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**Structural adhesives — A standard  
database of properties**

*Adhésifs structuraux — Base de données des caractéristiques*

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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 17194 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 11, *Products*.

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## Introduction

Over recent years, there has been an increase in the use of computer methods for the selection and evaluation of structural adhesives and for assistance with the manufacture and design of joints with these materials. The data sheets from materials suppliers generally do not supply all the property data that are needed to support the application of these methods.

This International Standard specifies a set of basic properties for adhesives commonly required for the use of these materials in a wide range of applications. Test methods and test conditions are recommended for the measurement of the data to enable traceability of presented values. For each property, a single (preferred) test method and specific test conditions are identified in order to improve the comparability of data on different materials generated by different data suppliers.

In selecting the contents for this database, attempts have been made to find a balance in the quantity of data specified. Too much and data suppliers will be reluctant to produce the data, too little and the database has limited value. The aim is therefore not to present a comprehensive list of properties for adhesives but to be selective in identifying the most important properties that are needed for the use of adhesives for different applications. It should be noted that many adhesives have been developed with special properties for a particular application. It is possible that these properties will not be specified in the list associated with this International Standard. However, scope has been included within this standard for the presentation of additional data under test conditions identified by the data supplier. In this way, the special properties of the adhesive can be presented with the basic data.

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# Structural adhesives — A standard database of properties

## 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a set of basic properties commonly required for the selection and use of structural adhesives in different applications. ISO standard test methods and test conditions are also recommended for the measurement of these data to facilitate traceability of recorded values (see Introduction).

## 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 62, *Plastics — Determination of water absorption*

ISO 527-1:1993, *Plastics — Determination of tensile properties — Part 1: General principles*

ISO 527-2, *Plastics — Determination of tensile properties — Part 2: Test conditions for moulding and extrusion plastics*

ISO 868, *Plastics and ebonite — Determination of indentation hardness by means of a durometer (Shore hardness)*

ISO 1183 (all parts), *Plastics — Methods for determining the density of non-cellular plastics*

ISO 1817, *Rubber, vulcanized — Determination of the effect of liquids*

ISO 2555, *Plastics — Resins in the liquid state or as emulsions or dispersions — Determination of apparent viscosity by the Brookfield Test method*

ISO 2577, *Plastics — Thermosetting moulding materials — Determination of shrinkage*

ISO 3219, *Plastics — Polymers/resins in the liquid state or as emulsions or dispersions — Determination of viscosity using a rotational viscometer with defined shear rate*

ISO 4578, *Adhesives — Determination of peel resistance of high-strength adhesive bonds — Floating-roller method*

ISO 4587, *Adhesives — Determination of tensile lap-shear strength of rigid-to-rigid bonded assemblies*

ISO 6721-4, *Plastics — Determination of dynamic mechanical properties — Part 4: Tensile vibration — Non-resonance method*

ISO 6721-5, *Plastics — Determination of dynamic mechanical properties — Part 5: Flexural vibration — Non-resonance method*

ISO 9142, *Adhesives — Guide to the selection of standard laboratory ageing conditions for testing bonded joints*

ISO 10364, *Adhesives — Determination of working life (pot life) of multi-component adhesives*

ISO 11343, *Adhesives — Determination of dynamic resistance to cleavage of high-strength adhesive bonds under impact conditions — Wedge impact method*

ISO 11357-2, *Plastics — Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) — Part 2: Determination of glass transition temperature*

ISO 11359-2, *Plastics — Thermomechanical analysis (TMA) — Part 2: Determination of coefficient of linear thermal expansion and glass transition temperature*

ISO 15166-1, *Adhesives — Methods of preparing bulk specimens — Part 1: Two-part systems*

ISO 15166-2, *Adhesives — Methods of preparing bulk specimens — Part 2: Elevated-temperature-curing one-part systems*

ISO 17212, *Structural adhesives — Guidelines for the surface preparation of metals and plastics prior to adhesive bonding*

IEC 60093, *Methods of test for volume resistivity and surface resistivity of solid electrical insulating materials*

IEC 60243-1, *Electrical strength of insulating materials — Test methods — Part 1: Tests at power frequencies*

### 3 Principle

A list is presented of properties that are generally useful for the selection and application of structural adhesives. Recommended test methods and test conditions are given for each property to help in the determination of values and to promote the presentation of traceable and comparable data.

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### 4 Test specimens

Where possible, use the test specimens recommended in the test method standards employed to measure the properties given in Tables 1, 2 and 3. If alternative test methods are used, the test method reference shall be recorded with the results. The preparation of test specimens shall be as specified in ISO 17212 for joint specimens and ISO 15166-1 or ISO 15166-2 for bulk specimens. Since the properties of adhesives generally depend on the concentration of absorbed water, specimens shall be stored dry or in an atmosphere of  $(50 \pm 10) \% \text{ RH}$  at  $(23 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$  prior to testing, for a sufficient time to reach zero or equilibrium water content as indicated by no significant further changes in the mass of the specimen with storage time.

### 5 Test conditions

Where possible, use the test conditions specified for each property in Tables 1, 2 and 3. If alternative test conditions are used, these shall be recorded with the results.

### 6 Test procedures

#### 6.1 Basic properties

Test methods and test conditions recommended for the acquisition of data for basic properties are given in Table 1. The measurement temperature is  $(23 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$ . For measurements obtained at other temperatures, record the temperature with the result.



Table 1 — Basic properties at 23 °C

Record cure temperature, cure time, post-cure temperature and post-cure time used for specimen preparation. Record also whether specimens have been stored dry or at 50 % RH prior to testing.			
Property	Units	Test method	Additional conditions
Tensile modulus	GPa	ISO 527-2	See Note 1.
Stress at failure	MPa		
Strain at failure	%		
Yield stress	MPa		See Note 2.
Yield strain	%		
Lap shear strength	MPa	ISO 4587	Record thickness of adhesive layer. Record adherend material and surface treatment (see ISO 17212).
T-peel strength	MPa	ISO 4578	Record adherend material and surface treatment (see ISO 17212).
Impact resistance	kN/m	ISO 11343 See Note 3	Use symmetrical wedge.
Hardness	Shore A or D	ISO 868	3 s duration.
Glass transition temperature	°C	ISO 11357-2	
Dynamic mechanical modulus vs temperature (DMTA) curve	GPa	ISO 6721-4 or ISO 6721-5	From – 40 °C to above $T_g$ .
Thermal expansion coefficient	K <sup>-1</sup>	ISO 11359-2	Record values at 23 °C and at a temperature above $T_g$ .
Service temperature range	°C	See Note 4	
Viscosity	Pa·s	ISO 2555 or ISO 3219	Record shear strain rate and time under load if the adhesive is thixotropic.
Working life	min	ISO 10364	
Volume change during cure	%	ISO 2577	
Density	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	ISO 1183	
Water absorption	%	ISO 62	Saturation value at (23 ± 2) °C.
Volume resistivity	ohm·m	IEC 60093	
Electric strength	kV/mm	IEC 60243-1	Use a specimen with a thickness of the adhesive layer of 0,5 mm. See Note 5.
<p>NOTE 1 Strain at failure for ductile materials is measured after yield and therefore requires the measurement of a nominal strain. The nominal strain is derived from measurements of grip separation instead of extensometer values. See ISO 527-1:1993, Subclauses 4.5 and 9.5, for the definition and measurement of nominal strain.</p> <p>NOTE 2 See ISO 527-1:1993, Subclauses 4.3.1 and 4.4.1, for definitions of stress and strain at yield.</p> <p>NOTE 3 A wider interest in the toughness of an adhesive relates to a knowledge of the temperature of the transition from ductile to brittle behaviour. This temperature can be derived from measurements of toughness, using the cleavage test ISO 11343, as a function of temperature. Related information can be obtained from measurements of ductility at different temperatures using tests for fracture energy under impact (ISO 179-1 and ISO 179-2) or strain at failure in tensile tests on bulk specimens (ISO 527).</p> <p>NOTE 4 The service temperature range will be determined by the criteria used to decide maximum and minimum operating temperatures. Generally, the upper temperature is decided by the glass transition temperature <math>T_g</math> and the lower temperature by the transition from ductile to brittle behaviour. This lower temperature limit can be determined from measurements of toughness or ductility with temperature (see Note 3).</p> <p>NOTE 5 The measured value of electric strength is very dependent on the thickness of the adhesive layer.</p>			