



SLOVENSKI STANDARD
oSIST ISO/DIS 22262-2:2025

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Kakovost zraka - Razsuti materiali - 2. del: Kvantitativno določanje azbesta z gravimetrijsko in mikroskopsko metodo

Air quality - Bulk materials - Part 2: Quantitative determination of asbestos by gravimetric and microscopical methods

Qualité de l'air - Matériaux solides - Partie 2: Dosage quantitatif de l'amiante en utilisant les méthodes gravimétrique et microscopique

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Air quality — Bulk materials —

Part 2:

Quantitative determination of asbestos by gravimetric and microscopical methods

Qualité de l'air — Matériaux solides —

*Partie 2: Dosage quantitatif de l'amiante en utilisant les
méthodes gravimétrique et microscopique*

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Foreword

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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 146/SC3

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 22262-2 (2014) which has been technically revised.

A list of all parts in the ISO 22262 series can be found on the ISO website.

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Introduction

In the past, asbestos was used in a wide range of products. Materials containing high proportions of asbestos were used in buildings and in industry for fireproofing, thermal insulation and acoustic insulation. Asbestos was also used to reinforce materials, to improve fracture and bending characteristics. A large proportion of the asbestos produced was used in asbestos-cement products. These include flat sheets, tiles and corrugated sheets for roofing, pipes and open troughs for collection of rainwater, and pressure pipes for supply of potable water. Asbestos was also incorporated into products such as decorative coatings and plasters, glues, sealants and resins, floor tiles, gaskets and road paving. In some products asbestos was incorporated to modify rheological properties, for example in the manufacture of ceiling tile panels and oil drilling muds.

Three varieties of asbestos found extensive commercial application. Chrysotile accounted for approximately 95 % of consumption, and therefore this is the variety that is encountered most frequently during analysis of samples. Amosite and crocidolite accounted for almost all of the balance, with a very small contribution from anthophyllite. Amosite was generally used as fireproofing or in thermal insulation products. Crocidolite was also used as fireproofing and thermal insulation products, but because it is highly resistant to acids, it also found application as a reinforcing fibre in acid containers such as those used for lead-acid batteries, and in some gaskets. Materials containing commercial anthophyllite are relatively rare, but it also has been used as a filler and reinforcing fibre in composite materials, and as a filtration medium. Tremolite asbestos and actinolite asbestos were not extensively used commercially, but they sometimes occur as contamination of other commercial minerals. Richterite asbestos and winchite asbestos occur at mass fractions between 0,01 % and 6 % in vermiculite formerly mined at Libby, Montana, USA. Vermiculite from this source was widely distributed and is often found as loose fill insulation and as a constituent in a range of construction materials and fireproofing.

While the asbestos mass fraction in some products can be very high and in some cases approach 100 %, in other products the mass fractions of asbestos used were significantly lower and often between 1 % and 15 %. In some ceiling tile panels, the mass fraction of asbestos used was close to 1 %. There are only a few known materials in which the asbestos mass fraction used was less than 1 %. Some adhesives, sealing compounds and fillers were manufactured in which asbestos mass fractions were lower than 1 %. There are no known commercially manufactured materials in which any one of the common asbestos varieties (chrysotile, amosite, crocidolite or anthophyllite) was intentionally added at mass fractions lower than 0,1 %.

ISO 22262-1 specifies procedures for collection of samples and qualitative analysis of commercial bulk materials for the presence of asbestos. A visual estimate of the asbestos mass fraction may also be made. While it is recognized that the accuracy and reproducibility of such estimates is very limited, for many of the types of materials being analysed these estimates are sufficient to establish that the mass fraction of asbestos in a manufactured product is, without doubt, well above any of the regulatory limits.

Because of the wide range of matrix materials into which asbestos was incorporated, microscopy alone cannot provide reliable analyses of all types of asbestos-containing materials in untreated samples. This part of ISO 22262 extends the applicability and limit of detection of microscopical analysis by the use of simple procedures such as ashing, acid treatment, sedimentation and heavy liquid density separation prior to microscopical examination. These procedures are recommended when the asbestos concentration has been estimated to be very low, by using Part 1 of this Standard.

This part of ISO 22262 also specifies procedures for determination of the numerical concentration of mineral fibres in mineral powders such as talc, wollastonite, sepiolite, attapulgite (palygorskite), calcite or dolomite, and commercial products containing these minerals.

A prerequisite for use of this part of ISO 22262 and subsequent parts of ISO 22262 is that the sample shall have been examined first by ISO 22262-1. ISO 22262 is for application by knowledgeable analysts who are familiar with the analytical procedures specified^{[1][2][3][4]}.

Air quality — Bulk materials —

Part 2:

Quantitative determination of asbestos by gravimetric and microscopical methods

1 Scope

This part of ISO 22262 specifies procedures for quantification of asbestos mass fractions below approximately 5 %, and quantitative determination of asbestos in vermiculite, other industrial minerals and commercial products that incorporate these minerals.

This part of ISO 22262 is applicable to the quantitative analysis of:

- a) any material for which the estimate of asbestos mass fraction obtained using ISO 22262-1 is deemed to be of insufficient precision to reliably classify the regulatory status of the material, or for which it is considered necessary to obtain further evidence to demonstrate the absence of asbestos;
- b) resilient floor tiles, asphaltic materials, roofing felts and any other materials in which asbestos is embedded in an organic matrix;
- c) wall and ceiling plasters, with or without aggregate;
- d) vermiculite, and commercial products containing vermiculite;
- e) mineral powders such as talc, wollastonite, sepiolite, attapulgite (palygorskite), calcite or dolomite, and commercial products containing these minerals.

This part of ISO 22262 is primarily intended for application to samples in which asbestos has been identified at estimated mass fractions lower than approximately 5 % by weight. It is also applicable to samples that may contain asbestos at low mass fractions incorporated into matrix material such that microscopical examination of the untreated sample is either not possible or unreliable. An annex gives recommendations for the analysis of each type of material that may contain asbestos.

It is not the intent of ISO 22262 to provide instruction in the fundamental microscopical and analytical techniques.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 22262-1, *Air quality — Bulk materials — Part 1: Sampling and qualitative determination of asbestos in commercial bulk materials*

ISO 13794, *Ambient air — Determination of asbestos fibres — Indirect-transfer transmission electron microscopy method*

ISO 14887, *Sample preparation — Dispersing procedures for powders in liquids*

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3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

acicular

shape shown by an extremely slender crystal with cross-sectional dimensions which are small relative to its length, i.e. needle-like

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.1]

3.2

amphibole

group of rock-forming ferromagnesium silicate minerals, closely related in crystal form and composition, and having the nominal formula: $A_{0-1}B_2C_5T_8O_{22}(OH,F,Cl)_2$, where

A = K, Na;

B = Fe^{2+} , Mn, Mg, Ca, Na;

C = Al, Cr, Ti, Fe^{3+} , Mg, Fe^{2+} ;

T = Si, Al, Cr, Fe^{3+} , Ti

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.2]

Note 1 to entry: In some varieties of amphibole, these elements can be partially substituted by Li, Pb, or Zn. Amphibole is characterized by a cross-linked double chain of Si-O tetrahedra with a silicon:oxygen ratio of 4:11, by columnar or fibrous prismatic crystals and by good prismatic cleavage in two directions parallel to the crystal faces and intersecting at angles of about 56° and 124° .

3.3

amphibole asbestos

amphibole in an asbestiform habit

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.3]

3.4

analytical sensitivity

calculated structure concentration in structures/gram, equivalent to counting of one structure in the analysis

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.5]

Note 1 to entry: this is applicable to measurements carried out on mineral powders for which the results are reported in terms of the numerical concentration of fibres per gram

3.5

anisotropy

state or quality of having different properties along different axes

EXAMPLE An anisotropic transparent particle can show different refractive indices with the vibration direction of incident light.

3.6

asbestiform

specific type of mineral fibrosity in which the fibres and fibrils possess high tensile strength and flexibility

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.6]

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3.7

asbestos

group of silicate minerals belonging to the serpentine and amphibole groups which have crystallized in the asbestiform habit, causing them to be easily separated into long, thin, flexible, strong fibres when crushed or processed

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.7]

Note 1 to entry: The Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Numbers of the **most common** asbestos varieties are: chrysotile (12001-29-5), crocidolite (12001-28-4), grunerite asbestos (amosite) (12172-73-5), anthophyllite asbestos (77536-67-5), tremolite asbestos (77536-68-6) and actinolite asbestos (77536-66-4). Other varieties of asbestiform amphibole, such as richterite asbestos and winchite asbestos,^[5] are also found in some products such as vermiculite and talc.

3.8

asbestos point

where the point coincides with an asbestos fibre in point counting

3.9

aspect ratio

ratio of length to width of a particle

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.10]

3.10

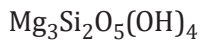
birefringence

maximum difference between refractive indices due to double refraction

3.11

chrysotile

fibrous mineral of the serpentine group which has the nominal composition:



[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.13]

Note 1 to entry: Most natural chrysotile deviates little from this nominal composition. In some varieties of chrysotile, minor substitution of silicon by Al^{3+} may occur. Minor substitution of magnesium by Al^{3+} , Fe^{2+} , Fe^{3+} , Ni^{2+} , Mn^{2+} and Co^{2+} may also be present. Chrysotile is the most prevalent type of asbestos.

3.12

cleavage

breaking of a mineral along one of its crystallographic directions

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.14]

3.13

cleavage fragment

fragment of a crystal that is bounded by cleavage faces

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.15]

Note 1 to entry: Crushing of non-asbestiform amphibole generally yields elongated fragments that conform to the definition of a fibre.

3.14

crossed polars

state in which the polarization directions of the polars (polarizer and analyser) are mutually perpendicular

[SOURCE: ISO 10934-1:2002, definition 2.117.2]

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variation of refractive index with wavelength of light

[SOURCE: ISO 7348:1992, definition 05.03.26]

3.16**dispersion staining**

effect produced when a transparent object is immersed in a surrounding medium, the refractive index of which is equal to that of the object at a wavelength in the visible range, but which has a significantly higher optical dispersion than the object

Note 1 to entry: Only the light refracted at the edges of the object is imaged, and this gives rise to colours at the interface between the object and the surrounding medium. The particular colour is a measure of the wavelength at which the refractive index of the object and that of the medium are equal.

3.17**empty point**

where the point does not coincide with any particle or fibre in point counting

3.18**energy dispersive X-ray analysis**

measurement of the energies and intensities of X-rays by use of a solid-state detector and multi-channel analyser system

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.22]

3.19**fibril**

single fibre of asbestos which cannot be further separated longitudinally into smaller components without losing its fibrous properties or appearances

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.25]

3.20**fibre**

elongated particle which has parallel or stepped sides

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.26]

Note 1 to entry: For the purposes of this part of ISO 22262, a fibre is defined to have an aspect ratio equal to or greater than 3:1.

3.21**fibre bundle**

structure composed of parallel, smaller diameter fibres attached along their lengths

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.27]

Note 1 to entry: A fibre bundle may exhibit diverging fibres at one or both ends.

3.22**habit**

characteristic crystal growth form, or combination of these forms, of a mineral, including characteristic irregularities

[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.30]

3.23**gravimetric matrix reduction**

procedure in which constituents of a material are selectively dissolved or otherwise separated, leaving a residue in which any asbestos present in the original material is concentrated

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3.24**isotropic**

having the same properties in all directions

[SOURCE: ISO 14686:2003, definition 2.23]

3.25**matrix**

material in a bulk sample within which fibres are dispersed

3.26**non-empty point**

where a point coincides with either a particle or an asbestos fibre in point counting

3.27**point**

in point counting, location on the sample where a record is made as to whether the location is occupied by a particle or an asbestos fibre, or whether the location is unoccupied

3.28**point counting**

procedure in which random locations are examined on a sample to determine whether each location is occupied by a particle or an asbestos fibre, or is unoccupied, and each type of event is enumerated

3.29**polarized light**

light in which the vibrations are partially or completely suppressed in certain directions at any given instant

[SOURCE: ISO 10934-1:2002, definition 2.88.1]

Note 1 to entry: The vector of vibration may describe a linear, circular or elliptical shape.

3.30**polarizer**

polar placed in the light path before the object

[SOURCE: ISO 10934-1:2002, definition 2.117.4]

3.31**polar**

device which selects plane-polarized light from natural light

[SOURCE: ISO 10934-1:2002, definition 2.117]

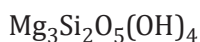
3.32**refractive index**

n
ratio of the speed of light (more exactly, the phase velocity) in a vacuum to that in a given medium

[SOURCE: ISO 10934-1:2002, definition 2.124]

3.33**serpentine**

group of common rock-forming minerals having the nominal formula:



[SOURCE: ISO 13794:2019, definition 3.40]

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3.34

suspension

heterogeneous system in which a solid is distributed as fine particles in a liquid

[SOURCE: ISO 472:2013, definition 2.1135]

4 Abbreviated terms

ED	electron diffraction
EDXA	energy dispersive X-ray analysis
MEC	mixed esters of cellulose
PC	polycarbonate
PLM	polarized light microscopy
RI	refractive index
SAED	selected area electron diffraction
SEM	scanning electron microscope
TEM	transmission electron microscope

5 Determination of analytical requirements

Quantification of asbestos beyond the estimate of mass fraction achieved using ISO 22262-1 may not be necessary, depending on the applicable regulatory limit for definition of an asbestos-containing material, the variety of asbestos identified, and whether the sample can be recognized as a manufactured product. Common regulatory definitions of asbestos-containing materials range from “presence of any asbestos”, through > 0,1 %, > 0,5 % to > 1 % by mass fraction of one or more of the regulated asbestos varieties. Following the use of ISO 22262-1 on many different samples, an analyst may determine the asbestos mass fraction far exceeds these mass fraction regulatory limits. More precise quantification of asbestos in these types of samples is unnecessary, since a more precise and significantly more expensive determination of the asbestos mass fraction will neither change the regulatory status of the asbestos-containing material nor any subsequent decisions concerning its treatment. [Annex A](#) shows a tabulation of most asbestos-containing materials, the variety of asbestos used in these materials, and the range of asbestos mass fraction that may be present. [Annex A](#) also indicates whether, in general, the estimate of asbestos mass fraction provided by the use of ISO 22262-1 is sufficient to establish the regulatory status of the material, or whether quantification of asbestos by this part of ISO 22262 is necessary. The analyst should use [Annex A](#) for guidance on the probable asbestos mass fractions in specific classes of product, and the optimum analytical procedure to obtain a reliable result.

Asbestos was never deliberately incorporated for any functional purpose into commercially manufactured asbestos-containing materials at mass fractions lower than 0,1 %. Accordingly, if any one or more of the commercial asbestos varieties (chrysotile, amosite, crocidolite or anthophyllite) is detected in a manufactured product, the assumption can be made that asbestos is present in the product at a mass fraction exceeding 0,1 %. Therefore, if the regulatory definition of an asbestos-containing material in a jurisdiction is either “presence of any asbestos” or greater than 0,1 %, then detection of one or more of the commercial asbestos varieties in a recognizable manufactured product automatically defines the regulatory status of the material. If the regulatory definition is either 0,5 % or 1 %, and the mass fraction of asbestos is estimated to be lower than approximately 5 %, then more precise quantification is necessary to guarantee the regulatory status of the material.

Detection of tremolite, actinolite or richterite/winchite in a material does not allow any assumptions to be made regarding the asbestos mass fraction, because these asbestos varieties were, in general, not deliberately added to products. Rather, they generally occur as accessory minerals in some of the constituents used to manufacture products. Since the non-asbestiform analogues of the amphiboles are not generally regulated, it is also necessary to discriminate between the asbestiform and non-asbestiform analogues of these minerals. When present, these amphibole minerals often occur as mixtures of the two analogues in industrial minerals.