
**Solid mineral fuels — Determination
of total mercury content of coal**

*Combustibles minéraux solides — Dosage du mercure total dans le
charbon*

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Foreword

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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 27, *Solid mineral fuels*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Methods of analysis*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 15237:2003), which has been technically revised. This document incorporates changes related to dated references and other minor items following its systematic review.

Introduction

Mercury occurs naturally in coal. It is an element that can be released during the combustion process.

The determination of the total mercury content of coal cannot be accomplished satisfactorily by traditional ashing and digestion procedures because of the volatility of the element.

Quantitative recovery can be achieved by strict adherence to the procedure set out in this document.

Instrumental methods for a more rapid determination of total mercury content are available. If such a method is to be used, it is important to demonstrate that the method is free from bias, when compared with this reference method and will give levels of repeatability and reproducibility which are the same, or better than, those quoted for the reference method (see [Clause 10](#)).

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