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**Fotokataliza - Metode preskušanja kontinuiranega pretoka - 1. del: Ugotavljanje razgradnje dušikovega oksida (NO) v zraku z materiali fotokatalize**

Photocatalysis - Continuous flow test methods - Part 1: Determination of the degradation of nitric oxide (NO) in the air by photocatalytic materials

Photokatalyse - Prüfverfahren mit kontinuierlichem Durchfluss - Teil 1: Bestimmung des Abbaus von Stickstoffmonoxid (NO) aus der Luft durch photokatalytische Werkstoffe

Photocatalyse - Méthodes d'essai en flux continu - Partie 1 : Mesure de la dégradation du monoxyde d'azote (NO) dans l'air par un matériau photocatalytique

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**Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: prEN 16980-1**

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**ICS:**

13.040.20	Kakovost okoljskega zraka	Ambient atmospheres
25.220.20	Površinska obdelava	Surface treatment

**oSIST prEN 16980-1:2020****en,fr,de**

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EUROPEAN STANDARD  
NORME EUROPÉENNE  
EUROPÄISCHE NORM

**DRAFT**  
**prEN 16980-1**

March 2020

ICS 13.040.20; 87.040; 87.060.20; 91.100.10

Will supersede CEN/TS 16980-1:2016

English Version

**Photocatalysis - Continuous flow test methods - Part 1:  
Determination of the degradation of nitric oxide (NO) in  
the air by photocatalytic materials**

Photocatalyse - Méthodes d'essai en flux continu -  
Partie 1 : Mesure de la dégradation du monoxyde  
d'azote (NO) dans l'air par un matériau  
photocatalytique

Photokatalyse - Prüfverfahren mit kontinuierlichem  
Durchfluss - Teil 1: Bestimmung des Abbaus von  
Stickstoffmonoxid (NO) aus der Luft durch  
photokatalytische Werkstoffe

This draft European Standard is submitted to CEN members for parallel enquiry. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 386.

If this draft becomes a European Standard, CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

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## European foreword

This document (prEN 16980-1:2020) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 386 “Photocatalysis”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This document is currently submitted to the CEN Enquiry.

This document will supersede CEN/TS 16980-1:2016.

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## 1 Scope

This document describes a method for assessing the performance of photocatalytic inorganic materials contained in cement mortars and/or limes or ceramic-based matrices, paints or materials deposited as thin films or coatings on a variety of substrates for the photocatalytic abatement of nitric oxide in the gas phase. This method is not suitable for the assessment of samples to be applied with flow perpendicular to the surface or flow permeating the surface itself as polymeric and paper filters, honeycomb structures and suchlike.

The performance for the photocatalytic sample under test is evaluated by measuring the degradation rate of nitric oxide (NO) using the method described herein. The photocatalytic abatement rate is calculated from the observed rate by eliminating the effects of mass transfer. The intrinsic photocatalytic abatement rate is an intrinsic property of the material tested and makes it possible to distinguish the photocatalytic activities of various products with an absolute scale defined with physical and engineering meaning.

For the measurements and calculations described in this document the concentration of nitrogen oxides ( $\text{NO}_x$ ) is defined as the stoichiometric sum of nitric oxide (NO) and nitrogen dioxide ( $\text{NO}_2$ ).

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## 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.

CEN/TS 16599:2014, *Photocatalysis — Irradiation conditions for testing photocatalytic properties of semiconducting materials and the measurement of these conditions*

EN ISO 9169, *Air quality — Definition and determination of performance characteristics of an automatic measuring system (ISO 9169)*

ISO 7996, *Ambient air — Determination of the mass concentration of nitrogen oxides — Chemiluminescence method*

## 3 Terms, definitions and abbreviations

### 3.1 Terms and definitions

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

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

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

#### 3.1.1

##### concentration of nitrogen oxides

##### NO<sub>x</sub>

stoichiometric sum of nitric oxide (NO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)

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Note 1 to entry: For grade 999 nitrogen or air: the purity of the gas should be equal at least to 99,9 %.

#### 3.1.2

##### photocatalyst

catalyst able to produce, upon absorption of light, chemical transformations of the reaction partners

Note 1 to entry: The excited state of the photocatalyst repeatedly interacts with the reaction partners forming reaction intermediates and regenerates itself after each cycle of such interactions.

#### 3.1.3

##### photocatalytic materials

materials in which or on which the photocatalyst is added by coating, impregnation, mixing, etc

### 3.2 Abbreviations

CSTR	Continuous Stirred-Tank Reactor
$C^{\text{IN}}$	concentration at reactor inlet
$C^{\text{OUT,DARK}}$	concentration of NO and NO <sub>2</sub> at reactor outlet under stable conditions in the dark (no illumination)
$C^{\text{OUT, light}}$	concentration at reactor outlet under stable conditions with illumination (lamp on)

## prEN 16980-1:2020 (E)

$C_{\text{NO}}^{\text{IN}}$	concentration of NO at reactor inlet
$C_{\text{NO}_2}^{\text{IN}}$	concentration of NO <sub>2</sub> at reactor inlet
$C_{\text{NO}}^{\text{OUT,DARK}}$	concentration of NO at reactor outlet under stable conditions in the dark (no illumination) without sample
$C_{\text{NO}_2}^{\text{OUT,DARK}}$	concentration of NO <sub>2</sub> at reactor outlet under stable conditions in the dark (no illumination) without sample
$C_{\text{NO,S}}^{\text{OUT,DARK}}$	concentration of NO at reactor outlet under stable conditions in the dark (no illumination) in presence of sample
$C_{\text{NO}_2,S}^{\text{OUT,DARK}}$	concentration of NO <sub>2</sub> at reactor outlet under stable conditions in the dark (no illumination) in presence of sample
$C_{\text{NO}}^{\text{OUT,LIGHT}}$	concentration of NO at reactor outlet under stable conditions with illumination (lamp on) without sample
$C_{\text{NO},0}^{\text{OUT,LIGHT}}$	concentration of NO at reactor outlet under illumination of sample measured at fan speed at nominal voltage $V_0$
$C_{\text{NO}_2,0}^{\text{OUT,LIGHT}}$	concentration NO <sub>2</sub> at reactor outlet under illumination of sample measured at fan speed nominal voltage $V_0$
$F$	Flow
$F_{v,i}$	fan flow at $i^{\text{th}}$ applied potential ( $i = 0..n$ )
$I$	irradiance
$LED$	light emitting diodes
$MM$	molecular mass
$P$	pressure in atmosphere
PTFE	Polytetrafluoroethylene
$R$	ideal gas constant
$RH$	gas relative humidity at 25 °C inside the reactor
$\eta_{\text{NO}}^{\text{dark}}$	conversion of NO in the dark
$\eta_{\text{NO}_2}^{\text{dark}}$	conversion to NO <sub>2</sub> in the dark
$\eta_{\text{NO,lamp}}^{\text{PHOTO}}$	conversion of NO under illumination without sample
$\eta_{\text{NO},i}^{\text{total}}$	conversion of NO measured at each fan flow $F_{v,i}$
$\eta_{\text{NO}_2,i}^{\text{total}}$	conversion to NO <sub>2</sub> measured at each fan flow $F_{v,i}$
$r_{\text{NO},i}^{\text{photo}}$	NO abatement rate at each fan flow $F_{v,i}$
$r_{\text{NO}_2,i}^{\text{photo}}$	NO <sub>2</sub> photocatalytic production rate at each fan flow $F_{v,i}$

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$r_{\text{NO}_x,i}^{\text{photo}}$	$\text{NO}_x$ abatement rate corresponds to NO abatement rate minus $\text{NO}_2$ photocatalytic production rate
$r_{\text{NO}}^{\text{photoCAT}}$	NO photocatalytic degradation rate intrinsic to the surface of the material, after removing the mass transfer limitations
$r_{\text{NO}_x}^{\text{photoCAT}}$	$\text{NO}_x$ photocatalytic degradation rate intrinsic to the surface of the material, after removing the mass transfer limitations
UV-A	ultraviolet with wavelength ( $\lambda$ ) situated between 315 nm and 400 nm (IUPAC)
$V_0$	fan nominal operating potential (in Volt)
$V_{\text{min}}$	fan minimum operating potential (in Volt) set by the manufacturer
$S$	Sample
$T$	temperature in Kelvin
$t_{\text{stab}}$	time to reach the stability of NO concentration
UV	UltraViolet
$V_r$	Reactor net volume

## 4 Principle

The method consists in measuring the photocatalytic abatement of nitric oxide (NO) by photocatalytic materials as specified in Clause 1 using a Continuous Stirred-Tank Reactor (CSTR) with flow tangential to the sample. Information on the theory is reported in the specialized literature (Minero et al. 2013). The residual NO and  $\text{NO}_x$  concentration at the CSTR outlet is measured by a chemiluminescence analyser (ISO 7996).

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The photocatalytic activity test is carried out using chromatographic grade air, also obtained by mixing pure gases, to which NO is added in such an amount as to simulate a high degree of air pollution. The NO concentration is set to  $(0,50 \pm 0,05)$  ppmv.

## 5 Interferences

The measurement's interferences are reported in the technical specifications of the chemiluminescence analyser. As what is measured are all species that can be converted by reduction to NO,  $\text{NO}_2$  concentration is here defined as  $[\text{NO}_2] = [\text{NO}_x] - [\text{NO}]$ . For interferences on chemiluminescence detection, see Winer et al. (1974).

## 6 Apparatus

### 6.1 General

The test apparatus shall consist of the following main components.

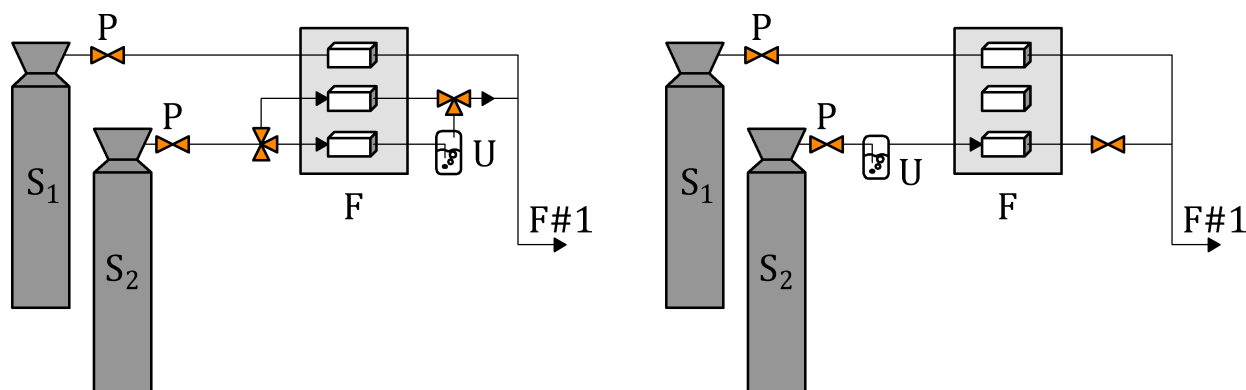
### 6.2 Gas mixture preparation system

The system used for preparing the reaction mixture is shown in Figure 1.

The mass flow controllers, calibrated and traceable, shall ensure a maximum flow consistent with that needed for a correct test execution. To ensure the necessary accuracy, the flow shall not exceed 90 % of the rated full scale.

As an example, to obtain the gas mixture only gases of chromatographic grade or higher purity shall be used. Instead of dry air cylinders, two separate cylinders of pure  $\text{N}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2$  can be used at the inlet of

mass-flow controllers, adjusted so as to produce a mixture consisting of 20,8 % of O<sub>2</sub> and 79,2 % of N<sub>2</sub>. The NO concentration to flow #1 is set to (0,50 ± 0,05) ppmv.



a) Relative humidity is set by regulating the flow to U, which is downstream to F

b) Relative humidity is set by regulating the pressure before U and F

#### Key

- S<sub>1</sub> source of nitric oxide NO diluted in N<sub>2</sub>
- S<sub>2</sub> cylinder of air (chromatographic grade) or, alternatively, individual cylinders of N<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> (chromatographic grade)
- F flow controller with mass-flow controllers (2 or 3)
- P pressure regulators with low-pressure manometers
- U humidifier maintained at controlled temperature
- F#1 flow entering the reactor

**Figure 1 — Gas mixture preparation system**

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The humidification of the gas mixture can be obtained with two different configurations:

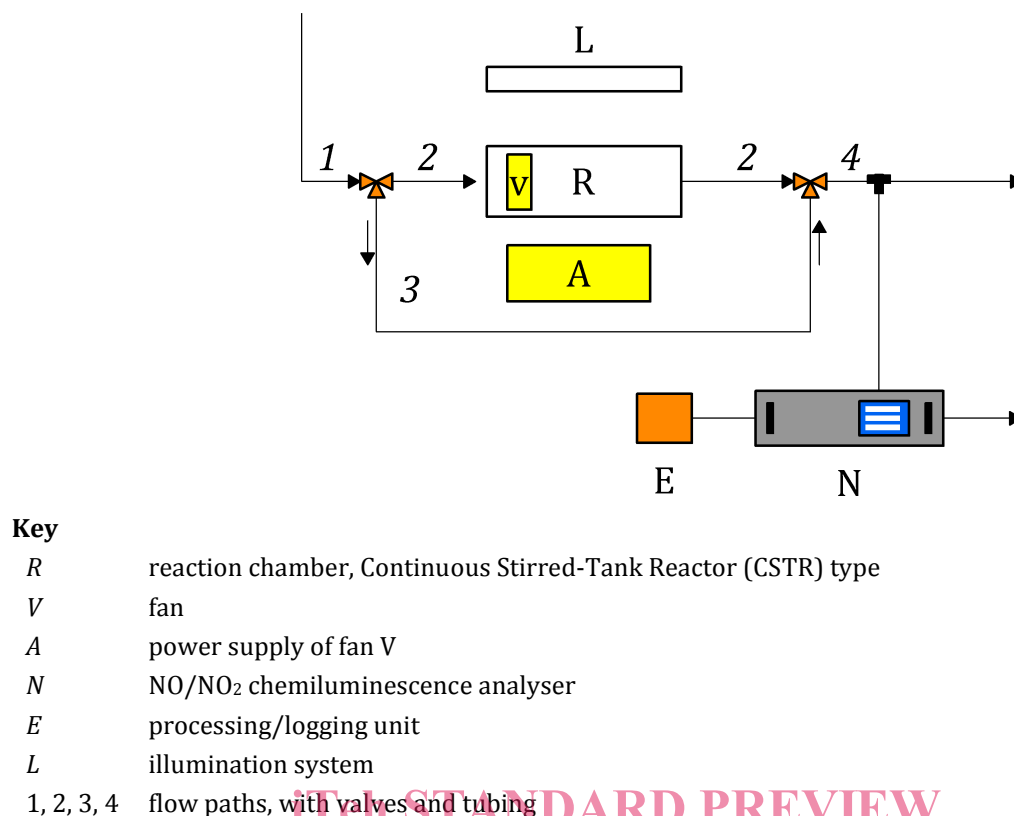
- a) using two mass flow controllers regulating the flow to U, as in Figure 1 left;
- b) using one mass flow controller regulating the pressure on U, as in Figure 1 right.

The gas mixture preparation system shall ensure a relative humidity of (40 ± 5) % inside the CSTR reactor. The relative humidity shall be measured either inside the reactor *R* (Figure 2) or immediately at its outlet on flow 2 of Figure 2 by means of a hygro-thermometer.

## 6.3 Illumination and measuring system:

### 6.3.1 General:

The light source arrangement and the measuring system are shown in Figure 2.



**Figure 2 — Illumination, reaction and measuring system**

All parts of the test apparatus, including connections and pipes, which come into contact with the nitric oxide mixture shall be made of chemically inert materials. For pipes and connections PTFE is recommended. The pipes of paths 1, 2, 3, 4 and the related connections shall have an outer diameter of 6 mm (1/4") and inner clearance of at least 4 mm to avoid overpressures that may affect the gas concentration inside the reactor.

Temperature shall be measured and recorded inside the reactor during the test or immediately at its outlet on flow 2 by means of a hygro-thermometer. The gas temperature inside the reaction chamber shall be  $(25 \pm 5) ^\circ\text{C}$ .

### 6.3.2 Illumination system *L*:

The illumination source shall consist of any lamp able to excite the photocatalyst (quartz mercury vapor lamps, UV-A fluorescent lamps, Xenon lamps, LEDs, lamps consisting of a metal vapor element combined with tungsten incandescence elements, etc.) as specified in the Technical Specification CEN/TS 16599.

The illumination system shall provide an average irradiance to the test sample surface within the range of wavelengths that are mostly adsorbed by the photocatalyst, equal to  $(10,0 \pm 5 \%) \text{ W/m}^2$ .

The geometry of the illumination system shall be such that uniform illumination of the sample surface is ensured. The illumination is considered uniform if 5 independent measurements performed on the surface (one in centre position and the other four in positions perpendicular to each other and next to the edge of the sample) show a percentage variation compared to the average value of less than 10 %. The control of the uniformity of illumination and average irradiance shall be repeated each time the system geometry changes (position of the lamp or any filters or reflectors, sample position, etc.).

Irradiance shall be measured by placing a radiometric sensor inside the reaction chamber in the same position occupied by the sample in order to measure real irradiance at its surface. A second measuring sensor for the control of source stability can be positioned outside the reaction chamber, provided that it