



# SLOVENSKI STANDARD

## SIST ISO 2581:1996

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**Penjeni polimerni materiali - Trde pene - Določevanje "navidezne" toplotne prevodnosti z merilniki toplotnega toka**

Rigid cellular plastics -- Determination of apparent thermal conductivity by means of a heat-flow meter

### iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW

Plastiques alvéolaires rigides -- Détermination de la conductivité thermique apparente au moyen d'un fluxmètre thermique

[SIST ISO 2581:1996](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/cc1505f2-1925-49de-a8ed-c7c4ea7cb2a0/sist-iso-2581-1996)

**Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: ISO 2581:1975**

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83.100

Penjeni polimeri

Cellular materials

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**INTERNATIONAL STANDARD****2581**

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**Plastics — Rigid cellular materials — Determination of  
“apparent” thermal conductivity by means of  
a heat-flow meter**

*Matières plastiques — Matériaux alvéolaires rigides — Détermination de la conductivité thermique  
«apparente» au moyen d'un fluxmètre thermique*

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**FOREWORD**

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Draft International Standards adopted by the Technical Committees are circulated to the Member Bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 2581 was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, and circulated to the Member Bodies in February 1974.

It has been approved by the Member Bodies of the following countries :

Belgium	Germany	Romania
Brazil	Hungary	Spain
Bulgaria	India	Sweden
Canada	Israel	Switzerland
Chile	Italy	Turkey
Czechoslovakia	Japan	United Kingdom
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	Mexico	U.S.A.
Finland	Netherlands	
France	New Zealand	

The Member Body of the following country expressed disapproval of the document on technical grounds :

South Africa, Rep. of



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## Plastics — Rigid cellular materials — Determination of “apparent” thermal conductivity by means of a heat-flow meter

### ERRATUM

Cover page

Replace the title by the following :

**“Rigid cellular plastics — Determination of apparent thermal conductivity by means of a heat-flow meter”**

and the sub-title by the following :

*“Plastiques alvéolaires rigides — Détermination de la conductivité thermique apparente au moyen d’un fluxmètre thermique”*

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Page 1

Replace the title by the following : [SIST ISO 2581:1996](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/cc1505f2-1925-49de-a8ed-c7c4ea7cb2a0/sist-iso-2581-1996)  
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**“Rigid cellular plastics — Determination of apparent thermal conductivity by means of a heat-flow meter”**

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# Plastics — Rigid cellular materials — Determination of "apparent" thermal conductivity by means of a heat-flow meter

## 1 SCOPE AND FIELD OF APPLICATION

1.1 This International Standard specifies a method for the determination of the "apparent" thermal conductivity of rigid cellular plastic materials.

NOTE — In cellular plastics an important part of the heat transfer is due to passage of heat radiation through their structure. This results in values of thermal conductivity being measured which are not independent of the thickness of specimen tested. Therefore the term "apparent" thermal conductivity should be used.

The method, which is comparatively rapid, is based on preliminary and routine calibration of the apparatus by the use of test specimens the "apparent" thermal conductivity of which has been determined in a standard apparatus of the guarded hot-plate type.

Two arrangements of the apparatus are given both of which have been widely used with satisfactory results :

- a) the arrangement shown in figure 1 (symmetrical arrangement — method S), in which the heat-flow meter is placed centrally between two identical test specimens;
- b) the arrangement shown in figure 2 (asymmetrical arrangement — method AS), in which the heat-flow meter is placed alongside the single test specimen.

NOTE — Test results obtained using this International Standard are not comparable internationally between countries where different types of guarded hot-plate are used as calibration standards.

1.2 For practical purposes, this International Standard applies to specimens having a thermal conductance of not more than 2,5 W/(m<sup>2</sup>·K) (method S) or 5 W/(m<sup>2</sup>·K) (method AS).

1.3 For ordinary purposes, the suggested limiting temperatures of the surfaces in contact with the heat-flow meter are -50 °C and +100 °C. These limits may be extended in both directions, subject to appropriate precautions being taken in relation to the materials of construction, the calibration procedure and the conduct of the test.

1.4 Experience has shown that the results obtained by this method agree satisfactorily with those obtained with a guarded hot-plate apparatus for temperature gradients ranging between 4 °C/cm and 10 °C/cm across the test specimen, subject to a minimum temperature difference between the hot and cold plates of 15 °C (see 8.1).

1.5 The long-term reproducibility of measurements obtained with apparatus constructed and used in accordance with this method can be better than 3 %, as many previous experiments have already shown.

## 2 REFERENCE

ISO/R 291, *Plastics — Standard atmospheres for conditioning and testing.*

## 3 DEFINITIONS

3.1 **heat flow rate** : The quotient of the quantity of heat flowing through a surface and the time.

3.2 **density of heat flow rate through a surface** : The quotient of the heat flow rate through a surface and the area of that surface.

3.3 **thermal conductivity** : The quotient of the density of heat flow rate through a surface and the temperature gradient. (This is a fundamental property of a material, independent of the thickness of specimen tested.)

3.4 **thermal conductance** : The quotient of the density of the heat flow rate and the temperature difference which maintains this heat flow under steady-state conditions.

3.5 **apparent thermal conductivity** : The quotient of the heat flow rate, inclusive of any heat transmitted through the specimen by radiation, through unit area and the temperature gradient in the direction perpendicular to the surface of the test specimen. (This is not a fundamental property of the material and is dependent on the thickness of the specimen tested which should always be quoted in conjunction with the value.)

## 4 PRINCIPLE

From two isothermal surfaces at constant upper and lower temperatures, a heat flow is established through a single test specimen (method AS) or through a pair of test specimens (method S) of identical shape and equal thickness and density, cut from the cellular material under test.

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A steady state (thermal equilibrium) having been established, the electromotive force generated in a heat-flow meter inserted between the two test specimens (method S) or between the plate at lower temperature and the single specimen (method AS) is measured.

The thermal conductivity of the cellular material is calculated from the value of this electromotive force, the thickness of the test specimen(s) and the calibration constant of the apparatus. This calibration constant depends on the upper and lower temperatures selected for the test and on the sensitivity of the heat-flow meter.

## 5 APPARATUS

### 5.1 General

#### 5.1.1 Method S

The assembly of apparatus and test specimens shall consist essentially of a cold plate, one of the test specimens, a heat-flow meter, the second test specimen and a hot plate, assembled in that order (see figure 1).

#### 5.1.2 Method AS

The assembly of apparatus and test specimen apparatus shall consist essentially of a cold plate, a heat-flow meter, a test specimen and a hot plate, assembled in the same order as that for calibration (for example see figure 2).

### 5.2 Heat-flow meter (for method S or method AS)

**5.2.1** This shall consist of a round or square thermopile of linear dimensions not less than 100 mm, mounted in a round or square support and having flat parallel faces.

The linear dimensions of the thermopile shall be not greater than and preferably equal to half the linear dimensions of the heat-flow meter. The linear dimensions of the heat-flow meter shall be not less than four times the thickness of the (pair of) specimen(s) (see clause 7).

**5.2.2** The material of the thermopile support shall be isotropic, non-hygroscopic and thermally stable under the conditions of test.

**5.2.3** The faces of the heat-flow meter shall be painted (black mat finish) or otherwise treated to have a total emittance of at least 0,8 at operating temperatures.

**5.2.4** Taking into account the requirement of 5.5.1, it is recommended that the calibration constant of the heat-flow meter be such that the electromotive force generated under all test conditions is not less than 0,5 mV.

**5.2.5** In the case of method S, the thermal conductance of the heat-flow meter shall be such that the difference in temperature between its faces is not greater than 2 % of that existing between the hot and cold plates, under all test conditions.

**5.2.6** In the case of method AS, a suitable device shall be employed for measuring the average temperature of the face of the heat-flow meter nearer the test specimen.

### 5.3 Hot and cold plates

**5.3.1** The working surfaces of the hot and cold plates shall consist of a metal of high thermal conductivity, such as copper, aluminium or steel, and shall be smoothly finished to conform to a true plane to within 0,5 mm/m. These working surfaces shall be painted or otherwise treated to have a total emittance of at least 0,8 at operating temperatures.

#### 5.3.1.1 METHOD S

The linear dimensions of the plates shall be at least the same as those of the heat-flow meter.

#### 5.3.1.2 METHOD AS

The linear dimensions of the hot plate shall be at least the same as those of the heat-flow meter, those of the cold plate being at least as large as those of the hot plate.

**5.3.2** A groove, or grooves shall be machined into the surfaces of the hot and cold plates to allow one or more temperature-sensing devices to be embedded in the surface of each plate.

**5.3.3** Each plate shall be provided with a means of maintaining its temperature at the required level by, for example, the circulation of heated or refrigerated fluid, or a combination of refrigeration and direct electrical heating. The degree of control required is such that the temperature  $T_h$  or  $T_c$  of the surface in contact with the test specimen does not vary by more than 0,2 °C during the period of test. Individual temperature readings of the sensing devices during the test period should not differ by more than 0,4 °C.

### 5.4 Mounting

**5.4.1** A means shall be provided to ensure that throughout the test the hot and cold plates can be maintained parallel to each other and to the heat-flow meter to within 0,5 mm, and remain in intimate contact with the test specimen(s).

**5.4.2** A means shall also be provided to enable the heat-flow meter and the pair of test specimens to be centred accurately on the axis of symmetry of the hot and cold plates.

**5.4.3** The apparatus may be arranged vertically or horizontally.

**5.4.4** Spacers of low conductance may be positioned between the plates and the heat-flow meter along the outer perimeter to prevent any distortion of the test specimen(s) due to compression.

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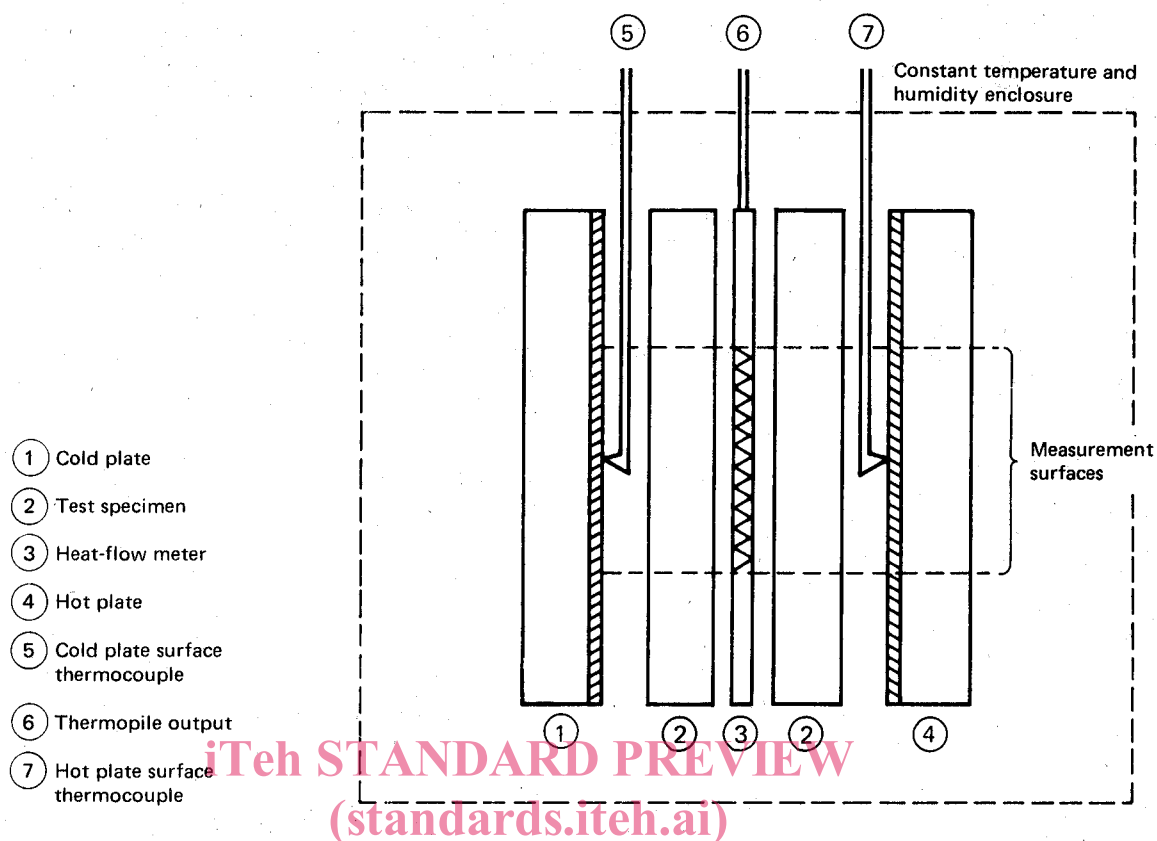


FIGURE 1 – Heat-flow meter apparatus with two test specimens (method S)

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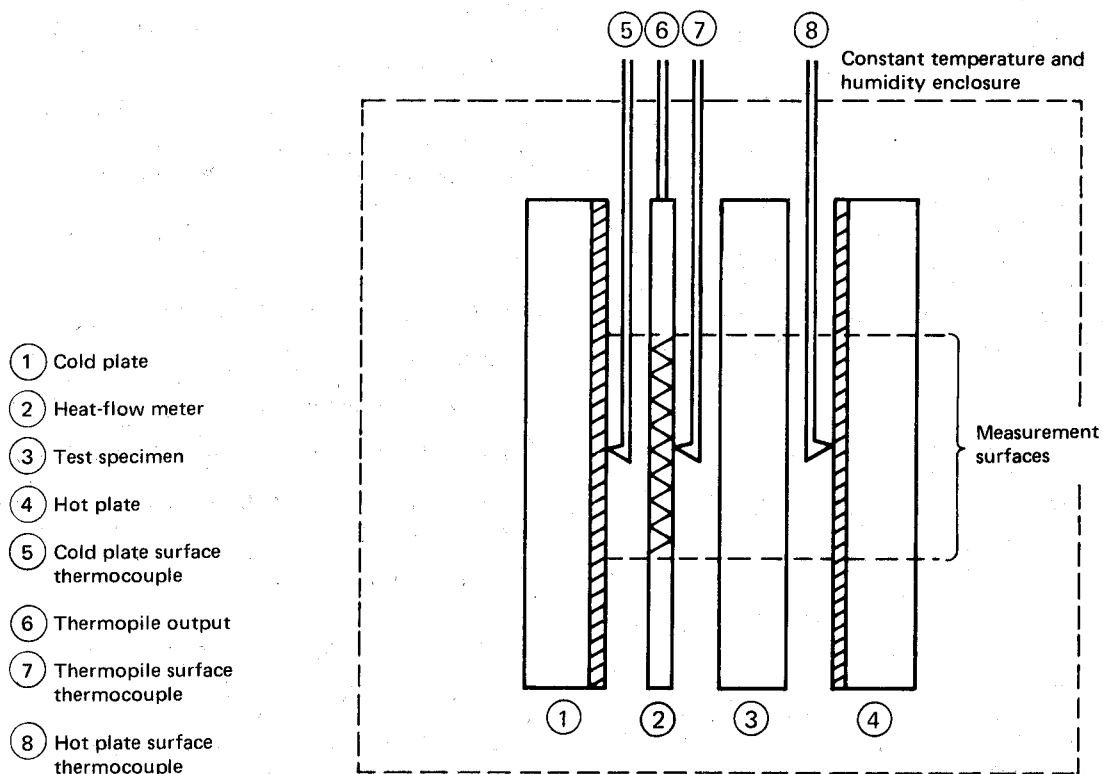


FIGURE 2 – Heat-flow meter apparatus with single test specimen (method AS)