
**Thermal insulating products
for building applications —
Determination of long-term water
absorption by immersion**

*Produits isolants thermiques destinés aux applications du bâtiment —
Détermination de l'absorption d'eau à long terme par immersion*

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Contents

Page

Foreword.....	iv
1 Scope.....	1
2 Normative references.....	1
3 Terms and definitions.....	1
4 Principle.....	1
4.1 Method 1: Partial immersion.....	1
4.2 Method 2: Total immersion.....	2
5 Apparatus.....	2
6 Test specimens.....	4
6.1 Dimensions of test specimens.....	4
6.2 Number of test specimens.....	4
6.3 Preparation of test specimens.....	4
6.4 Conditioning of test specimens.....	4
7 Procedure.....	5
7.1 Test conditions.....	5
7.2 Test procedure.....	5
7.2.1 Long-term water absorption by partial immersion (method 1).....	5
7.2.2 Long-term water absorption by total immersion (method 2).....	6
8 Calculation and expression of results.....	7
8.1 General.....	7
8.2 Long-term water absorption by partial immersion.....	7
8.3 Long-term water absorption by total immersion.....	8
9 Accuracy of measurement.....	9
10 Test report.....	9
Bibliography.....	11

ISO 16535:2019
<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iso/a7dd18d6-c34f-48ae-9e5a-8fe9b73520ff/iso-16535-2019>

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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 88, *Thermal insulating materials and products*, in collaboration with ISO Technical Committee TC 163, *Thermal performance and energy use in the built environment*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Test and measurement methods*, in accordance with the agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 16535:2012), which has been technically revised. The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- The content in [5.3](#), [6.4](#), [7.1](#) and [10](#) has been revised to reflect the conditions for tropical countries.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of long-term water absorption by immersion

1 Scope

This document specifies the equipment and procedures for determining the long-term water absorption of test specimens. It is applicable to thermal insulating products.

This document specifies two methods:

- Method 1: Partial immersion;
- Method 2: Total immersion.

The long-term water absorption by partial immersion is intended to simulate the water absorption caused by long-term water exposure.

The long-term water absorption by total immersion is not directly related to the conditions on site, but has been recognized as a relevant condition of test for some products in some applications.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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 29768, *Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of linear dimensions of test specimens*

3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

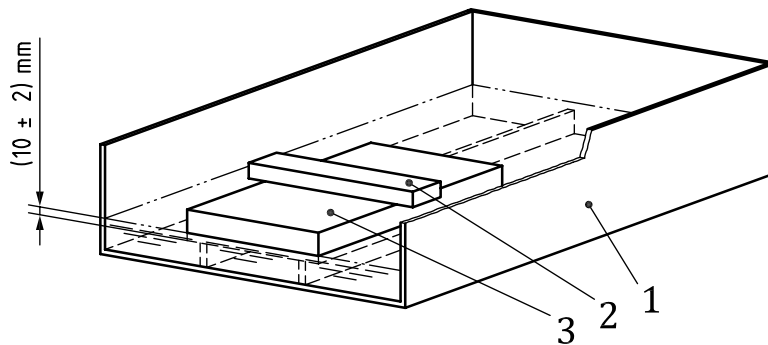
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

4 Principle

4.1 Method 1: Partial immersion

The long-term water absorption by partial immersion is determined by measuring the change in mass of a test specimen, the lower part of which is in contact with water for a period of 28 days.

The excess water adhering to the surface, not absorbed by the test specimen, is removed by drainage in method 1A or taken into account by deduction of the initial water uptake in method 1B.



Key

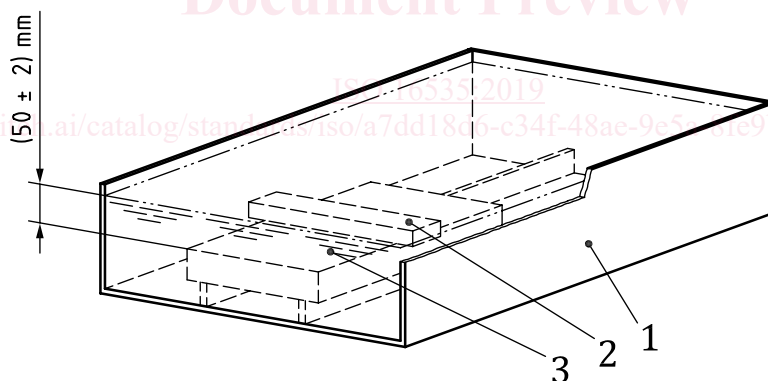
- 1 water tank
- 2 load to keep the test specimen in position
- 3 test specimen

Figure 1 — Example of partial immersion test device (method 1A and 1B)

4.2 Method 2: Total immersion

The long-term water absorption by total immersion is determined by measuring the change in mass of the test specimen, totally immersed in water, over a period of 28 days.

The excess water adhering to the surface, not absorbed by the test specimen, is removed by drainage in method 2A or taken into account by deduction of the initial water uptake in method 2B. The method 2C use the Archimedes' principle to allow a determination of water absorption without moving the sample from the water tank.



Key

- 1 water tank
- 2 load to keep the test specimen in position
- 3 test specimen

Figure 2 — Example of test device for the determination of water absorption by total immersion (method 2A and 2B)

5 Apparatus

5.1 Balance, capable of determining the mass of a test specimen with an accuracy of 0,1 g.