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**Plastics piping systems for the supply  
of gaseous fuels — Unplasticized  
polyamide (PA-U) piping systems  
with fusion jointing and mechanical  
jointing —**

**Part 3:  
Fittings**

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*Systèmes de canalisations en matières plastiques pour la distribution  
de combustibles gazeux — Systèmes de canalisations en polyamide  
non plastifié (PA-U) avec assemblages par soudage et assemblages  
mécaniques —*

*Partie 3: Raccords*



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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](http://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](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

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](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 138, *Plastics pipes, fittings and valves for the transport of fluids*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Plastics pipes and fittings for the supply of gaseous fuels*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 155, *Plastics piping systems and ducting systems*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 16486-3:2012), which has been technically revised. It also incorporates ISO 16486-3:2012/Amd 1:2014.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- In subclause [5.7](#), text concerning the exceptional use of flange adaptors is added;
- In [Table 1](#), electro fusion socket length has been revised and the diameter range extended;
- [Tables 1](#) and [3](#) are extended with nominal outside diameters up to and including 630 mm;
- [Tables 3](#) to [5](#) have been reordered;
- An editorial mistake of 6 hours has been changed to 16 hours for conditioning before hydrostatic strength testing in [Table 4](#) and before internal pressure testing in [Table 5](#);
- A NOTE to [Table 6](#) and a footnote in [Table 7](#) have been added to explain the limited use of MVR;
- For transition fittings, the reference to ISO 17885 has been introduced;
- For Fusion system recognition, reference is made to ISO 13950 and ISO 12176-4 and ISO 12176-5<sup>1)</sup>;
- The title of [Clause 12](#) has changed from "Packaging" to "Delivery conditions".

A list of all parts in the ISO 16486 series can also be found on the ISO website.

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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](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

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## Introduction

This document specifies the requirements for a piping system and its components made from unplasticized polyamide (PA-U), which is intended to be used for the supply of gaseous fuels.

Requirements and test methods for material and components, other than fittings of the piping system, are specified in ISO 16486-1, ISO 16486-2, and ISO 16486-4.

Characteristics for fitness for purpose of the system and generic fusion parameters are covered in ISO 16486-5.

Recommended practice for installation is given in ISO 16486-6, which will not be implemented as a European Standard under the Vienna Agreement.

Assessment of conformity of the system is to form the subject of future ISO/TS 16486-7<sup>2)</sup>.

NOTE Recommended practice for installation is also given in CEN/TS 12007-6, which has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 234, *Gas infrastructure*.

Parts 1 to 7 of the ISO 16486 series have been prepared by ISO/TC 138/SC 4, with the exception of Part 4, which has been prepared by ISO/TC 138/SC 7.

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# Plastics piping systems for the supply of gaseous fuels — Unplasticized polyamide (PA-U) piping systems with fusion jointing and mechanical jointing —

## Part 3: Fittings

### 1 Scope

This document specifies the physical and mechanical properties of fittings made from unplasticized polyamide (PA-U) in accordance with ISO 16486-1, intended to be buried and used for the supply of gaseous fuels.

It also specifies the test parameters for the test methods to which it refers.

The ISO 16486 series is applicable to PA-U piping systems, the components of which are connected by fusion jointing and/or mechanical jointing.

In addition, it lays down dimensional characteristics and requirements for the marking of fittings.

In conjunction with the other parts of the ISO 16486 series, this document is applicable to PA-U fittings, their joints, joints with components of PA-U and joints with mechanical fittings of other materials, and to the following fitting types:

- fusion fittings (electrofusion fittings and butt fusion fittings), and
- transition fittings.

### 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 291, *Plastics — Standard atmospheres for conditioning and testing*

ISO 307, *Plastics — Polyamides — Determination of viscosity number*

ISO 1133-2, *Plastics — Determination of the melt mass-flow rate (MFR) and melt volume-flow rate (MVR) of thermoplastics — Part 2: Method for materials sensitive to time, temperature history and/or moisture*

ISO 1167-1, *Thermoplastics pipes, fittings and assemblies for the conveyance of fluids — Determination of the resistance to internal pressure — Part 1: General method*

ISO 1167-4, *Thermoplastics pipes, fittings and assemblies for the conveyance of fluids — Determination of the resistance to internal pressure — Part 4: Preparation of assemblies*

ISO 3126, *Plastics piping systems — Plastics components — Determination of dimensions*

ISO 4433-1, *Thermoplastics pipes — Resistance to liquid chemicals — Classification — Part 1: Immersion test method*

ISO 11922-1, *Thermoplastics pipes for the conveyance of fluids — Dimensions and tolerances — Part 1: Metric series*

ISO 12176-4, *Plastics pipes and fittings — Equipment for fusion jointing polyethylene systems — Part 4: Traceability coding*

ISO 12176-5:—<sup>3)</sup>, *Plastics pipes and fittings — Equipment for fusion jointing polyethylene systems — Part 5: Two-dimensional data coding of components and data exchange format for PE piping systems*

ISO 13950, *Plastics pipes and fittings — Automatic recognition systems for electrofusion joints*

ISO 13951, *Plastics piping systems — Test method for the resistance of plastic pipe/pipe or pipe/fitting assemblies to tensile loading*

ISO 13953, *Polyethylene (PE) pipes and fittings — Determination of the tensile strength and failure mode of test pieces from a butt-fused joint*

ISO 13954, *Plastics pipes and fittings — Peel decohesion test for polyethylene (PE) electrofusion assemblies of nominal outside diameter greater than or equal to 90 mm*

ISO 13955, *Plastics pipes and fittings — Crushing decohesion test for polyethylene (PE) electrofusion assemblies*

ISO 13956, *Plastics pipes and fittings — Decohesion test of polyethylene (PE) saddle fusion joints — Evaluation of ductility of fusion joint interface by tear test*

ISO 13957, *Plastics pipes and fittings — Polyethylene (PE) tapping tees — Test method for impact resistance*

ISO 16486-1, *Plastics piping systems for the supply of gaseous fuels — Unplasticized polyamide (PA-U) piping systems with fusion jointing and mechanical jointing — Part 1: General*

ISO 16486-2, *Plastics piping systems for the supply of gaseous fuels — Unplasticized polyamide (PA-U) piping systems with fusion jointing and mechanical jointing — Part 2: Pipes*

ISO 16486-5, *Plastics piping systems for the supply of gaseous fuels — Unplasticized polyamide (PA-U) piping systems with fusion jointing and mechanical jointing — Part 5: Fitness for purpose of the system*

ISO 17778, *Plastics piping systems — Fittings, valves and ancillaries — Determination of gaseous flow rate/pressure drop relationships*

ISO 17885, *Plastics piping systems — Mechanical fittings for pressure piping systems — Specifications*

EN 682, *Elastomeric seals — Materials requirements for seals used in pipes and fittings carrying gas and hydrocarbon fluids*

IEC 60529, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)*

API 5L, *Specification for Line Pipe*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 16486-1 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 <http://www.electropedia.org/>

#### 3.1 electrofusion socket fitting

polyamide (PA-U) fitting which contains one or more integral heating elements that are capable of transforming electrical energy into heat to realize a fusion joint with a spigot end and/or a pipe

3) Under preparation. Stage at the time of publication: ISO/FDIS 12176-5:2020.

**3.2****electrofusion saddle fitting**

unplasticized polyamide (PA-U) fitting which contains one or more integral heating elements that are capable of transforming electrical energy into heat to realize fusion onto a pipe

**3.3****tapping tee**

*electrofusion saddle fitting* (3.2) (top loading or wraparound) which contains an integral cutter, used to cut through the wall of the main pipe, and holds the coupon inside the cutter

Note 1 to entry: The cutter remains in the body of the saddle after installation.

**3.4****spigot end fitting**

unplasticized polyamide (PA-U) fitting where the outside diameter of the spigot length is equal to the nominal outside diameter,  $d_n$ , of the corresponding pipe

**3.5****transition fitting**

factory made fitting that makes a transition joint between an unplasticized polyamide (PA-U) piping and a metallic pipe

Note 1 to entry: The metallic parts of the fitting may be assembled to metallic pipes by screw threads, compression joints, welded or flanged connections. The fitting can allow for either a dismountable or permanently assembled joint. In some cases, the supporting ring can also act as a grip ring.

**3.6****voltage regulation**

control of energy supplied, during the fusion process of an electrofusion fitting, by means of the voltage parameter

**3.7****out-of-roundness**

<pipe or fitting> difference between the measured maximum outside diameter and the measured minimum outside diameter in the same cross-sectional plane of a pipe or spigot end of a fitting

**3.8****out-of-roundness**

<socket> difference between the measured maximum inside diameter and the measured minimum inside diameter in the same cross-sectional plane of a socket

**4 Material****4.1 PA-U compound**

The fittings shall be made from virgin material.

The compound from which the fittings are made shall be in accordance with ISO 16486-1.

**4.2 Material for non-unplasticized polyamide parts****4.2.1 General**

The materials and constituent elements used in making the fitting shall be resistant to the external and internal environments in which they are intended to be used

- 1) during storage,
- 2) under the effect of the fluids being conveyed, and

3) taking account of the service environment and operating conditions.

Fittings materials, including elastomers, greases and lubricants in contact with the PA-U pipe, shall not adversely affect pipe performance or initiate stress cracking.

#### 4.2.2 Metal parts

All parts susceptible to corrosion shall be adequately protected.

When dissimilar metallic materials are used which can be in contact with moisture, steps shall be taken to avoid galvanic corrosion.

Metals and materials produced by corrosion shall not affect the long-term performance of the pipe/fitting.

#### 4.2.3 Elastomers

Elastomeric materials used for the manufacture of seals shall be in accordance with EN 682.

#### 4.2.4 Other materials

Greases or lubricants shall not exude on to the fusion areas, and shall not affect the long-term performance of the pipe/fitting.

### 5 General characteristics

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#### 5.1 Appearance

When viewed without magnification, the internal and external surfaces of the fitting shall be smooth, clean and free from scoring, cavities and other surface defects such as would prevent conformity of the fitting to this document.

No component of the fitting shall show any signs of damage, scratches, pitting, bubbles, blisters, inclusions or cracks to an extent that would prevent conformity of the fittings to the requirements of this document.

#### 5.2 Design

The design of the fitting shall be such that, when assembling the fitting onto the pipe, spigot ends or other components, the electrical coils and/or seals and other functional parts (e.g. grippers) are not displaced.

#### 5.3 Colour

The colour of fittings shall be yellow or black.

#### 5.4 Electrical characteristics for electrofusion fittings

The electrical protection to be provided by the system depends on the voltage and the current used and on the characteristics of the electric power.

For voltages greater than 25 V, direct human contact with the energized parts shall not be possible when the fitting is in the fusion cycle during assembly in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer of the fittings and the assembly equipment, as applicable.