
**Petroleum and related products —
Determination of the ageing behaviour of
inhibited oils and fluids — TOST test —**

**Part 1:
Procedure for mineral oils**

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*Pétrole et produits connexes — Détermination du comportement au
vieillissement des fluides et huiles inhibés — Essai TOST —*

Partie 1: Méthode pour les huiles minérales

ISO 4263-1:2003

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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 4263-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 28, *Petroleum products and lubricants*.

ISO 4263 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Petroleum and related products — Determination of the ageing behaviour of inhibited oils and fluids — TOST test*:

— *Part 1: Procedure for mineral oils*

— *Part 2: Procedure for category HFC hydraulic fluids*

— *Part 3: Anhydrous procedure for synthetic hydraulic fluids*

— *Part 4: Procedure for industrial gear oils*

Petroleum and related products — Determination of the ageing behaviour of inhibited oils and fluids — TOST test —

Part 1: Procedure for mineral oils

WARNING — The use of this part of ISO 4263 may involve hazardous materials, operations and equipment. This part of ISO 4263 does not purport to address all of the safety problems associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this part of ISO 4263 to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

1 Scope

This part of ISO 4263 specifies a method for the determination of the ageing behaviour of rust- and oxidation-inhibited mineral oils having a density less than that of water, used as turbine oils (categories TSA, TGA, TSE, TGE of ISO 6743-5, see [4] in the Bibliography), hydraulic oils (categories HL, HM, HR, HV, HG of ISO 6743-4, see [3] in the Bibliography), and circulating oils (category CKB of ISO 6743-6, see [5] in the Bibliography). Oils containing synthetic components can be tested by this procedure, but no precision statement is available yet for such fluids.

NOTE 1 For the purposes of this part of ISO 4263, the term "% (m/m)" is used to represent the mass fraction of a material.

NOTE 2 Other signs of oil deterioration, such as the formation of insoluble sludge, catalyst coil corrosion or decrease in pH value, may occur, which indicate oxidation of the oil, but are not reflected in the calculated oxidation lifetime. The correlation of these occurrences with field service is under investigation.

This test method is widely used in specifications and is considered of value in comparing the oxidation stability of oils that are prone to contamination with water. However, because of the large number of individual field-service applications, the correlation between the results of this test and actual service performance can vary markedly, and is best judged on experience.

The precision of this part of ISO 4263 for oxidation life was only determined on inhibited turbine oils, and applies to oxidation lives of 700 h to 3 900 h.

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 3170:—¹⁾, *Petroleum liquids — Manual sampling*

ISO 3696:1987, *Water for analytical laboratory use — Specification and test methods*

1) To be published. (Revision of ISO 3170:1988)

ISO 6618:1997, *Petroleum products and lubricants — Determination of acid or base number — Colour-indicator titration method*

ISO 6619:1988, *Petroleum products and lubricants — Neutralization number — Potentiometric titration method*

ISO 7537:1997, *Petroleum products — Determination of acid number — Semi-micro colour-indicator titration method*

3 Principle

A test portion is reacted, in the absence of light, at 95 °C with oxygen in the presence of water and a steel and copper catalyst coil. Small aliquots of the oil are withdrawn at regular intervals and the acid number is measured (see Note 2 in Clause 1). The test is continued until an acid number of 2,0 mg of potassium hydroxide (KOH) per gram of test portion is reached and the number of hours is recorded as the oxidation life. For some requirements, the test may be discontinued at a fixed number of hours (e.g. 1 000 h) when the value of the acid number is still below 2,0 mg of KOH per gram of test portion.

4 Reagents and materials

4.1 Water, unless otherwise specified, in accordance with the requirements of grade 2 as defined in ISO 3696. Potable water means tap water, unless normal piped supplies are contaminated with particulate or highly soluble mineral content.

4.2 Heptane (C_7H_{16}), of minimum purity 99,75 %.

4.3 Acetone (CH_3COCH_3), of general purpose reagent grade (GPR).

4.4 Propan-2-ol ($CH_3CHOHCH_3$), of general purpose reagent grade (GPR).

4.5 Oxygen, of minimum purity 99,5 %. Supplied through a pressure-regulation system adequate to maintain the specified flow rate throughout the test duration.

Supply from an oxygen cylinder should be via a two-stage regulation system and a needle valve to improve the consistency of gas-flow regulation.

WARNING — Use oxygen only with equipment validated for oxygen service. Do not allow oil or grease to come into contact with oxygen and clean and inspect all regulators, gauges and control equipment. Check the oxygen-supply system regularly for leaks. If a leak is suspected, turn off immediately and seek qualified assistance.

4.6 Cleaning solutions

4.6.1 Strong oxidizing acid solution

The reference strong oxidizing cleaning solution on which precision was based, is chromosulfuric acid (see the following warning), but alternative non-chromium containing solutions, such as ammonium persulfate in concentrated sulfuric acid (8 g/l) have been found to give satisfactory cleanliness. A 10 % solution of three parts of hydrochloric acid (1 mol/l) and one part of orthophosphoric acid (concentrated GPR grade) removes iron oxide deposits.

WARNING — Chromosulfuric acid is a health hazard. It is toxic, a recognized carcinogen as it contains Cr(VI) compounds, highly corrosive and potentially hazardous in contact with organic materials. When using chromosulfuric acid cleaning solution, eye protection and protective clothing are essential. Never pipette the cleaning solution by mouth. After use, do not pour cleaning solution down the drain, but neutralize it with great care owing to the concentrated sulfuric acid present, and dispose of it in

accordance with standard procedures for toxic laboratory waste (chromium is highly dangerous to the environment).

Strongly oxidizing acid cleaning solutions that are chromium-free are also highly corrosive and potentially hazardous when in contact with organic materials, but do not contain chromium which has special disposal problems.

4.6.2 Surfactant cleaning fluid

A proprietary strong surfactant cleaning fluid is a preferred alternative to the strong oxidizing cleaning solution, whenever the condition of the glassware permits this.

4.6.3 Laboratory detergent

The detergent shall be water soluble.

4.7 Catalyst wires

4.7.1 Low-metalloid steel wire, of diameter $1,60 \text{ mm} \pm 0,05 \text{ mm}$, made of carbon steel, soft bright annealed and free from rust.

4.7.2 Copper wire, of diameter $1,63 \text{ mm} \pm 0,05 \text{ mm}$, made of either electrolytic copper wire of 99,9 % minimum purity or soft copper wire of an equivalent grade.

4.8 Abrasive cloth, made of silicon carbide of $150 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ (100-grit) with a cloth backing, or an equivalent grade of abrasive cloth.

4.9 Absorbent cotton

5 Apparatus

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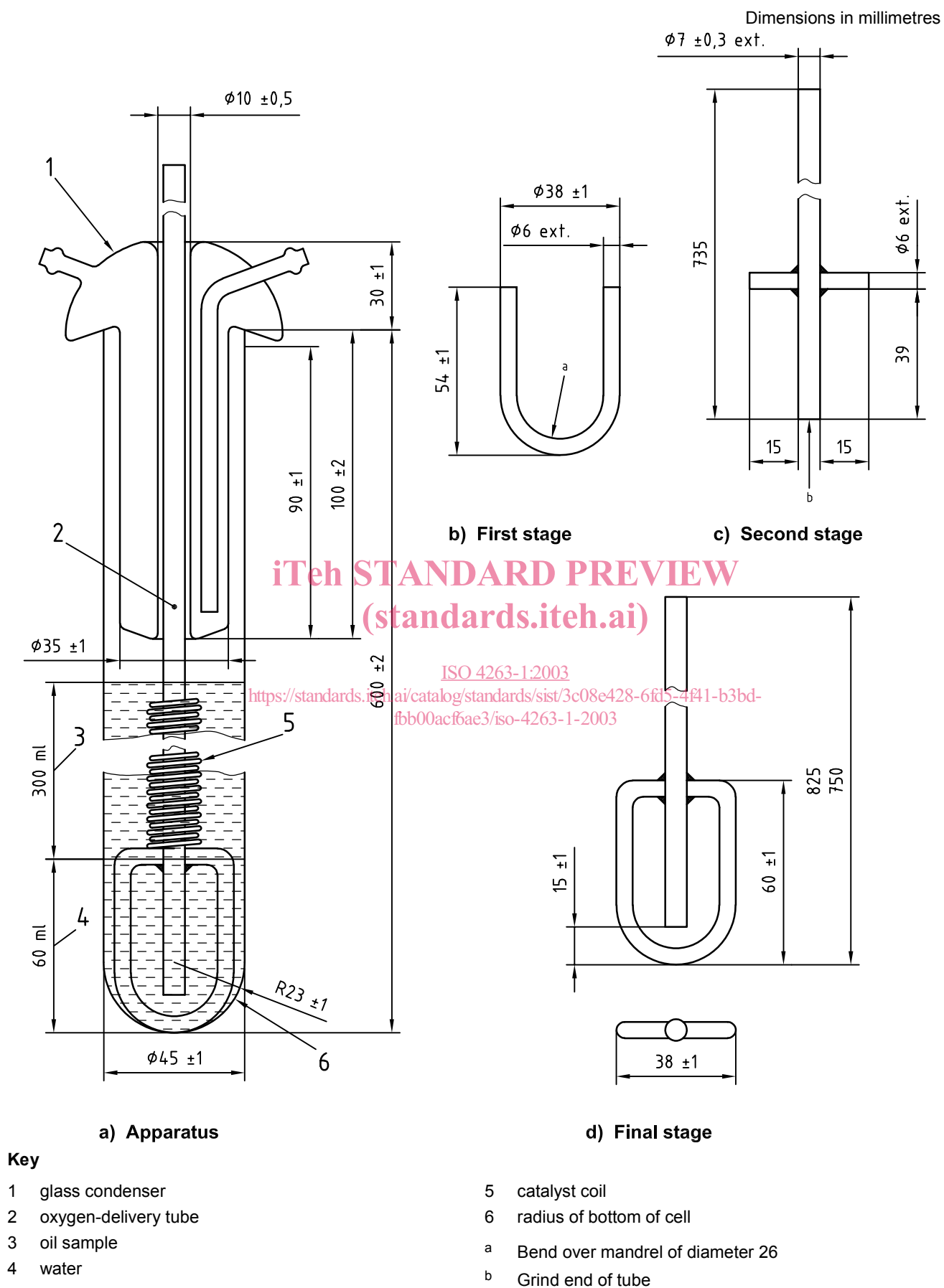
5.1 Oxidation cell, consisting of a large test tube of borosilicate glass with a graduation mark at $300 \text{ ml} \pm 1 \text{ ml}$, which applies to the test tube alone at $20 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. A mushroom condenser and oxygen-delivery tube, also of borosilicate glass, fit into the test tube. The design and dimensions shall be as illustrated in Figure 1.

5.2 Heating bath, consisting of a thermostatically controlled bath capable of maintaining the oil test portion in the oxidation cell at $95 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 0,2 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. It shall be large enough to hold the required number of oxidation cells (5.1) immersed in the heat-transfer medium to a depth of $355 \text{ mm} \pm 10 \text{ mm}$. It shall be constructed to ensure that light is excluded from the test portions during the test. If a fluid bath is used, it shall be fitted with a suitable stirring system to provide a uniform temperature throughout the bath. If the fluid bath is fitted with a top, the total length of the oxidation cell within the bath shall be $390 \text{ mm} \pm 10 \text{ mm}$. If a metal-block bath is used, the heaters shall be distributed so as to produce a uniform temperature throughout the bath, and the holes in the block shall have a minimum diameter of 50 mm and a depth, including any insulating cover, of $390 \text{ mm} \pm 10 \text{ mm}$.

5.3 Flowmeter, of minimum capacity 3 l/h and an accuracy of $\pm 0,1 \text{ l/h}$.

5.4 Temperature-measurement devices

5.4.1 Heating bath. The temperature in liquid heating baths shall be measured by either a liquid-in-glass thermometer meeting the requirements of the specification given in Annex A, or an equivalent temperature-measurement system readable to $\pm 0,1 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ and calibrated to better than $\pm 0,1 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. For metal-block heating baths, a temperature-measurement system, with possibly more than one device of the same readability and accuracy, is required.

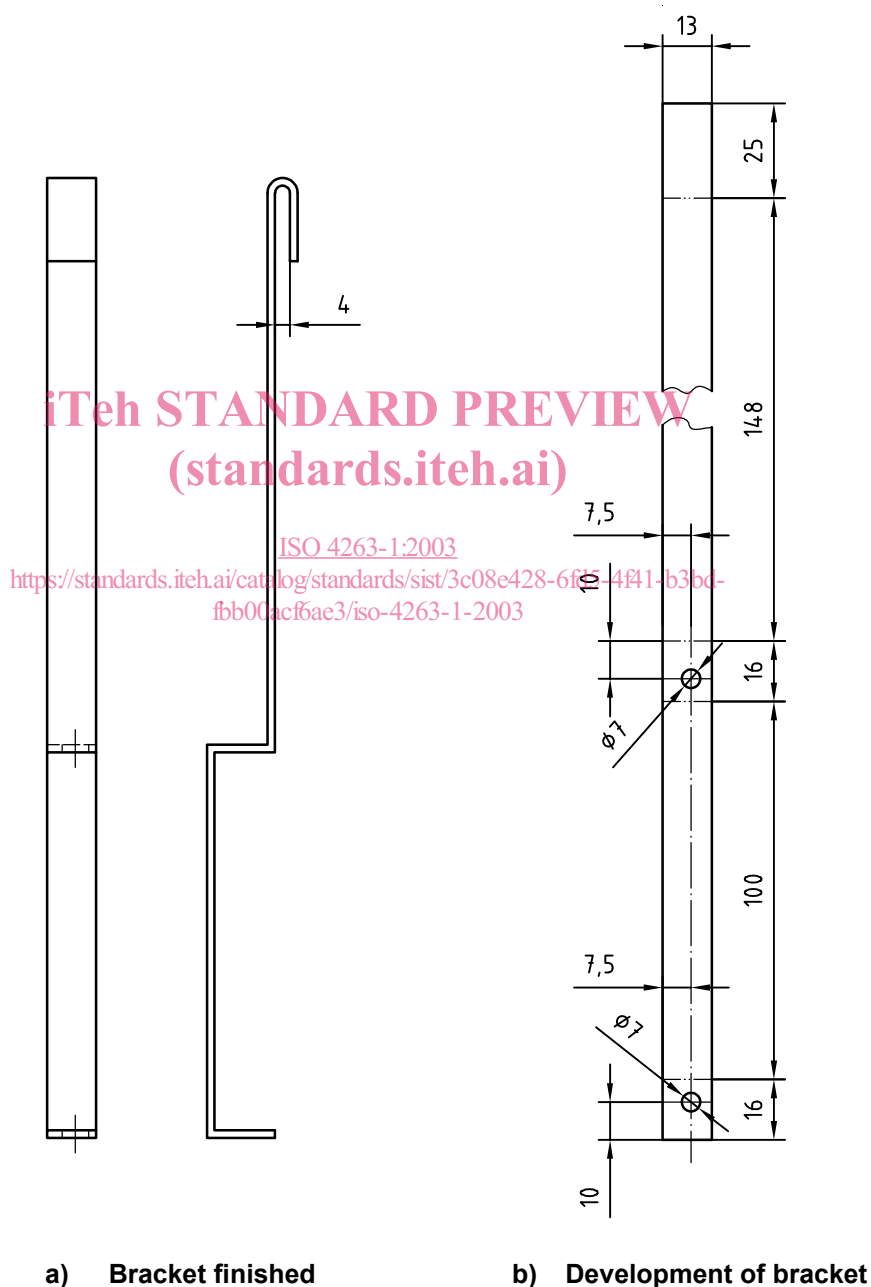


5.4.2 Oxidation cell. The temperature in the oxidation cell shall be measured by either a liquid-in-glass thermometer meeting the requirements of the specification given in Annex A, or an equivalent temperature-measurement system readable to $\pm 0,1$ °C and calibrated to better than $\pm 0,1$ °C.

5.4.3 Thermometer bracket. If a liquid-in-glass thermometer is used in the oxidation cell, it shall be suspended by means of a bracket as illustrated in Figure 2. The thermometer is held in the bracket by either two fluoro-elastomer O-rings of approximately 5 mm diameter, or by the use of a thin stainless steel wire.

5.5 Wire-coiling mandrel. A mandrel, as illustrated in Figure 3, is used to produce the double spiral of copper and steel wire. The mandrel is included in a suitable winding device.

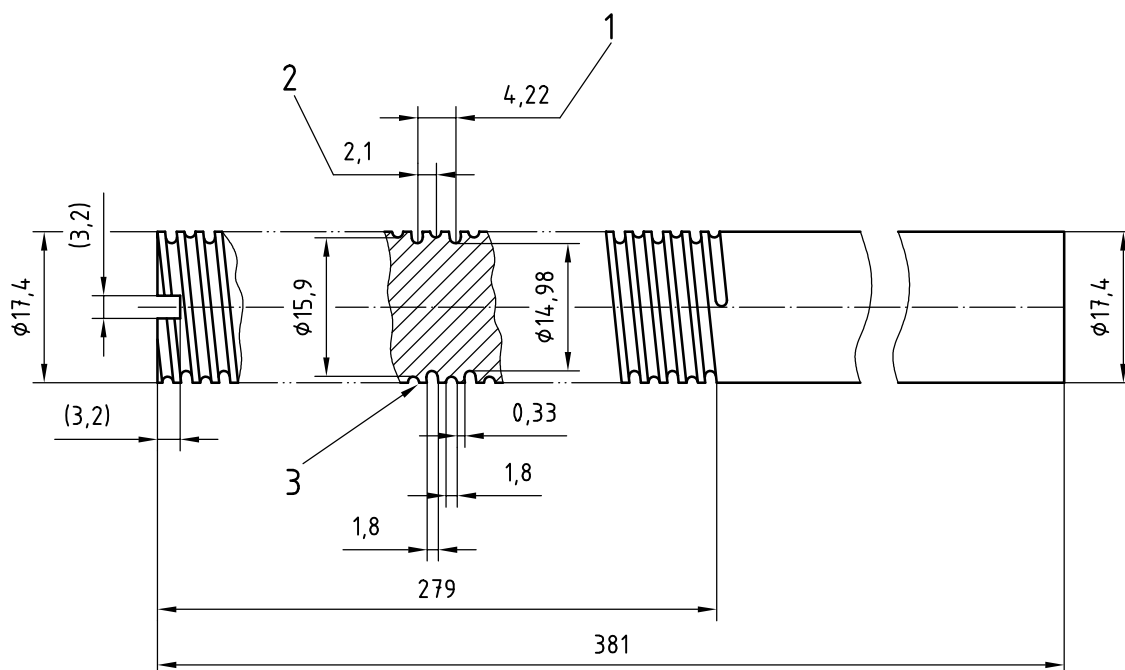
Dimensions in millimetres



Material: 18-8 stainless steel (0,792 mm)

Figure 2 — Thermometer bracket

Dimensions in millimetres

**Key**

- 1 lead
- 2 pitch
- 3 double thread

Material: bronze
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Figure 3 — Catalyst coil mandrel

5.6 Oxygen-supply tube. Flexible polyvinylchloride (PVC) tubing of approximately 6,4 mm inside diameter and 1,5 mm wall thickness, is required to deliver oxygen to the oxidation cell.

5.7 Aliquot-removal devices. Depending on the size and frequency of removal of aliquots of the test portion for analysis, a selection of devices are required. Glass syringes, fitted with Luer connectors and stainless steel needles, or long pipettes fitted with suitable pipette fillers, are suitable. These may be inserted via a sampling tube fitted through the condenser. Aliquot sizes will generally be in the range of 2 ml to 10 ml, and the devices shall be capable of removing the required aliquot $\pm 0,2$ ml.

5.8 Aliquot containers. Small, dark glass vials of 5 ml to 10 ml capacity, fitted with close-fitting polyethylene caps, are required.

6 Sampling

Unless otherwise specified, samples shall be obtained by the procedures described in ISO 3170.

7 Preparation of materials and apparatus

7.1 Cleaning catalysts

Immediately prior to winding a catalyst coil, clean a $3,00 \text{ m} \pm 0,01 \text{ m}$ length of steel wire (4.7.1) and an equal length of copper wire (4.7.2) with wads of absorbent cotton (4.9) soaked in heptane (4.2), and then abrade

with the abrasive cloth (4.8) until a fresh metal surface is exposed. Wipe with dry absorbent cotton until all the loose particles of metal and abrasive have been removed. In all subsequent operations, handle the catalyst wires with clean gloves (cotton, rubber or plastic) to prevent contact with the skin.

7.2 Preparation of catalyst coil

Twist the steel and copper wires together tightly at one end for three turns and then wind them simultaneously alongside each other on a threaded mandrel (5.5 and Figure 3), inserting the steel wire in the deeper thread. Twist the free ends of the steel and copper wires together for three turns and bend the twisted ends to conform to the shape of the spiral coil. Remove the coil from the mandrel by reversing the winding action. Ensure that the overall length of the coil is $225 \text{ mm} \pm 5 \text{ mm}$ by stretching or compression if necessary.

7.3 Catalyst storage

Store the catalyst coil in a dry inert atmosphere prior to use, in accordance with the procedures described in Annex B. Inspect before use to ensure that no corrosion products or contaminating materials are present. For storage of less than 24 h, storage of the coil in heptane that is free from traces of water and corrosive materials is satisfactory.

NOTE Redistilled heptane (4.2), stored in a tightly sealed bottle, is suitable for overnight storage of the catalyst coil.

7.4 Cleaning new glassware

Wash new oxygen-delivery tubes, condensers and test tubes with hot detergent solution (see 4.6.3) and rinse thoroughly with potable water (4.1). Clean the interiors of the test tubes, the exteriors of the condensers, and both interiors and exteriors of the oxygen-delivery tubes by either soaking for 24 h in a 10 % solution of the surfactant cleaning fluid (4.6.2), or by washing in strong oxidizing acid solution (4.6.1). Rinse all parts thoroughly with potable water followed by water (4.1) and allow to dry, either in an oven at approximately 100°C or with a final rinse of propan-2-ol (4.4) or acetone (4.3) followed by air drying at ambient temperature.

7.5 Cleaning used glassware

Immediately following the termination of a test, drain the oil completely from the test tube and rinse all glassware with heptane (4.2) to remove traces of oil. Wash with hot detergent solution (see 4.6.3) using a long-handled brush and rinse thoroughly with potable water.

NOTE If adherent deposits are still present, these may be removed by filling the test tube with detergent solution, inserting the oxygen-delivery tube and fitting the condenser, and replacing the tube in the heating bath at test temperature. Often, after several hours of soaking, all adhering deposits except iron oxide have loosened, and this can be removed by a subsequent soaking in the hydrochloric/orthophosphoric acid mixture (see 4.6.1).

After all deposits have been removed, follow the cleaning procedure described in 7.4.

Store all cleaned glassware in a dry, dust-free condition until required.

7.6 Cleaning aliquot-removal device

Completely drain the tube of the sampling device and/or any other devices used and rinse any surfaces that have contacted the oil with heptane (4.2) to remove traces of oil. Soak the device to above the contact level for 24 h in the surfactant cleaning fluid (4.6.2), or wash in strong oxidizing acid solution (4.6.1), rinse with potable water, followed by water (4.1), and dry in the manner described in 7.4.