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**Fire resistance tests — Fire dampers  
for air distribution systems —**

**Part 5:  
Intumescent fire dampers**

*Essais de résistance au feu — Clapets coupe-feu pour systèmes de  
distribution d'air —*

*Partie 5: Clapets résistants au feu intumescent*

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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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.

ISO 10294-5 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 92, *Fire safety*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Fire containment*.

ISO 10294 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Fire resistance tests — Fire dampers for air distribution systems*:

- *Part 1: Method of test*
- *Part 2: Classification, criteria and field of application of test results*
- *Part 3: Guidance on the test method*
- *Part 4: Test of thermal release mechanism*
- *Part 5: Intumescent fire dampers*

# Fire resistance tests — Fire dampers for air distribution systems —

## Part 5: Intumescent fire dampers

**CAUTION** — The attention of all persons concerned with managing and carrying out this fire resistance test is drawn to the fact that fire testing can be hazardous and that there is a possibility that toxic and/or harmful smoke and gases can be evolved during the test. Mechanical and operational hazards can also arise during the construction of the test elements or structures, their testing and disposal of test residues.

An assessment of all potential hazards and risks to health shall be made and safety precautions shall be identified and provided. Written safety instructions shall be issued. Appropriate training shall be given to relevant personnel. Laboratory personnel shall ensure that they follow written safety instructions at all times.

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO 10294-5 describes the test requirements related to intumescent fire dampers. It identifies the minor modifications needed to adapt the test method described in ISO 10294-1 (which was intended for mechanical dampers) to suit intumescent fire dampers. Additional tests are included to give an assessment of the operational reliability of intumescent fire dampers.

This test is intended for intumescent fire dampers that are expected to be classified as EI dampers in accordance with ISO 10294-2. Without the addition of a mechanical damper, they are unable to achieve the “S” classification, which includes a leakage limit imposed at ambient temperatures.

### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 10294-1:1996, *Fire resistance tests — Fire dampers for air distribution systems — Part 1: Test method*

ISO 10294-2:1999, *Fire resistance tests — Fire dampers for air distribution systems — Part 2: Classification, criteria and field of application of test results*

ISO 10294-3:1999, *Fire resistance tests — Fire dampers for air distribution system — Part 3: Guidance on the test method*

ISO 10294-4: 2001, *Fire resistance tests — Fire dampers for air distribution systems — Part 4: Test of thermal release mechanism*

ISO 13943, *Fire safety — Vocabulary*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 13943 and the following apply.

**3.1 intumescent**  
term describing the phenomenon of expansion in excess of normal thermal expansion under the action of heat normally generated by the fire

**3.2 intumescent fire dampers**  
non-mechanical device, installed in a ducted system that intumesces when exposed to hot gases and acts as a barrier to fire and hot smoke

**3.3 intumescent sheet**  
intumescent material manufactured in rigid or flexible thin sections, typically 1 mm to 4 mm thick, usually cut into strips for incorporation into the fire damper

**3.4 covered intumescent**  
partly enclosed intumescent material to provide protection, modify the behaviour, improve the surface finish and/or enhance the aesthetics of the fire damper

**3.5 skinned intumescent material**  
totally enclosed intumescent material on all faces and edges to provide protection, modify the behaviour and improve the surface finish and/or the aesthetics of the fire damper

**3.6 specially shaped intumescent**  
intumescent material formed into special contours by extrusion, dipping, moulding, machining or spraying onto formers or mandrills

### 4 Procedure

#### 4.1 General considerations

##### 4.1.1 Apparatus

The apparatus for the fire test shall be as described in ISO 10294-1:1996. As intumescent dampers give off some moisture, a suitable condensing device shall be installed before the flow-measuring device. This will be deemed to be effective if the gas temperature within the flow-measuring device does not exceed 40 °C at any time during the test.

##### 4.1.2 Test specimen

The damper with the largest dimensions to be manufactured shall be tested. Where it is intended that multiple intumescent dampers will be used in a duct having a size greater than the individual damper size, the maximum number of dampers in the maximum-sized duct including all mullions and transoms together with any other supporting structure shall be tested.

### 4.1.3 Test procedure

#### 4.1.3.1 General procedure and criteria

Other than the exceptions stated below, carry out the test in accordance with ISO 10294-1. The criteria with respect to integrity and insulation shall be as specified in ISO 10294-2.

##### 4.1.3.1.1 Opening and closing cycles

The 50 opening and closing cycles specified are not applicable to this product.

**NOTE** The reason for the 50-cycle test for mechanical dampers is to demonstrate the likelihood of their functioning when called upon to do so, without jamming or disintegrating. Clearly a product that is activated by an irreversible chemical activity cannot be activated more than once. There are no parts moving mechanically in an intumescent fire damper, only the swelling of the intumescent material when activated by heat.

##### 4.1.3.1.2 Time to close

There is no requirement for the damper to close before 2 min, but it shall satisfy leakage requirements after 5 min into the test.

**NOTE** The 2 min limit in the test for mechanical dampers is the time beyond which it is deemed that dampers that have not closed will not do so; therefore, continuation of the test would be irrelevant. Since the time deemed necessary for the furnace to stabilize is 5 min and no sensor values are considered accurate enough to record until that time has elapsed, the 2 min period has no relevance in the case of intumescent dampers.

#### 4.1.3.3 Condensing device

A suitable condensing device may be considered to be a water tank fed with water at ambient temperature with about 9 m of measuring duct immersed in the tank prior to reaching the measuring device.

## 4.2 Reaction to fire tests — Intumescent materials

### 4.2.1 General

To ensure some equivalence with a mechanical damper, the following tests are described that allow an assessment of the reliability of intumescent materials used for intumescent fire dampers. These tests can be used as an initial type test to get the performance of an intumescent material tested. The result is normally used to define the specification for the material. In this case 10 specimens shall normally be tested. For the purpose of factory control, two specimens are normally used to show compliance with the specification.

Thermal activation and faulty set-off are normally tested only in the course of the initial type test but all three alternatives for “expansion pressure” are suitable tests for factory control.

Expansion pressure is normally determined at various temperatures during the initial type test to find out the range of minimum temperature dependence. For the purposes of factory production control these tests are normally conducted at a temperature in the range of temperature independence to ensure that the effect of temperature variation on the results is minimized.

Complete components or sections of components of the damper, in sufficient quantity to complete the range of testing required by the test authority and manufacturer, shall be nominated as representative specimens for initial type testing and all subsequent production control conformity tests, as dictated by local certification/approval needs.

Sample sets shall be placed in ambient laboratory conditions consisting of a temperature of  $23\text{ °C} \pm 4\text{ °C}$  and a humidity of 50 % for a minimum of seven days.

## 4.2.2 Thermal activation temperature test

### 4.2.2.1 General

This test is used to assess the activation temperature of the intumescent material used in the damper.

### 4.2.2.2 Apparatus

**4.2.2.2.1 Oven**, with an operating temperature range of 25 °C to 350 °C to within better than  $\pm 3$  °C.

**4.2.2.2.2 Temperature-measuring and display device** for the oven, with an accuracy of  $\pm 1$  °C.

### 4.2.2.3 Test specimens

Three specimens of the smallest-sized damper in the range of critical reactive intumescent components shall be tested.

### 4.2.2.4 Test method

Each specimen or critical reactive component shall be placed in the oven. The oven shall be set at 30 °C below the activation temperature given by the manufacturer for the intumescent material under test. The oven temperature shall be maintained for at least 15 min and intumescent activity observed. Should no intumescent development occur, the temperature shall be increased by increments of 5 °C and maintained for a minimum of 15 min at each stage until activation does commence.

## 4.2.3 Faulty set-off

### 4.2.3.1 General

This test method is intended to cover standard operating conditions (60 °C; see ISO 10294-4). However, the test method may be adapted to cover situations where the intumescent damper is intended to be operated at either lower or higher temperatures, for example dampers used in cold climates or those installed in warm-air ducts, by using the appropriate operating temperature as the test temperature. Except for the temperatures/threshold limits, there shall be accordance with all other conditions specified in this part of ISO 10294.

### 4.2.3.2 Apparatus

**4.2.3.2.1 Oven**, with a standard temperature operating range of 25 °C to at least 80 °C or a range compatible with the chosen operating temperature to within better than  $\pm 3$  °C.

**4.2.3.2.2 Temperature-measuring and display device** for oven, with an accuracy of  $\pm 1$  °C.

**4.2.3.2.3 Thickness-measuring device**, with an accuracy of  $\pm 0,05$  mm.

### 4.2.3.3 Test specimens

Three specimens of the smallest-sized damper in the range or three critical reactive intumescent components shall be tested. Where the intumescent material is covered by a protective skin that may be affected by the chosen operating temperature, the critical reactive intumescent component shall be composed the intumescent material and the skin.

### 4.2.3.4 Test method

The thickness of each specimen shall be measured at a minimum of four different locations on the intumescent reactive components and the values recorded. The specimens shall then be placed in a

pre-heated oven that is at the chosen temperature. The specimens shall be removed from the oven after 60 min and the thickness at the previously measured locations measured and recorded.

#### 4.2.3.5 Performance

The thickness shall not vary by more than 5 % of the measurements taken prior to placing in the oven.

### 4.2.4 Expansion pressure test

#### 4.2.4.1 General

This test is used to assess the pressure, and in the case of the pipe pressure test and the die-set pressure test also the expansion factor, of an intumescent material created during expansion on heating.

For intumescent material that is employed in an uncovered state and is not subject to any further processing prior to incorporation in the damper assembly, both the “disc pressure test” and the “pipe pressure test” are suitable.

Where the original intumescent material is covered, skinned, specially shaped or processed in such a way as to

- a) change the performance characteristics,
- b) improve or reduce resistance to moisture,
- c) increase or decrease chemical or gas resistance, and/or
- d) improve or reduce durability.

The coverings of intumescent materials may cause a variation of characteristics from the material in its uncovered state. Therefore, such specimens shall be selected complete with covering to provide authentic characteristics and normally the die-set pressure test is suitable. The specimens shall be of a shape and dimensions compatible with the product design.

#### 4.2.4.2 Expansion pressure — Disc pressure test method

##### 4.2.4.2.1 Apparatus

The test apparatus consists of two heating plates provided with a means of adjusting the distance between them. The lower plate is connected to a strain gauge/pressure transducer capable of measuring the pressure exerted by the expansion of the specimen. The strain gauge/pressure transducer is connected to a recorder that continuously records the measured pressure relative to time; see Figure B.1.

##### 4.2.4.2.2 Test specimens

The specimens shall be circular and die-cut to a size to suite the internal diameter of the test apparatus from the intumescent material used in the fabrication of the damper. Each specimen shall be weighed and measured after being die-cut and examined to ensure that there are no voids between the specimen and the internal face of the test apparatus.

##### 4.2.4.2.3 Test method

For uncovered sheet material, the specimen shall be placed in a steel cylinder whose height is equal to the thickness of the specimen. The inside diameter of the cylinder shall be the same size as the specimen.

The test apparatus shall be set such that there is an initial load between 0,1 N/mm<sup>2</sup> and 0,5 N/mm<sup>2</sup>, the heating plates of the apparatus are preheated to a minimum of 300 °C for standard applications or to the