
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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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 17, *Steel*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Heat treatable and alloy steels*.

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This document is based on withdrawn ISO/TR 6306:1989.

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