
**Plastics piping systems — Multilayer
pipes — Determination of the oxygen
permeability of the barrier pipe**

*Systèmes de canalisations en plastiques — Tubes multicouches —
Détermination de la perméabilité à l'oxygène de la couche barrière d'un
tube*

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ISO 17455:2005

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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 17455 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 138, *Plastics pipes, fittings and valves for the transport of fluids*, Subcommittee SC 5, *General properties of pipes, fittings and valves of plastic materials and their accessories — Test methods and basic specifications*.

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Introduction

In response to the worldwide demand for specifications, requirements and test methods for multilayer pipes, WG 16 of ISO/TC 138/SC 5 was created at a meeting held in Kyoto, Japan, in 1998. The working group then started drafting three test standards (including ISO 17455) for multilayer pipes:

- ISO 17456, *Plastics piping systems — Multilayer pipes — Determination of long-term strength*;
- ISO 17454, *Plastics piping systems — Multilayer pipes — Test method for the adhesion of the different layers by using a pulling rig*.

Only multilayer pipes are dealt with in this International Standard and for these purposes cross-linked polyethylene (PE-X) as well as adhesives are to be considered as a thermoplastics material.

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Plastics piping systems — Multilayer pipes — Determination of the oxygen permeability of the barrier pipe

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies two test methods for determining the oxygen permeability of barrier pipe: the dynamic (Method I) and the static (Method II). In principle, both methods give the same results. The method to be applied is not application-dependent, but can be specified in the referring standard.

2 Principle

The principle is measurement of the oxygen transfer through the wall of the test piece under specified conditions.

The oxygen increase is measured in a system of which the test piece forms part. Oxygen can only be transported through the wall of the test piece. Therefore, the increased amount of oxygen in the closed system is the result of the functioning of the barrier layer of the test piece.

NOTE A certain continuous oxygen permeation through the barrier layer is allowed.

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3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

multilayer pipe

pipe comprising layers of different materials

3.2

multilayer M pipe

multilayer pipe comprising layers of polymers and one or more metal layers

NOTE

The wall thickness of the pipe consists of at least 60 % polymer layers.

3.3

multilayer P pipe

multilayer pipe comprised of two or more polymer layers

3.4

inner layer

layer in contact with the liquid or gas

3.5

outer layer

layer exposed to the outer environment

**3.6
embedded layer**

layer between the outer and inner layer

NOTE There can be more than one embedded layer.

**3.7
barrier layer**

layer intended to prevent or greatly diminish oxygen transport from outside the pipe into the inside water

NOTE For multilayer P pipes, the barrier layer is normally not stress-designed.

**3.8
closed system**

system which comprises stainless steel pipes, couplings and a tap, as well as the test piece, allowing only oxygen to permeate from the outside to the inside of the test piece

**3.9
flux**

oxygen permeability of the barrier layer of the pipe

4 Symbols and abbreviated terms

A_{barr}	outside surface of the barrier layer, in square metres (m ²)
$C_{\text{ox}, t}$	oxygen concentration after time t , in grams per cubic metre (g/m ³)
F_{ox}	flux expressed in oxygen transfer per unit per area (of the barrier layer), in grams per square metre per hour (g/m ² · h)
T	test temperature (40°C or 80°C), expressed in degrees Centigrade
V_{app}	volume of the closed system, excluding the volume of the test piece, in cubic metres (m ³)
V_{pipe}	volume of the test piece (pipe sample), in cubic metres (m ³)
d_{b}	outside diameter of the barrier layer, millimetres (mm)
d_{e}	manufacturer's nominal outside diameter, expressed in millimetres (mm)
d_{i}	inside diameter of the test piece (pipe), in millimetres (mm)
l	length of the test piece, in metres (m)
P_{a}	standard atmospheric pressure (1 000 mbar at 20°C), expressed in bar ¹⁾
P_{fin}	atmospheric pressure at the end of the measurement, expressed in bar
P_{init}	atmospheric pressure at the start of the measurement, expressed in bar
t	test period, in hours (h)
β_{pr}	dimensionless correction factor to atmospheric pressure

1) 1 bar = 0,1 MPa = 10⁵ Pa; 1 MPa = 1 N/mm²

$\int_0^6 O_{2,fin}$ total amount of oxygen after six hours, in grams (g)

$\int_0^{6=0} O_{H_2O,init}$ total amount of oxygen in the water at the start of the test, in grams (g)

5 Apparatus

The test assembly shall include the following main elements:

NOTE 1 The test temperature (40°C or 80°C) is specified in the relevant product- or system standard.

NOTE 2 1 ppb = 1 g/m³.

5.1 Oven, capable of maintaining a constant temperature of (40 ± 0,5) °C and/or (80 ± 0,5) °C.

5.2 Test rig, a closed system consisting of stainless steel parts of pipes, couplings, valves (only for Method II) and taps, including the test piece.

5.3 Water circulation pump, capable of a variable delivery with a capacity range of from 0,15 dm³/min to 0,5 dm³/min.

5.4 Oxygen sensor, Capable of functioning at (40 ± 0,5) °C and/or (80 ± 0,5) °C, with a range of from 0,1 ppb to 20 ppm².

5.5 Water pressure meter, with a range of (1 ± 0,1) to (4 ± 0,1) bar.

5.6 Atmospheric pressure meter, with a range of from (965 ± 1) mbar to (1035 ± 1) mbar.

5.7 Water flow meter, with a range of from (0,15 ± 0,05) dm³/min to (0,5 ± 0,05) dm³/min.

5.8 Water temperature meter, capable of functioning at (40 ± 0,05) °C and/or (80 ± 0,05) °C.

5.9 Air temperature meter, capable of functioning at (40 ± 0,05) °C and/or (80 ± 0,05) °C.

5.10 Airtight vessel, for preparation of water with an oxygen concentration of < 10 ppb (nominally oxygen-free)

NOTE 3 Normally, sink plates or nitrogen are used to remove the oxygen from the water by purging.

5.11 Test medium, deionized water with PH 7 (demi/water).

5.12 Registration device, capable of registering (graphical writer or computer) oxygen concentration as a function of time.

2) "Parts per billion (ppb)" and "parts per million (ppm)" are used exceptionally in this International Standard in order to correspond to other, closely related and already published standards. The accepted SI form for the expression of a volume fraction is in units of microlitres per litre (µl/l), or, alternatively, as 10⁻⁶, or as a percentage by volume (% by volume); for mass fractions it is expressed in micrograms per gram (µg/g). See ISO 31-0:1992, 2.3.3, and ISO 31-8-15:1992.