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Stationary source emissions — Determination of greenhouse gas emissions in energy-intensive industries —

Part 6: Ferroalloys and silicon industry

*Émissions de sources fixes — Détermination des émissions des gaz à
effet de serre dans les industries à forte intensité énergétique —*

Partie 6: Industrie des ferro-alliages et du silicium

ISO 19694-6

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Contents

	Page
Foreword.....	v
Introduction.....	vi
1 Scope.....	1
2 Normative references.....	1
3 Terms and definitions.....	1
4 Symbols and abbreviated terms.....	3
5 Determination of GHGs — Principles.....	3
5.1 Introduction.....	3
5.2 General.....	4
5.3 Determination based on mass balance.....	4
5.4 Use of waste gas/heat recovery.....	4
6 Boundaries.....	4
6.1 General.....	4
6.2 Operational boundaries.....	4
6.3 Organizational boundaries.....	5
7 Direct emissions and their determination.....	5
7.1 General.....	5
7.2 Mass balance approach.....	6
7.2.1 Generic approach.....	6
7.2.2 Sampling.....	7
7.2.3 Alternate approach.....	7
7.3 Process emissions.....	9
7.3.1 Overview.....	9
7.3.2 Methods.....	9
7.4 Combustion emissions.....	10
7.4.1 Overview.....	10
7.4.2 Methods.....	10
7.4.3 Calculation of the quantity of fuel.....	11
7.4.4 Determination of the lower calorific value and the emission factor.....	12
7.4.5 Determination of the oxidation factor.....	12
7.5 Combustion of biomass fuels.....	12
8 Indirect emissions.....	12
8.1 General.....	12
8.2 CO ₂ from external electricity production.....	12
8.2.1 General.....	12
8.2.2 GHG from heat transfer.....	13
9 Baselines, acquisitions and disinvestments.....	13
10 Reporting.....	13
10.1 General.....	13
10.2 Reporting periods.....	14
10.3 Performance indicators.....	14
10.3.1 General.....	14
10.3.2 Denominator for specific, unit-based emissions.....	14
10.3.3 Denominator for other ratio indicators.....	15
10.3.4 Key performance indicators.....	15
10.3.5 Recovery of waste gas and waste heat.....	15
11 Uncertainty of GHG inventories.....	15
11.1 Introduction to uncertainty assessment.....	15
11.1.1 Basic considerations.....	15
11.1.2 Materiality thresholds.....	17

11.2	Uncertainty of activity data.....	17
11.2.1	Measuring instruments for the determination of fuel and material quantities.....	17
11.2.2	Aggregated uncertainties in case of mass balances.....	17
11.3	Uncertainties of fuel and material parameters.....	17
11.4	Evaluation of the overall uncertainty of an GHG inventory.....	18
Annex A	(normative) Tier 1 emission factors.....	19
Annex B	(normative) Minimum frequency of analyses.....	21
Annex C	(normative) Country-wise emission factors for electricity.....	22
Bibliography	26

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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.

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).

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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 Technical Committee ISO/TC 146, *Air quality*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Stationary source emissions*.

A list of all parts in the ISO 19694 series can be found on the ISO website.

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.

Introduction

0.1 Overview of the ferro-alloy manufacturing process

Ferroalloy production involves a metallurgical reduction process that results in significant carbon dioxide emissions. These emissions are the results of a carbothermic reaction which is intrinsic to the process. In ferroalloy production, ore, carbon materials and slag forming materials are mixed and heated to high temperatures for smelting.

Smelting in an electric arc furnace is accomplished by conversion of electrical energy to heat. An alternating current applied to the electrodes creates current to flow through the charge between the electrode tips. The heat is produced by the electric arcs and by the resistance in the charge materials. Emissions from the smelting process are therefore not to combustion emissions. The furnaces can be open, semi-closed or closed. Submerged electric arc furnaces with graphite electrodes or self-baking Søderberg electrodes are used (see [Figure 1](#)).

The reduction process is the main source of direct CO₂ emissions. Other CO₂ sources include direct emissions from calcination of calcium, magnesium and other carbonates (e.g. limestone) in some processes and from non-smelting fuels (e.g. dryers for ladles and refractory linings), room heating and indirect emissions from, for example, external power production.

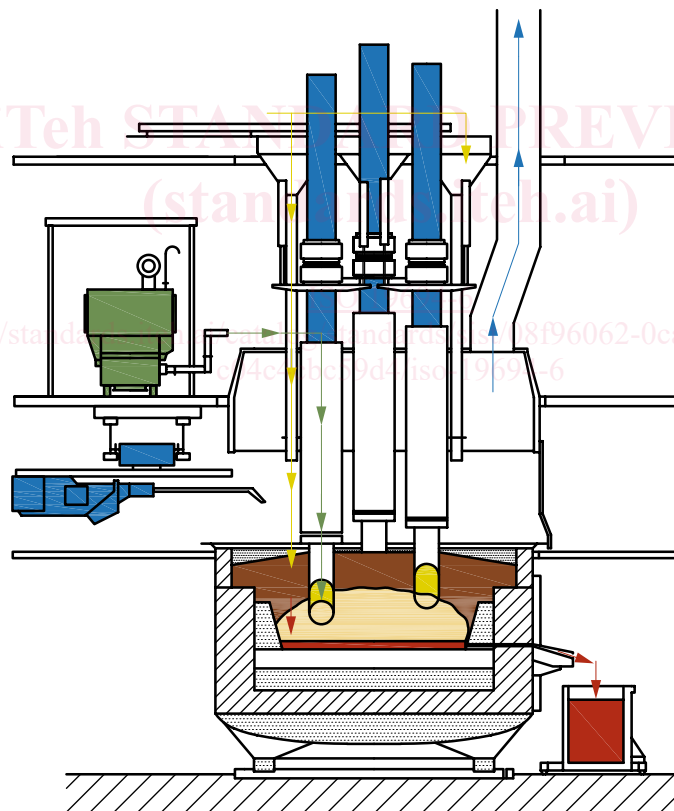


Figure 1 — Submerged electric arc furnace

0.2 CO₂ from the smelting of raw materials

In the smelting process, CO₂ is released due to the carbothermic reduction of the metallic oxides occurring with the consumption of both carbonaceous reductants and carbon-based electrodes. The carbon in the reductants reacts with oxygen from the metal oxides to form CO and then CO₂ (in different ways depending on the process), and the ores are reduced to molten base metals. For calculation the assumption is that all CO is assumed to be converted in the furnace to CO₂.

The reductant carbon is used in the form of coke, coal, pet coke, anthracite, charcoal and wood chips. The first four are fossil-based and the charcoal and wood chips are bio-carbon.

In the carbothermic process, only the fixed carbon content is used as a reducing agent, which means that volatile matter, ashes and moisture mostly leave the furnace with the off-gas and slag.

The nature of reducing agents, price and electrodes depends on the localization of the plant, the raw material availability and it is presented in [Table 1](#). It is variable from one site to another and from one year to another and also from one ferro-alloy to another.

Table 1 — Type of reducing agents and electrodes used in the electrometallurgy sector

Reducing agents	Electrodes
Crude petroleum coke	Graphite electrode
Calcinated petroleum coke	Prebaked electrodes
Coal coke	Söderberg paste
Coke from coal	Composite electrode
Wood	—
Calcinated wood	—
Charcoal	—
Graphite powder	—
Anthracite	—

CO₂ emissions are estimated with and calculated from the consumption of the reducing agents and electrodes, their carbon content and the carbon content of the final products.

NOTE The basic calculation methods used in this document are compatible with the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories issued by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)^[1].

Ores and reducing agent react to form ferro-alloys or metal, CO₂ and dust and other by-product (i.e. slags); amount of carbon can be found in the products

Default emission factors suggested in these documents are used, except where more recent, industry-specific data has become available.

Stationary source emissions — Determination of greenhouse gas emissions in energy-intensive industries —

Part 6: Ferroalloys and silicon industry

1 Scope

This document provides a harmonized methodology for calculating GHG emissions from the ferroalloys industry based on the mass balance approach. This document also provides key performance indicators over time for ferro-alloys plants. This document covers the following direct and indirect sources of GHG:

- direct GHG emissions [see ISO 14064-1:2018, 5.2.4 a)] from sources that are owned or controlled by the company, such as emissions resulting from the following sources:
 - smelting (reduction) process;
 - decomposition of carbonates inside the furnace;
 - auxiliaries operation related to the smelting operation (i.e. aggregates, drying processes, heating of ladles, etc.);
- indirect GHG emissions [see ISO 14064-1:2018, 5.2.4 b)] from the generation of purchased electricity consumed in the company's owned or controlled equipment.

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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.

ISO 14064-1:2018, *Greenhouse gases — Part 1: Specification with guidance at the organization level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals*

ISO 17025, 2005, *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories*

ISO 19694-1:2021, *Stationary source emissions — Determination of greenhouse gas emissions in energy-intensive industries — Part 1: General aspects*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 19694-1:2021 and the following apply.

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

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

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions in and the following 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 <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

auxiliary

equipment consuming electricity/power related to the *smelting* (3.5) process

EXAMPLE Fans, pumps, gas abatement systems (filter bags, venture scrubbers, etc.).

3.2

silica fume

amorphous silicon dioxide particles from the volatilization and vaporization of furnace feed materials in the manufacture of ferrosilicon and *silicon* (3.4)

Note 1 to entry: The process off-gas that contains silica fumes beings cleaned in a baghouse using fabric filters of the open or semi-closed *SEAF* (3.8).

3.3

ferro-alloy

alloy of iron and one or more metals such as *silicon* (3.4), manganese, chromium, molybdenum, vanadium and tungsten

3.4

silicon

metalloid produced by carbo-thermic reduction of quartz in an electric submerged arc furnace

3.5

smelting

industrial process where one or more ores or ore concentrates are heated and reduced (i.e. chemically modified) by, for example, aluminino-carbo-silico thermic reduction, to manufacture and mix the metals in one step

Note 1 to entry: Examples of smelted alloys are *ferro-alloys* (3.3).

3.6

gross GHG emission

absolute fossil direct GHG emission excluding GHG emissions from on-site power production

3.7

absolute gross GHG emission

total direct emission of GHGs within the boundaries excluding GHG emissions from biogenic CO₂ from biomass (i.e. wood chips and charcoal)

3.8

submerged electric arc furnace

SEAF

electric arc-heating furnace in which the arcs are completely submerged under the charge

Note 1 to entry: The arc forms between the electrode [graphite electrodes or self-baking *Søderberg electrodes* (3.12)] and metal surface or bottom lining. The heat being produced by the electric arcs and by the resistance in the charge materials initiates the reduction process. The furnaces can be open, semi-closed or closed, which can depend upon the *ferro-alloy* (3.3) to be produced.

3.9

biomass fuel

fuel with only biogenic carbon

3.10**petroleum coke
petcoke**

carbon-based solid fuel derived from oil refineries

3.11**sinter
sintering**

process to form a coherent mass by heating without melting

3.12**Söderberg electrode**

continuously self-baking carbon electrode used in electro-metallurgical furnaces for production of ferroalloys and *silicon* (3.4)

Note 1 to entry: The “Söderberg paste” is a preparation of coal tar pitch and carbonaceous dry aggregate.

3.13**composite electrode**

electrode where the core is composed of graphite while the exterior is a self-baking carbon paste (which is a “Söderberg paste”)

3.14**prebaked electrode**

carbonaceous paste baked so as to carbonize coal tar pitch in order to form a solid pitch coke binder phase
Note 1 to entry: A carbonaceous paste is a mixing of coal tar pitch with a dry carbonaceous aggregate.

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4 Symbols and abbreviated terms

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

CO	carbon monoxide
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
EF	Emission factor
FA	Ferro-alloys
GHG	Greenhouse gases
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
SEAF	Submerged electric arc furnace
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

5 Determination of GHGs — Principles**5.1 Introduction**

This document shall be used in conjunction with ISO 19694-1:2021 which contains generic, overall requirements, definitions and rules applicable to the determination of GHG emissions for all energy-intensive sectors, provides common methodological issues and specifies the details for applying the rules. The application of this document to the sector-specific standards ensures accuracy, precision and reproducibility of the results and is for this reason a normative reference standard.

5.2 General

The determination of CO₂ emissions can be in principle done either through calculation (mass balance method) or through stack emission measurement.

The methodology described in this document for GHG emissions determination is based on the mass balance method (7.1).

CO₂ is the only GHG relevant for the ferro-alloys industry. The emissions of CH₄ and of N₂O are extremely low. Therefore, they are both neglected in the calculation of carbon emissions.

The measurements of the concentrations of CH₄ and N₂O have been demonstrated to be near or below the detection limits during the field tests performed to develop this document with independent laboratories[7].

5.3 Determination based on mass balance

In installations where carbon stemming from input materials used remains in the products or other outputs of the production, for example, for the reduction of metal ores, a mass balance approach is applied. In installations where this is not the case, combustion emissions and process emissions are calculated separately.

Emissions from source streams are calculated from input or production data, obtained by means of measurement systems and additional parameters from laboratory analyses including calorific factor, carbon content and biomass content. Standard factors can also be used; references to these factors are provided in ISO 19694-1:2021.

5.4 Use of waste gas/heat recovery

GHG emissions related to waste gas and heat recovery are reported as direct GHG emissions. Waste gas including CO and CO₂ can be subtracted from the direct emission, when exported outside the boundaries of the location, as a negative carbon flow in the mass balance (e.g. when exporting waste gas to another installation).

6 Boundaries

6.1 General

Drawing appropriate boundaries is one of the key tasks in an emissions inventory process.

6.2 Operational boundaries

Operational boundaries refer to the types of sources covered by an inventory. A key distinction is between direct and indirect emissions:

- a) direct emissions [see ISO 14064-1:2018, 5.2.4 a)] are emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by the reporting company. For example, emissions from smelting are direct emissions of the company owning (or controlling) the furnace.
- b) indirect emissions [see ISO 14064-1:2018, 5.2.4 b) to f)] are emissions that result as a consequence of the activities of the reporting company but occur at sources owned or controlled by another company. For example, emissions from the generation of grid electricity consumed by a ferro-alloy company qualify as indirect.

[Clause 7](#) provides detailed guidance on the different sources of direct emissions occurring in ferro-alloys plants. Indirect emissions are addressed in [Clause 8](#).

Companies shall use the operational boundaries outlined in [Table 2](#) and the relevant process steps in [Table 3](#), for the determination of the GHG emissions for the smelting/carbo-thermic reduction