
**Fine-cut tobacco and smoking articles
made from it — Methods of sampling,
conditioning and analysis —**

Part 2:

Atmosphere for conditioning and testing

*Tabac de fine coupe et objets confectionnés à partir de ce type de tabac —
Méthodes d'échantillonnage, de conditionnement et d'analyse —*

Partie 2: Atmosphère de conditionnement et d'essai

ISO 15592-2:2001

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Reference number
ISO 15592-2:2001(E)

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Printed in Switzerland

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 15592 may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard ISO 15592-2 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 126, *Tobacco and tobacco products*.

ISO 15592 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Fine-cut tobacco and smoking articles made from it — Methods of sampling, conditioning and analysis*:

- *Part 1: Sampling*
- *Part 2: Atmosphere for conditioning and testing*
- *Part 3: Determination of total particulate matter of smoking articles using a routine analytical smoking machine, preparation for the determination of water and nicotine and calculation of nicotine-free dry particulate matter*
- *Part 4: Classification of wrappers*
- *Part 5: Fine-cut tobacco to be used with specified wrappers*
- *Part 6: Effect of incorporation of loose filters*

Annex A of this part of ISO 15592 is for information only.

Introduction

ISO 3402 was based on the 1991 revision of CORESTA Recommended Method No. 21 and was produced in order to specify a standard atmosphere for conditioning leaf tobacco, and cut tobacco destined for the manufacture of cigarettes and for the manufactured cigarettes themselves.

Fine-cut tobacco is produced and sold at much higher moisture levels than tobacco used for manufacturing cigarettes. Consequently ISO 3402 is not applicable to fine-cut tobacco or smoking articles made from it.

This part of ISO 15592 is based on a new CORESTA Recommended Method No. 42 and should be used for all products conforming to the definitions in clause 2.

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Fine-cut tobacco and smoking articles made from it — Methods of sampling, conditioning and analysis —

Part 2: Atmosphere for conditioning and testing

1 Scope

This part of ISO 15592 specifies an atmosphere for conditioning and testing samples of fine-cut tobacco and test pieces made from it.

It is applicable to tests on fine-cut tobacco and products and materials used in the manufacture of fine-cut smoking articles for which a prior conditioning is necessary. It is not applicable in the case of test methods for which particular test conditions are laid down elsewhere, for example cigarette papers and board, which are given in ISO 187 or other tobacco products which are given in ISO 3402.

2 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this part of ISO 15592, the following terms and definitions apply.

2.1

atmosphere

ambient conditions defined by one or more of the following parameters:

- temperature
- relative humidity
- pressure

[ISO 558:1980, definition 2.1]

2.2

conditioning atmosphere

atmosphere in which a sample or test piece is kept before being subjected to test

NOTE 1 It is characterized by specified values for one or more of the following parameters: temperature, relative humidity and pressure, which are kept within the prescribed tolerances for a given period of time.

NOTE 2 The term "conditioning" refers to the operation as a whole designed to bring a sample or test piece, before testing, into a specified condition with relation to temperature and humidity, by keeping it for a given period of time in the conditioning atmosphere.

NOTE 3 The conditioning may be carried out either in the laboratory or in a special enclosure termed the "conditioning chamber" or in the test chamber.

NOTE 4 The chosen values and period of time depend on the nature of the sample or test piece to be tested.

NOTE 5 Adapted from ISO 558:1980, definition 2.2.

2.3

test atmosphere

atmosphere to which a sample or test piece is exposed throughout the test

NOTE 1 It is characterized by specified values for one or more of the following parameters: temperature, relative humidity and pressure, which are kept within the prescribed tolerances.

NOTE 2 The test may be carried out either in the laboratory or in a special chamber termed the "test chamber" or in the conditioning chamber, the choice depending on the nature of the test piece and on the test itself. For example, close control of the test atmosphere may not be necessary if the change of properties of the test piece is insignificant in the test period.

NOTE 3 Adapted from ISO 558:1980, definition 2.3.

2.4

fine-cut tobacco

FCT

tobacco produced to be used by consumers for making their own smoking articles

2.5

wrapper

material specially prepared and supplied in a form suitable for enclosing fine-cut tobacco so as to produce a fine-cut smoking article

2.6

fine-cut smoking article

FCSA

article, suitable for smoking, produced by combining fine-cut tobacco with a wrapper

3 Atmosphere

3.1 Conditioning atmosphere

This shall be as follows:

— temperature $(22 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$;

— relative humidity $(75 \pm 3) \%$.

The atmospheric pressure should be within the range 86 kPa to 106 kPa. The pressure shall be measured and included in any test report if it is outside these prescribed tolerances.

The specified ranges listed above define the atmosphere immediately surrounding the test piece. Therefore, the atmosphere surrounding the test piece shall be maintained at a mean temperature of $22 ^\circ\text{C}$ and a mean relative humidity of 75 %.

NOTE 1 The tolerance on relative humidity is given as $\pm 3 \%$. This differs from the tolerance given in ISO 3402 which is $\pm 2 \%$. This is due to the higher relative humidity which is more difficult to control.

NOTE 2 Whilst monitoring equipment might indicate the relative humidity is within the $(75 \pm 3) \%$ specification, this tolerance can be comparable with the uncertainty in calibration of the equipment.

Care should be taken to check the electronic control of humidity and the conditions in the cabinet should be checked regularly (see A.3).

3.2 Test atmosphere

This shall be as follows:

— temperature $(22 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$;

— relative humidity $(60 \pm 5) \%$.