
**Iron ores — Determination of
potassium — Flame atomic absorption
spectrometric method**

*Minerais de fer — Dosage du potassium — Méthode par
spectrométrie d'absorption atomique dans la flamme*

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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).

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For an explanation on 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 the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 102, *Iron ore and direct reduced iron*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Chemical analysis*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 13312:2006), of which it constitutes a minor revision with the following changes:

- in [7.2](#), a new sentence to make reference to ISO 2596 has been included;
- in [9.2.4](#), [Formula \(7\)](#) and the relevant descriptions have been modified to harmonize this subclause across all International Standards for which ISO/TC 102/SC 2 is responsible;
- in [5.4](#), [5.5](#), [8.4.2](#) and [9.2.1](#), the footnotes have been moved to the appropriate place.

Iron ores — Determination of potassium — Flame atomic absorption spectrometric method

WARNING — This document may involve hazardous materials, operations and equipment. This document does not purport to address all of the safety problems associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this document to establish appropriate health and safety practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

1 Scope

This document specifies a flame atomic absorption spectrometric method for the determination of the mass fraction of potassium in iron ores.

This method is applicable to mass fractions of potassium between 0,002 5 % and 0,52 % in natural iron ores, iron ore concentrates and agglomerates, including sinter products.

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 648, *Laboratory glassware — Single-volume pipettes*

ISO 1042, *Laboratory glassware — One-mark volumetric flasks*

ISO 2596, *Iron ores — Determination of hygroscopic moisture in analytical samples — Gravimetric, Karl Fischer and mass-loss methods*

ISO 3082, *Iron ores — Sampling and sample preparation procedures*

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

ISO 7764, *Iron ores — Preparation of predried test samples for chemical analysis*

ISO 11323, *Iron ore and direct reduced iron — Vocabulary*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 11323 apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

4 Principle

The test portion is decomposed by treatment with hydrochloric acid and hydrofluoric acid, followed by evaporation to dryness. The residue is wetted and the evaporation is repeated with a new portion of hydrochloric acid. The residue is dissolved with hydrochloric acid followed by appropriate dilution. The solution is aspirated into the air/acetylene flame of the atomic absorption apparatus.