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Chemical analysis of steel — Order of listing elements in steel standards

Analyse chimique des aciers — Ordre de report des éléments dans les normes d'acier

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Foreword

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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 17, *Steel*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Heat treatable and alloy steels*.

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.

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Introduction

The sequence in which elements are listed in steel specifications has not yet been standardized and varies considerably between different steel standards and organizations. This has always been a potential source of confusion. The cost and inconvenience due to a non-standardized order are difficult to measure, nevertheless they exist and these expenses could be saved.

The modern tendency towards international standardization and the use of computers for storing, processing and retrieving information has greatly increased the case for standardizing the order of listing elements. This is particularly so when data from several sources are processed by a single computer. Consequently, there is a growing awareness of the long-term advantages of national and international standardization.

This document is especially important for ISO/TC 17/SC 4 as it is concerned with documents on numerous heat treatable and stainless steel grades. A certain level of international agreement has already been achieved in steel specifications developed by ISO/TC 17/SC 4 for the first five elements and this has been incorporated into the recommendations given in this document.

In addition, the number of digits to be mentioned for each element have been fixed based on ASTM A751.

This document is based on withdrawn ISO/TR 6306:1989.

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