



**International
Standard**

ISO 11998

**Paints and varnishes —
Determination of wet-scrub
resistance of coatings**

*Peintures et vernis — Détermination de la résistance au
frottement humide des revêtements*

**Third edition
2026-10**

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Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Principle	2
5 Reagents	2
6 Apparatus	2
7 Sampling	4
8 Procedure	4
8.1 Film application	4
8.2 Wet-scrub resistance	4
9 Expression of results	6
9.1 Calculation of the loss in coating mass per unit area	6
9.1.1 Area traversed by the scrub pad	6
9.1.2 Loss in coating mass per unit area	6
9.2 Calculation of mean loss in film thickness	6
9.3 Assessment of wet-scrub resistance	7
10 Precision	7
10.1 General	7
10.2 Repeatability	7
10.3 Reproducibility	7
11 Test report	7
Annex A (normative) Determination of dry-film density of the coating	8
Annex B (normative) Quality control of the non-woven abrasive	10
Annex C (normative) Acceptance of new non-woven abrasive	11
Annex D (normative) Preparation and formulation of reference paint	12
Annex E (informative) Example of reference paint	14
Annex F (informative) Details on interlaboratory comparison	16
Bibliography	17

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 document 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).

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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 35, *Paints and varnishes*, Subcommittee SC 9, *General test methods for paints and varnishes*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 139, *Paints and varnishes*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 11998:2006), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- the title has been changed to “Determination of wet-scrub resistance of coatings”;
- the introduction has been deleted;
- cleanability has been deleted completely;
- weighing accuracy has been changed from 1 mg to 0,1 mg;
- the description of the abrasive pad has been clarified;
- five new Annexes B to F have been added;
- a batch control of the non-woven abrasive has been introduced in Annex B;
- criteria for the acceptance of new non-woven abrasive have been introduced in Annex C;
- preparation and formulation of a general reference paint have been introduced in Annex D;
- preparation and formulation of an example reference paint have been introduced in Annex E;
- details on the interlaboratory comparison have been introduced in Annex F;
- the statistical data on reproducibility and repeatability have been updated.

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.

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Paints and varnishes — Determination of wet-scrub resistance of coatings

1 Scope

This document specifies an accelerated method for the determination of wet-scrub resistance. The determination of cleanability is not covered in the scope of this document.

NOTE The ability of coatings to withstand wear caused by repeated cleaning operations is an important consideration both from a practical point of view and when comparing and rating such coatings. Since wet-scrub resistance depends not only on the quality of a coating but also on the substrate, the method of application, the drying conditions and other factors, the results obtained are not directly transferable to actual practice. In this document, the evaluation of the coating is based on a defined substrate, a fixed application method, specified drying conditions and a defined method of wet scrubbing.

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 1513, *Paints and varnishes — Examination and preparation of test samples*

ISO 3696, *Water for analytical laboratory use — Specification and test methods*

ISO 4618, *Paints and varnishes — Vocabulary*

ISO 5725-2, *Accuracy (trueness and precision) of measurement methods and results — Part 2: Basic method for the determination of repeatability and reproducibility of a standard measurement method*

ISO 15528, *Paints, varnishes and raw materials for paints and varnishes — Sampling*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 4618 and the following 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 scrub cycle

one reciprocal movement of the scrub pad over the *scrub length* (3.2) in both directions

3.2 scrub length

stroke length (3.3) plus the length of the pad

3.3 stroke length

distance traversed by one stroke of the apparatus