching

**6.1.5.1** Machined notches shall be prepared in accordance with ISO 2818. The profile of the cutting tooth shall be such as to produce in the specimen a notch of the contour and depth shown in Figure 5, at right angles to its principal axes.

**6.1.5.2** Specimens with moulded-in notches may be used if specified for the material being tested.

**NOTE** Specimens with moulded-in notches do not give results comparable to those obtained from specimens with machined notches.



**Figure 5 — Notch types**

## 6.2 Anisotropy

Certain types of sheet or panel material may show different impact properties depending on the direction in the plane of the sheet or panel. In such cases, it is customary to cut groups of test specimens with their major axes respectively parallel and perpendicular to the direction of some feature of the sheet or panel which is either visible or inferred from knowledge of the method of manufacture.