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**Solid biofuels — Determination of  
total content of sulfur and chlorine**

*Biocombustibles solides — Détermination de la teneur totale en  
soufre et en chlore*

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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](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#).

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 238, *Solid biofuels*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 16994:2015), of which it constitutes a minor revision.

## Introduction

Sulfur and chlorine are present in solid biofuels in varying concentrations. During the combustion process, they are usually converted to sulfur-oxides and chlorides. The presence of these elements and their reaction products can contribute significantly to corrosion and to environmentally harmful emissions.

Chlorine can be present in different organic and inorganic compounds and is to exceed or equal the water soluble amount that can be determined by ISO 16995.

Combustion in an oxygen atmosphere in a closed combustion vessel is the preferred method to digest biomass samples for a determination of the total content of sulfur and chlorine. An advantage of the method is that the digestion can be carried out in connection with the determination of the calorific value according to ISO 18125<sup>1)</sup>. Decomposition in closed vessels is an appropriate alternative method. Other analytical techniques (e.g. high-temperature combustion in a tube furnace and Eschka method) may also be used. The determination of the resultant chlorine and sulfur compounds can be done by different techniques, e.g. ion chromatography, ICP, titrimetry.

Automatic equipment and alternative methods may be used when these methods are validated with biomass reference samples of an adequate type and also meet the requirements of [Clause 10](#).

A list with typical sulfur and chlorine contents of solid biofuels can be found in ISO 17225-1:2014, Annex B.

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1) To be published.