
**Corrosion tests in artificial
atmosphere at very low
concentrations of polluting gas(es)**

*Essais de corrosion en atmosphère artificielle à très faible
concentration en gaz polluants*

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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).

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).

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.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 156, *Corrosion of metals and alloys*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 262, *Metallic and other inorganic coatings*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 10062:2006), which has been technically revised.

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

- simplified method has been deleted due to safety issues for operator;
- warnings about each gas have been added in [5.1.2](#);
- [Annex A](#) has been changed to normative annex;
- the installation environment has been added to [Annex A](#).

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

Products with, for example, sensitive electrical functions, can, during storage or operation in indoor locations, be affected by atmospheric corrosion dependent on climatic factors such as temperature, relative humidity, air velocity and rate of change caused by temperature and humidity. Additionally, gaseous pollutants can seriously affect the rate of corrosion, as well as the occurrence of different corrosion mechanisms. Contaminants on the surface, such as salt, dust, oil and compounds liberated from plastics, can also affect the rate and mechanism of corrosion.

Different corrosion-promoting gaseous pollutants dominate in different field environments:

- sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides in atmospheres influenced by combustion of fossil fuels and in traffic environments,
- hydrogen sulfide in atmospheres in the vicinity of petrochemical and steel industry, decaying organic matter, stagnant waters and animal shelters, and
- hydrogen sulfide and chlorine compounds in the vicinity of pulp and paper industry; if chlorine is used for bleaching.

Those gaseous pollutants are known to act as single corrosion-promoting factors. However, in atmospheres where more than one gaseous pollutant is present, synergistic effects can be initiated. As a result, a considerable increase in the corrosion rate can occur, compared to the case when the different gaseous pollutants act as single corrosion-promoting factors.

This document is intended to

- a) specify a general method using atmospheres polluted by one or more gases at very low volume fractions $\leq 10^{-6}$ under specified conditions of temperature and relative humidity, so as to avoid condensation phenomena during the test,
- b) specify the test apparatus and procedure required to achieve the best possible reproducibility, and
- c) assess performance under test conditions which accelerate corrosion; as knowledge of operating conditions proceeds, more suitable pollutants or pollutant mixtures can be used.

This document is not intended to be used for comparative testing as a means of ranking different materials relative to each other with respect to corrosion resistance or as a means of predicting long-term corrosion resistance of the tested material.

Corrosion tests in artificial atmosphere at very low concentrations of polluting gas(es)

1 Scope

This document specifies tests which are intended to determine the influence of one or more flowing polluting gas(es) at volume fractions less than or equal to 10^{-6} on test samples and/or articles of metals and alloys with or without corrosion protection under determined conditions of temperature and relative humidity.

This document is applicable to

- a) metals and their alloys,
- b) metallic coatings (anodic and cathodic),
- c) metals with conversion coatings,
- d) metals with anodic oxide coatings, and
- e) metals with organic coatings.

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 554, *Standard atmospheres for conditioning and/or testing — Specifications*

ISO 558, *Conditioning and testing — Standard atmospheres — Definitions*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions 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/>

3.1

exposure time

interval of time elapsed between the moment when the specimens are introduced into the test chamber and the end of the test

3.2

test duration

interval of time during which the specimens are exposed to polluting gases

4 Apparatus

WARNING — Safety rules for personnel: Handling of the gases used for testing can be hazardous and shall be done by skilled personnel trained to handle such gases. The test equipment shall be

used and maintained by skilled personnel, not only so that the tests can be performed correctly, but also because of the hazards to health and safety that are involved.

Special attention shall be paid to equipment design and the choice of construction materials, in order that the conditions (less than ± 1 °C for temperature and less than ± 3 % for relative humidity) are uniformly consistent throughout the working space, able to ensure no condensation in the test chamber and are repeatable.

The apparatus shall enable the use, singly or in mixtures, of polluting gas(es) such as SO₂, H₂S, Cl₂ and NO₂ up to at least the concentration required, for each gas, by the test method.

The important parameters are

- a) the materials used for the test chamber and the gas handling system,
- b) the geometry of the test chamber,
- c) the rate and pattern of the gas flow,
- d) the homogeneity of gas mixing, and
- e) the incident illumination (see [A.1.6](#)).

The apparatus shall be constructed according to [Annex A](#) and shall meet its requirements.

A typical apparatus for polluting-gas corrosion tests is also shown in [Annex B](#) (see [Figure B.1](#)).

5 Test methods

5.1 Test severity

5.1.1 General <https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/e9428f85-8540-40f1-9043-9e73dbb01d4e/iso-10062-2022>

The test severity, to be given in the relevant specification, is specified by

- the type, concentration and flow rate of polluting gas,
- the temperature,
- the relative humidity, and
- the test duration.

5.1.2 Suggested test methods

The method, shown in [Table 1](#), to be used depends upon the purposes of the test, the nature of the metals and alloys and the type of protection to be tested.

WARNING — Sulfur dioxide (SO₂, CAS Registry Number[®]1)7446-09-5) is toxic, corrosive and irritating. Refer to the safety data sheet for details. Handling of sulfur dioxide shall be restricted to skilled personnel or conducted under their control. The apparatus shall be used and maintained by skilled personnel, not only so that the procedures can be performed correctly, but also because of the hazards to health and safety that are involved.

WARNING — Hydrogen sulfide (H₂S, CAS 7783-06-4) is a flammable gas, toxic, corrosive, irritating and very toxic to aquatic life. Refer to the safety data sheet for details. Handling of hydrogen sulfide shall be restricted to skilled personnel or conducted under their control. The

1) CAS Registry Number[®] is a trademark of CAS corporation. This information is given for the convenience of users of this document and does not constitute an endorsement by ISO of the product named. Equivalent products may be used if they can be shown to lead to the same results.

apparatus shall be used and maintained by skilled personnel, not only so that the procedures can be performed correctly, but also because of the hazards to health and safety that are involved.

WARNING — Chlorine (Cl₂, CAS 7782-50-5) is oxidizing gas, toxic, corrosive and irritating. Refer to the safety data sheet for details. Handling of chlorine shall be restricted to skilled personnel or conducted under their control. The apparatus shall be used and maintained by skilled personnel, not only so that the procedures can be performed correctly, but also because of the hazards to health and safety that are involved.

WARNING — Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂, CAS 10102-44-0) is oxidizing gas, toxic, corrosive and irritating. Refer to the safety data sheet for details. Handling of nitrogen oxide shall be restricted to skilled personnel or conducted under their control. The apparatus shall be used and maintained by skilled personnel, not only so that the procedures can be performed correctly, but also because of the hazards to health and safety that are involved.

Table 1 — Test conditions

	Method A	Method B	Method C	Method D	Method E	Method F
SO ₂ (10 ⁻⁶ vol/vol)	0,5 ± 0,1	—	—	0,5 ± 0,1	0,20 ± 0,05	0,5 ± 0,1
H ₂ S (10 ⁻⁶ vol/vol)	—	0,10 ± 0,02	—	0,10 ± 0,02	—	0,10 ± 0,02
Cl ₂ (10 ⁻⁶ vol/vol)	—	—	0,02 ± 0,005	—	—	0,02 ± 0,005
NO ₂ (10 ⁻⁶ vol/vol)	—	—	—	—	0,5 ± 0,1	—
Temperature (°C) and relative humidity (%) ^a	(40 ± 1) °C and (80 ± 5) %, or (25 ± 1) °C and (75 ± 3) %					
^a The condition of (40 ± 1) °C and (80 ± 5) % is more aggressive than the condition of (25 ± 1) °C and (75 ± 3) %. Either of them shall be optionally selected and shall be stated in the test report.						

NOTE 1 Since the corrosivity is different for methods A, B, C, D, E and F the result obtained by these methods are not comparable.

NOTE 2 Other methods can be added in the future if required (e.g. increase in the relative humidity).

5.1.3 Test duration

The test duration for each test method depends upon the purposes of the test, the nature of the metals and alloys and the means of protection tested.

5.2 Treatment of the specimens prior to testing (see [Clause 6](#))

The relevant specification may require a preconditioning of specimens, for example, chemical or mechanical cleaning of the surface.

5.3 Examination of the specimens prior to testing

Measurements shall be carried out as required by the relevant specification (see ISO 7384).

5.4 Filling of the test chamber

The filling of the chamber by the specimens shall satisfy the following conditions:

- the total surface of the test specimens shall not exceed the critical level at which the concentrations of polluting gases would decrease by more than 10 % during the passage through the working space;
- the specimens shall be placed in the working space, as specified in the relevant specification.

Care shall be taken that the specimens are placed so that they do not come into contact with one another or with the walls of the chamber, and that they do not shield one another from the test atmosphere.

The specimens shall be distributed uniformly in the working space.

5.5 Procedure

5.5.1 Exposure time

The exposure time shall correspond to t_1 to t_3 (see [Figure 1](#)).

5.5.2 Test duration

The test duration shall correspond to t_2 to t_3 (see [Figure 1](#)).

5.5.3 Test procedure

The conditions of the specimens and the test chamber shall be such that condensation does not occur on the specimens when they are introduced into the test chamber.

The temperature and relative humidity inside the chamber shall be adjusted according to the specified method (see [5.1.2](#) and [A.1.4](#)).

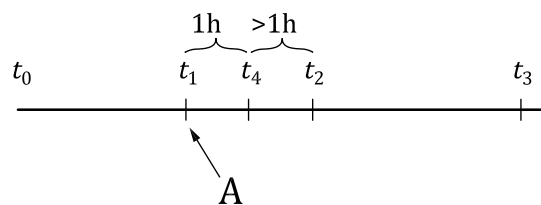
After introducing the specimens, a waiting period of 1 h should be allowed for the temperature and the relative humidity to stabilize before the polluting gas(es) is/are introduced into the test chamber.

The polluting gas(es) shall be introduced simultaneously into the damp air flow and their concentrations shall be adjusted to the value specified by the test method; during this adjustment, the maximum specified concentrations should not be exceeded (see [5.1](#)).

The concentration of polluting gas(es) shall be stabilized in less than 1 h.

The test duration shall be measured as indicated in [5.5.2](#).

At the end of the test, the injection of polluting gas(es) shall be stopped and the specimens shall be maintained in the flow of the damp atmosphere without polluting gas(es) for 2 h.



Key

- A introduction of specimens
- t_0 time to start to adjust the temperature and the relative humidity
- t_1 time to reach the specified temperature and the relative humidity and start the exposure time
- t_2 time to start the test duration
- t_3 time to stop the test duration and the exposure time
- t_4 time to introduce polluting gas(es)

NOTE 1 t_0 to t_1 is the temperature and the relative humidity adjustment.

NOTE 2 t_1 to t_4 is the waiting period of 1 h to recover the temperature and the relative humidity.

NOTE 3 t_4 to t_2 is the gas-concentration adjustment less than 1 h.

NOTE 4 t_2 to t_3 is the test duration.