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Plastics — Biobased content —

Part 5:

Declaration of biobased carbon content, biobased synthetic polymer content and biobased mass content

Plastiques — Teneur biosourcée —

Partie 5: Déclaration de la teneur en carbone biosourcé, de la teneur en polymère synthétique biosourcé et de la teneur en masse biosourcée

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ISO copyright office
Ch. de Blandonnet 8 • CP 401
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland
Tel. +41 22 749 01 11
Fax +41 22 749 09 47
copyright@iso.org
www.iso.org

Contents

	Page
Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviated terms	1
3.1 Terms and definitions.....	1
4 Symbols and abbreviations	1
4.1 Symbols.....	1
4.2 Abbreviations.....	2
5 General Principles	2
6 Declarations of the biobased content	2
6.1 Principle.....	2
6.2 Declaration of the biobased carbon content.....	3
6.3 Declaration of the biobased synthetic polymer content.....	3
6.4 Declaration of the biobased mass content.....	3
Annex A (informative) Examples for the labelling systems	5
Bibliography	7

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Foreword

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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.

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ISO 16620-5 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Physical-chemical properties*.

ISO 16620 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Plastics — Biobased content*:

- *Part 1: General principles*
- *Part 2: Determination of the biobased carbon content*
- *Part 3: Determination of the biobased synthetic polymer content*
- *Part 4: Determination of the biobased mass content*
- *Part 5: Declarations of the biobased carbon content, biobased synthetic polymer content and biobased mass content*

Introduction

Increased use of biomass resources for manufacturing plastics products is effective for reducing global warming and the depletion of fossil resources.

Current plastics products are composed of biobased synthetic polymers, fossil-based synthetic polymers, natural polymers and additives that can include biobased materials.

“Biobased plastics” refers to plastics that contain materials wholly or partly of biogenic origin.

In this series of International Standards, the “biobased content” of biobased plastics refers to the amount of the biobased carbon content, the amount of the biobased synthetic polymer content or the amount of the biobased mass content, only.

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Plastics — Biobased content —

Part 5:

Declaration of biobased carbon content, biobased synthetic polymer content and biobased mass content

1 Scope

This part of ISO 16620 specifies the requirements for the declarations and labels of the biobased carbon content, the biobased synthetic polymer content and the biobased mass content in plastic products.

This part of ISO 16620 is applicable to plastic products and plastic materials, polymer resins, monomers or additives, which are made from biobased or fossil-based constituents.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 14020, *Environmental labels and declarations — General principles*

ISO 14021, *Environmental labels and declarations — Self-declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labelling)*

ISO 16620-1, *Plastics — Biobased content — Part 1: General principles*

ISO 16620-2, *Plastics — Biobased content — Part 2: Determination of biobased carbon content*

ISO 16620-3, *Plastics — Biobased content — Part 3: Determination of biobased synthetic polymer content*

ISO/DIS 16620-4, *Plastics — Biobased content — Part 4: Determination of the biobased mass content*

3 Terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviated terms

3.1 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 16620-1 and ISO 16620-4 apply.

4 Symbols and abbreviations

4.1 Symbols

x_B^{TC} percent biobased carbon content to total carbon

x_B^{TOC} percent biobased carbon content to total organic carbon

m_{BSP} biobased synthetic polymer content

m_B biobased mass content

4.2 Abbreviations

TC total carbon

TOC total organic carbon

5 General Principles

The general principles for the development and use of environmental labels and declarations established in ISO 14020 shall be followed with modest modifications for biobased plastics, as follows:

- a) Principle 1: labels and declarations shall be accurate, verifiable, relevant and not misleading.
- b) Principle 2: procedures and requirements for labels and declarations shall not be prepared, adopted, or applied with a view to, or with the effect of, creating unnecessary obstacles to international trade.
- c) Principle 3: labels and declarations shall be based on scientific methodology that is sufficiently thorough and comprehensive to support the claim and that produces results that are accurate and reproducible.
- d) Principle 4: information concerning the procedure, methodology, and any criteria used to support labels and declarations shall be available and provided upon request to all interested parties.
- e) Principle 5: the development of labels and declarations shall take into consideration all relevant aspects of the claim they are intended for.
- f) Principle 6: labels and declarations shall not inhibit innovation which maintains or has the potential to improve environmental performance and sustainability.
- g) Principle 7: any administrative requirements or information demands related to labels and declarations shall be limited to those necessary to establish conformance with applicable criteria and standards of the labels and declarations.
- h) Principle 8: the process of developing labels and declarations should include an open, participatory consultation with interested parties. Reasonable efforts should be made to achieve a consensus throughout the process.
- i) Principle 9: information on the aspects of products and services relevant to a label or declaration shall be available to purchasers and potential purchasers from the party making the label or declaration.

The requirements for self-declared environmental claims, including statements, symbols and graphics, regarding products, specified in ISO 14021 shall be satisfied.

6 Declarations of the biobased content

6.1 Principle

The declaration of the biobased content according to this standard is applicable to plastic products and plastic materials, polymer resins, monomers or additives which are made from biobased or fossil-based constituents.

The biobased carbon content, the biobased synthetic polymer content or the biobased mass content determined by applying ISO 16620-2, ISO 16620-3 or ISO 16620-4, respectively, shall be declared only by using the format described in 6.2, 6.3, or 6.4, respectively.

NOTE The responsible party for placing bio-based plastic products on the market should verify if the presence of the label could be erroneously considered as a proof of suitability to organic recovery (i.e. composting and anaerobic digestion according to ISO 18606 or equivalent specifications) by the consumers and, therefore, bring to unaware wrong waste separation behaviour. If there is a risk of misinterpretation, for example for disposable single-use products placed on those markets where organic waste collection has been already implemented, then the responsible party should adopt further forms of communication to the consumers to make them aware of the recovery characteristics of the bio-based product and, therefore, reduce the risks of waste misplacing caused by a misinterpretation of the label and term “biobased”.

6.2 Declaration of the biobased carbon content

The declaration of the biobased carbon content, expressed as a percentage of the total organic carbon, x_B^{TOC} , shall consist of a statement, where x_B^{TOC} is the value determined according to ISO 16620-2, rounded to the nearest integer.

The declaration of the biobased carbon content, expressed as a percentage of the total carbon, x_B^{TC} , shall consist of a statement, where x_B^{TC} is the value determined according to ISO 16620-2, rounded to the nearest integer.

Information shall be provided as follows:

- a) product identification:
- b) biobased carbon content according to ISO 16620-2:
 - 1) expressed as a percentage of TOC: X %
- and
- 2) expressed as a percentage of TC: X %
- c) this declaration is in agreement with ISO 16620-5.

6.3 Declaration of the biobased synthetic polymer content

The declaration of the biobased synthetic polymer content, expressed as a percentage of mass, m_{BSP} , shall consist of a statement, where m_{BSP} is the value determined according to ISO 16620-3, rounded to the nearest integer.

Information shall be provided as follows:

- a) product identification:
- b) biobased synthetic polymer content according to ISO 16620-3, expressed as a percentage of the total mass: X %
- c) this declaration is in agreement with ISO 16620-5.

6.4 Declaration of the biobased mass content

The declaration of the biobased mass content, expressed as a percentage of the total mass, m_B , shall consist of a statement, where m_B is the value determined according to ISO/DIS 16620-4.

Information shall be provided as follows:

- a) product identification: