

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



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## **Rubber, ethylene-propylene-diene (EPDM) — Non-oil-extended general purpose types — Evaluation procedure**

*Caoutchouc éthylène-propylène-diène (EPDM) — Types à usage général non étendus  
à l'huile — Méthode d'évaluation*

Reference number  
ISO 4097:1988 (E)

## 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.

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. They are approved in accordance with ISO procedures requiring at least 75 % approval by the member bodies voting.

International Standard ISO 4097 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 45, *Rubber and rubber products*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 4097 : 1980). The main technical differences introduced in this new edition of ISO 4097 in comparison with the first edition are as follows :

- alternative time and temperature conditions for the Mooney viscosity determination are given (see 4.1);
- there is now the possibility of using an amplitude of oscillation of 3° arc (see clause 6);
- the conditioning period for the vulcanized test slabs has been extended to 96 h (see clause 7);
- a new clause giving the required format for a test report has been introduced (clause 8).

Annex A forms an integral part of this International Standard.

# Rubber, ethylene-propylene-diene (EPDM) — Non-oil-extended general purpose types — Evaluation procedure

## 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies

- physical and chemical tests on raw rubbers;
- standard materials, the standard test formula, equipment and processing methods for evaluating the vulcanization characteristics of non-oil-extended general purpose ethylene-propylene-diene rubbers (EPDM). These conditions may not be applicable to certain high-ethylene types for which modifications may have to be made.

## 2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards listed below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 37 : 1977, *Rubber, vulcanized — Determination of tensile stress-strain properties.*

ISO 247 : 1978, *Rubber — Determination of ash.*

ISO 248 : 1979, *Rubbers, raw — Determination of volatile matter content.*

ISO 289 : 1985, *Rubber, unvulcanized — Determination of Mooney viscosity.*

ISO 471 : 1983, *Rubber — Standard temperatures, humidities and times for the conditioning and testing of test pieces.*

ISO 1795 : 1974, *Raw rubber in bales — Sampling.*

ISO 1796 : 1982, *Rubber, raw — Sample preparation.*

ISO 2393 : 1973, *Rubber test mixes — Preparation, mixing and vulcanization — Equipment and procedures.*

ISO 3417 : 1977, *Rubber — Measurement of vulcanization characteristics with the oscillating disc curemeter.*

## 3 Sampling and sample preparation

3.1 A sample of mass approximately 1 500 g shall be taken by the method described in ISO 1795.

3.2 Preparation of the test portion shall be in accordance with ISO 1796.

## 4 Physical and chemical tests on raw rubber

### 4.1 Mooney viscosity

Determine the Mooney viscosity in accordance with ISO 289 on a test portion prepared as indicated in ISO 1796, but with the following modification: during the massing process, maintain the mill roll surface temperature at  $35\text{ °C} \pm 5\text{ °C}$ . Record the result as ML (1 + 4) at 125 °C.

Other test conditions, 100 °C or 150 °C instead of 125 °C, and 8 min instead of 4 min, may be used by agreement between the interested parties.

### 4.2 Volatile matter

Determine the volatile matter content by the oven method as specified in ISO 248.

### 4.3 Ash content

Determine the ash content in accordance with ISO 247.

## 5 Preparation of test mix for evaluation of EPDM rubbers

### 5.1 Standard test formula

The standard test formula is given in table 1.

The materials shall be NBS\*) standard reference materials as indicated in table 1, or other, equivalent national or international standard reference materials.

**Table 1 — Standard test formula for evaluation of EPDM rubbers**

Material	NBS standard reference material number	Parts by mass
EPDM	—	100,00
Stearic acid	372	1,00
Oil furnace black (HAF) <sup>1)</sup>	378	80,00
ASTM 103 oil <sup>2)</sup>	—	50,00
Zinc oxide	370	5,00
Sulfur	371	1,50
Tetramethyl thiuram disulfide (TMTD) <sup>3)</sup>	—	1,00
Mercaptobenzothiazole (MBT)	383	0,50
Total		239,00

1) The current Industry Reference Black may be used in place of NBS 378, but this may give slightly different results.

2) This oil, density 0,92 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, is produced by the Sun Refining and Marketing Company and distributed by R.E. Carroll Inc., P.O. Box 139, Trenton, NJ 08601, USA. Overseas requests should be directed to Sunoco Overseas Inc., 1801 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103, USA. Alternative oils, such as Circosol 4240 or Shellflex 724, are suitable but may give slightly different results.

ASTM 103 oil has the following characteristics:

Kinematic viscosity at 100 °C: 16,8 mm<sup>2</sup>/s ± 1,2 mm<sup>2</sup>/s

Viscosity gravity constant: 0,889 ± 0,002

The viscosity gravity constant is calculated from the Saybolt Universal viscosity at 37,8 °C and the relative density at 15,5/15,5 °C. Use the following equation to calculate the VGC from the measured properties:

$$\text{VGC} = \frac{10 d - 1,075 2 \log_{10} (v - 38)}{10 - \log_{10} (v - 38)}$$

where

$d$  is the density at 15,5/15,5 °C;

$v$  is the Saybolt Universal viscosity at 37,8 °C.

3) A standard reference material for TMTD is available as IRM 1 from Forcoven Products Inc., P.O. Box 1556, Humble, Texas 77338, USA.

### 5.2 Procedure

#### 5.2.1 Equipment and procedure

Equipment and procedure for the preparation, mixing and vulcanization shall be in accordance with ISO 2393.

Details of a suitable internal mixer are given in annex A.

#### 5.2.2 Mixing procedures

Two alternative mixing procedures are specified.

Method A — Mill mixing.

Method B — Internal mixer for initial and mill for final mixing.

NOTE — Mixing of ethylene-propylene-diene rubbers in the standard test formula using a mill is more difficult than for other rubbers and the use of an internal mixer allows better results to be obtained. Because of the difficulty of mixing EPDM rubbers, it is recommended that method B be used whenever such apparatus is available.

##### 5.2.2.1 Method A — Mill mixing

a) The standard laboratory mill batch mass, in grams, shall be based on twice the formula mass. The surface temperatures of the rolls shall be maintained at 35 °C ± 5 °C throughout the mixing. Mix the zinc oxide, stearic acid, oil and carbon black together in a suitable container before starting to mix.

A good rolling bank at the nip of the rolls shall be maintained during mixing. If this is not obtained with the nip settings specified, small adjustments to the mill openings may be necessary.

**Duration**  
(min)

b) Band the rubber on the fast roll with the mill set at 35 °C and 0,7 mm opening .....

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c) Add the mixture of oil, carbon black, zinc oxide and stearic acid, with a spatula, evenly across the mill.

When about half of the mixture is incorporated, open the mill to 1,3 mm and make one 3/4 cut from each side.

Then add the remainder of the mixture, opening the mill to 1,8 mm. When all the mixture has been incorporated, make two 3/4 cuts from each side

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d) Add accelerators and sulfur, evenly across the rolls still at 1,8 mm opening.....

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e) Make three 3/4 cuts from each side, allowing 15 s between each cut .....

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\*) National Bureau of Standards of the USA.