

# Chemicals used for treatment of water intended for human consumption — Iron (III) chloride

The European Standard EN 888:2004 has the status of a  
British Standard

ICS 71.100.80

## National foreword

This British Standard is the official English language version of EN 888:2004. It supersedes BS EN 888:1999 which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee CII/59, Chemicals for drinking water treatment, which has the responsibility to:

- aid enquirers to understand the text;
- present to the responsible international/European committee any enquiries on the interpretation, or proposals for change, and keep the UK interests informed;
- monitor related international and European developments and promulgate them in the UK.

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### Summary of pages

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## Chemicals used for treatment of water intended for human consumption - Iron (III) chloride

Produits chimiques utilisés pour le traitement de l'eau destinée à la consommation humaine - Chlorure de fer (III)

Produkte zur Aufbereitung von Wasser für den menschlichen Gebrauch - Eisen(III)chlorid

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 30 September 2004.

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This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the Central Secretariat has the same status as the official versions.

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## Foreword

This document (EN 888:2004) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 164 "Water supply", the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2005, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2005.

This document supersedes EN 888:1998.

Significant technical differences between this edition and EN 888:1998 are as follows:

- a) replacement of the reference to EU Directive 80/778 of 15 July 1980 with the latest Directive in force (see[1]);
- b) expansion of annex A by addition of A.2 "Quality of commercial product";
- c) deletion of annex E.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

## Introduction

In respect of potential adverse effects on the quality of water intended for human consumption, caused by the product covered by this document:

- a) This document provides no information as to whether the product may be used without restriction in any of the Member States of the EU or EFTA;
- b) It should be noted that, while awaiting the adoption of verifiable European criteria, existing national regulations concerning the use and/or the characteristics of this product remain in force.

NOTE Conformity with this standard does not confer or imply acceptance or approval of the product in any of the Member States of the EU or EFTA. The use of the product covered by this document is subject to regulation or control by National Authorities.

## 1 Scope

This document is applicable to iron (III) chloride (a), iron (III) chloride hexahydrate (b), iron (III) chloride solution (c) used for treatment of water intended for human consumption. It describes the characteristics and specifies the requirements and the corresponding analytical methods for iron (III) chlorides (a), (b) and (c) (analytical methods are given in Annex B) and gives information for their use in water treatment.

## 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.

EN ISO 3696, *Water for analytical laboratory use – Specification and test methods* (ISO 3696:1987).

ISO 3165, *Sampling of chemical products for industrial use – Safety in sampling*

ISO 5790: 1979, *Inorganic chemical products for industrial use – General method for the determination of chloride content- Mercurimetric method*

ISO 6206, *Chemical products for industrial use – Sampling – Vocabulary*

ISO 8213, *Chemical products for industrial use – Sampling techniques – Solid chemical products in the form of particles varying from powders to coarse lumps*

## 3 Description

### 3.1 Identification

#### 3.1.1 Chemical name

- (a) iron (III) chloride ( $\text{FeCl}_3$ ).
- (b) iron (III) chloride hexahydrate ( $\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ).
- (c) iron (III) chloride solution.

#### 3.1.2 Synonym or common names

- (a) Ferric chloride, water free ferric chloride.
- (b) Ferric chloride hexahydrate.
- (c) Ferric chloride solution.

#### 3.1.3 Relative molecular mass

- (a) 162,21.for  $\text{FeCl}_3$
- (b) 270,31.for  $\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6 \text{H}_2\text{O}$

## EN 888:2004 (E)

### 3.1.4 Empirical formula

- (a)  $\text{FeCl}_3$ .
- (b)  $\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

### 3.1.5 Chemical formula

- (a)  $\text{FeCl}_3$ .
- (b)  $\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

### 3.1.6 CAS Registry Number <sup>1)</sup>

- (a) and (c) 7705-08-0.
- (b) 10025-77-1.

### 3.1.7 EINECS reference <sup>2)</sup>

231-729-4.

## 3.2 Commercial forms

Iron (III) chloride (a) is available as a crystalline powder.

Iron (III) chloride hexahydrate (b) is available as crystalline granules.

Liquid forms of iron (III) chloride (c) are available as solutions.

## 3.3 Physical properties

### 3.3.1 Appearance

Iron (III) chloride (a) is an hygroscopic, dark grey crystalline powder with a greenish sheen.

Iron (III) chloride hexahydrate (b) is an hygroscopic, yellow deliquescent crystalline granular material.

Liquid forms of iron (III) chloride (c) are dark brown solutions.

### 3.3.2 Density

The density of iron (III) chloride (a) is equal to  $2,89 \text{ g/cm}^3$  at  $20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ .

The density of iron (III) chloride hexahydrate (b) is equal to  $1,8 \text{ g/cm}^3$  at  $20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ .

The density of solutions of iron (III) chloride(c) is equal to  $1,43 \text{ g/ml}$  at  $20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for a mass fraction of 40 % of  $\text{FeCl}_3$ .

The bulk density of the products (a) and (b) is about  $1,0 \text{ kg/dm}^3$ .

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1) Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number

2) European Inventory of Existing Commercial Chemical Substances



**3.3.3 Solubility (in water)**

The solubility at 20 °C for the products

(a) and (b) is approximately up to a mass fraction of 47 % of FeCl<sub>3</sub>.

The products (a), (b) and (c) can be diluted down to about a mass fraction of 1 % of FeCl<sub>3</sub>. Below this concentration, hydrolysis and formation of iron hydroxide will occur.

**3.3.4 Vapour pressure**

For the product (a) 0,1 kPa at 20 °C.

**3.3.5 Boiling point at 100 kPa <sup>3)</sup>**

For the product (a) decomposition occurs at 315 °C.

For the product (b) decomposition starts at 160 °C.

**3.3.6 Melting point**

For the product (a) 304 °C (point of sublimation).

For the product (b) 37 °C.

For the product (c) the melting and crystallization points depending on concentration are given in Table 1.

**Table 1 – Melting point**

Solution concentration Mass fraction of FeCl <sub>3</sub> in %	Melting, crystallization point °C
34	-52
40	-12
45	+10

**3.3.7 Specific heat**

For the product (a) 600 kJ/kg.K.

For the product (b) not known.

For the product (c) not applicable.

**3.3.8 Viscosity (dynamic)**

For the products (a) and (b) it is not applicable.

For the product (c) the viscosity is about 10 mPa.s for a solution of a mass fraction of 40 % of FeCl<sub>3</sub> at 20 °C.

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3) 100 kPa = 1 bar

### 3.3.9 Critical temperature

Not applicable.

### 3.3.10 Critical pressure

Not applicable.

### 3.3.11 Physical hardness

Not applicable.

## 3.4 Chemical properties

The solutions of iron (III) chloride (a) and iron (III) chloride hexahydrate of (b), and the liquid forms of iron (III) chloride (c) are acidic and highly corrosive. Very diluted solutions hydrolyse and form a precipitate of iron hydroxide.

## 4 Purity criteria

### 4.1 General

This document specifies the minimum purity requirements for iron (III) chloride used for the treatment of water intended for human consumption. Limits are given for impurities commonly present in the product. Depending on the raw material and the manufacturing process other impurities may be present and, if so, this shall be notified to the user and when necessary to relevant authorities.

**NOTE** Users of these products should check the national regulations in order to clarify whether it is of appropriate purity for treatment of water intended for human consumption, taking account raw water quality, required dosage, contents of other impurities and additives used in the products not stated in this product standard.

Limits have been given for impurities and chemical parameters where these are likely to be present in significant quantities from the current production process and raw materials. If the production process or raw materials lead to significant quantities of impurities, by-products or additives being present, this shall be notified to the user.

## 4.2 Composition of commercial product

The concentration of active matter in the product expressed as mass fraction in % of  $\text{FeCl}_3$  or Fe (III) shall be within  $\pm 3$  % of the manufacturer's declared values.

The products shall conform to the following minimum requirements given in Table 2.

**Table 2 – Minimum concentration of active matter**

Commercial form	$\text{FeCl}_3$ Mass fraction in %	Fe (III) Mass fraction in %
Solid (a)	99	34
Solid (b)	59	20,3
Solution (c)	40	13,7

The concentration of the solutions (c) shall be within the manufacturer's specifications.

## 4.3 Impurities and main by-products

The product shall conform to the requirements specified in Table 3.

The concentration limits refer to Fe (III).

**Table 3 – Impurities**

Impurity	Limit Mass fraction of Fe (III) content in %		
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Manganese max.	0,5	1	2
Iron(II) <sup>a</sup> max.	2,5	2,5	2,5
Insoluble matters <sup>b</sup> max.	0,2	0,2	0,2

<sup>a</sup> Fe (II) has a lower coagulant efficiency compared to Fe (III).  
Also hydrolysis of Fe (II) starts at pH value 8, and therefore Fe (II) can remain into the water at lower pH values.

<sup>b</sup> an excess of insoluble matters indicates the presence of foreign matter Iron is a component of the product will usually be removed in the treatment process.

## 4.4 Chemical parameters

The product shall conform to the requirements specified in Table 4.

The concentration limits are specified in milligrams per kilogram of Fe (III).

**Table 4 – Chemical parameters**

Parameter		Limit mg/kg of Fe (III)		
		type 1	type 2	type 3
Arsenic (As)	max.	20	20	50
Cadmium (Cd)	max.	1	25	50
Chromium (Cr)	max.	50	350	500
Mercury (Hg)	max.	0,3	5	10
Nickel (Ni)	max.	60	350	500
Lead (Pb)	max.	35	100	400
Antimony (Sb)	max.	10	20	60
Selenium (Se)	max.	10	20	60

NOTE Cyanide (CN<sup>-</sup>), pesticides and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons are not relevant since the raw materials used in the manufacturing process are free of them. For maximum impact of iron (III) chloride on trace metal content in drinking water see A.2.

## 5 Test methods

### 5.1 Sampling

#### 5.1.1 General

Observe the general recommendations in ISO 3165 and take into account ISO 6206.

#### 5.1.2 Solid

Prepare the laboratory sample required by the relevant procedure described in ISO 8213.

#### 5.1.3 Liquid

##### 5.1.3.1 Sampling from drums and bottles

###### 5.1.3.1.1 General

**5.1.3.1.1.1** Mix the contents of each container to be sampled by shaking the container, by rolling it or by rocking it from side to side, taking care not to damage the container or spill any of the liquid.

**5.1.3.1.1.2** If the design of the container is such (for example, a narrow-necked bottle) that it is impracticable to use a sampling implement, take a sample by pouring after the contents have been thoroughly mixed. Otherwise, proceed as described in 5.1.3.1.1.3.

**5.1.3.1.1.3** Examine the surface of the liquid. If there are signs of surface contamination, take samples from the surface as described in 5.1.3.1.2. Otherwise, take samples as described in 5.1.3.1.3.

#### **5.1.3.1.2 Surface sampling**

Take a sample using a suitable ladle. Lower the ladle into the liquid until the rim is just below the surface, so that the surface layer runs into it. Withdraw the ladle just before it fills completely and allow any liquid adhering to the ladle to drain off. If necessary, repeat this operation so that, when the other selected containers have been sampled in a similar manner, the total volume of sample required for subsequent analysis is obtained.

#### **5.1.3.1.3 Bottom sampling**

Take a sample using an open sampling tube, or a bottom-valve sampling tube, suited to the size of container and the viscosity of the liquid.

When using an open sampling tube, close it at the top and then lower the bottom end to the bottom of the container. Open the tube and move it rapidly so that the bottom of the tube traverses the bottom of the container before the tube is filled. Close the tube, withdraw it from the container and allow any liquid adhering at the outside of the tube to drain off.

When using a bottom-valve sampling tube, close the valve before lowering the tube into the container and then proceed in a similar manner to that when using an open sampling tube.

#### **5.1.3.2 Sampling from tanks and tankers**

From each access point, take samples as follows:

- a) from the surface of the liquid, using a ladle as described in 5.1.3.1.2;
- b) from the bottom of the tank or tanker, using a sampling tube as described in 5.1.3.1.3 or using specially designed bottom-sampling apparatus;
- c) from one or more positions, depending on the overall depth, between the bottom and the surface using a weighted sampling can.

## **5.2 Analyses**

### **5.2.1 Main product**

Iron (III)chloride is determined as Fe (III) contents in the test sample. Fe (III) content is determined as the difference between total iron content and Fe (II) content (see B.1).

### **5.2.2 Impurities**

#### **5.2.2.1 Manganese**

The manganese content shall be determined by flame atomic absorption spectrometry (FAAS) (see B.2).

#### **5.2.2.2 Iron(II)**

The iron (II) content is expressed as  $C_{(II)}$  (see B.1.2.5.3).

#### **5.2.2.3 Insoluble matters**

The mass fraction in % of the insoluble matters shall be determined in accordance with the method described in B.3.

### 5.2.3 Chemical parameters

#### 5.2.3.1 Preparation of sample solution

##### 5.2.3.1.1 General

Oxidation and wet digestion is used to bring the samples into a stable solution.

##### 5.2.3.1.2 Principle

Oxidation with hydrogen peroxide ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ) followed by digestion with hydrochloric acid (HCl).

##### 5.2.3.1.3 Reagents

All reagents shall be of a recognized analytical grade and the water used shall conform to the grade 3 specified in EN ISO 3696.

5.2.3.1.3.1 Hydrochloric acid (HCl), solution, mass fraction 30 %.

5.2.3.1.3.2 Hydrogen peroxide ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ), solution, mass fraction 30 %.

##### 5.2.3.1.4 Apparatus

Ordinary laboratory apparatus and glassware together with the following.

5.2.3.1.4.1 Analytical balance.

5.2.3.1.4.2 Graduated cylinder, capacity 50 ml.

5.2.3.1.4.3 Round flask with reflux condenser.

5.2.3.1.4.4 Hot plate.

5.2.3.1.4.5 Volumetric flask, capacity 200 ml.

##### 5.2.3.1.5 Procedure

Dissolve with 20 ml of water 20,0 g of the iron salt or iron solution. Add 5 ml hydrogen peroxide solution (5.2.3.1.3.2) to iron (III)-samples. After adding 50 ml hydrochloric acid (5.2.3.1.3.1) boil the solution for 15 min by using a reflux condenser (5.2.3.1.4.3). Cool down the solution, transfer to a 200 ml volumetric flask (5.2.3.1.4.5) and fill up to the mark with water. This is the sample solution.

#### 5.2.3.2 Arsenic

The arsenic content shall be determined by hydride generation atomic absorption spectrometry (see B.4).

#### 5.2.3.3 Cadmium

The cadmium content shall be determined by graphite furnace atomic absorption spectrometry (see B.6).

#### 5.2.3.4 Chromium

The chromium content shall be determined by graphite furnace atomic absorption spectrometry (see B.6).

**5.2.3.5 Mercury**

The mercury content shall be determined by cold vapour atomic absorption spectrometry (see B.5).

**5.2.3.6 Nickel**

The nickel content shall be determined by graphite furnace atomic absorption spectrometry (see B.6).

**5.2.3.7 Lead**

The lead content shall be determined by graphite furnace atomic absorption spectrometry (see B.6).

**5.2.3.8 Antimony**

The antimony content shall be determined by hydride generation atomic absorption spectrometry (see B.4).

**5.2.3.9 Selenium**

The selenium content shall be determined by hydride generation atomic absorption spectrometry (see B.4).

**6 Labelling – Transportation – Storage****6.1 Means of delivery**

In order that the purity of the product is not affected, the means of delivery shall not have been used previously for any different product or it shall have been specially cleaned and prepared before use.

**6.2 Risk and safety labelling according to the EU Directives <sup>4)</sup>**

Iron (III) chloride is not subject to labelling regulations.

NOTE Annex I of the Directive 67/548/EEC on Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances and its amendments and adaptations in the European Union contains a list of substances classified by the EU. Substances not in this Annex I should be classified on the basis of their intrinsic properties according to the criteria in the Directive by the person responsible for the marketing of the substance.

**6.3 Transportation regulations and labelling**

The commercial product can be subject to transportation regulations and, if so, the iron (III) chloride (a) is listed as UN Number <sup>5)</sup> 1773 and the liquid forms (c) as UN number 2582.

RID <sup>6)</sup> ADR <sup>7)</sup>: (a) class 8, classification code C2; packing group III;  
(c) class 8, classification code C1; packing group III;

IMDG <sup>8)</sup>: (a) class 8; (c) class 8.

IATA <sup>9)</sup>: (a) class 8; (c) class 8.

4) See [2].

5) United Nations Number

6) Regulations concerning International carriage of Dangerous goods by rail

7) European Agreement concerning the international carriage of Dangerous goods by Road

8) International Maritime transport of Dangerous Goods

## 6.4 Marking

The marking shall include the following information:

- the name "iron (III) chloride", trade name, commercial form, grade and type;
- the net mass;
- the name and the address of the supplier and/or manufacturer;
- the statement "This product conforms to EN 888".

## 6.5 Storage

### 6.5.1 Long term stability

Products are stable, but for solution (c) see 6.5.2.

### 6.5.2 Storage incompatibilities

Products (a) and (b): keep barrels dry and tightly closed. Keep away from water, these products are hygroscopic.

Solution (c): keep away from alkalis, this product reacts aggressively towards metals and strong oxidizing agents (chlorites, hypochlorites and sulfites).



## Annex A (informative)

### General information on iron (III) chloride

#### A.1 Origin

##### A.1.1 Raw materials

Depending on the product and the manufacturer, the iron (III) chloride is manufactured from: iron, iron ore, chlorine.

Depending on the product and manufacturer, the iron (III) chloride hexahydrate and the iron (III) chloride solutions are manufactured from: iron, iron (II) chloride, chlorine, iron (III) oxide, hydrochloric acid.

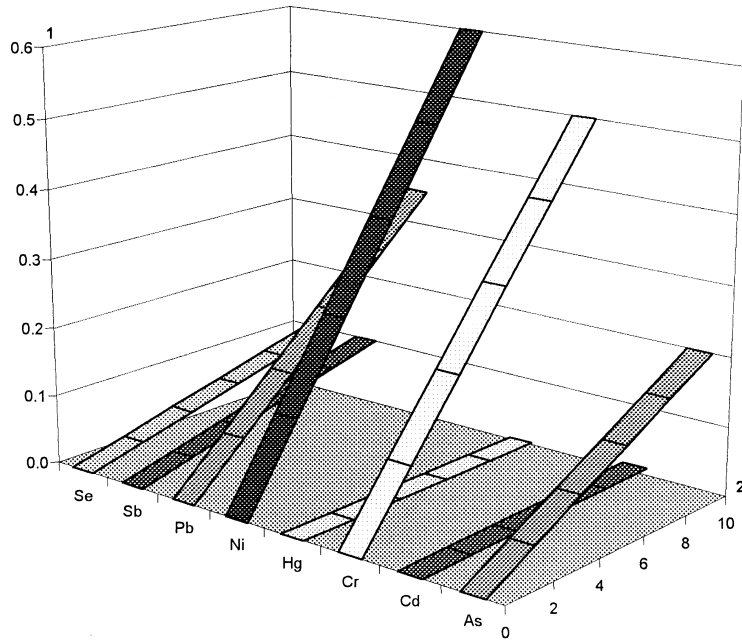
##### A.1.2 Manufacturing process

Iron (III) chloride is produced by reaction of iron or iron (III) oxide with chlorine.

Iron (III) chloride hexahydrate and iron (III) chloride solution are produced by reaction of iron or iron (III) oxide with chlorine or by reaction of iron (III) oxide and hydrochloric acid.

#### A.2 Quality of commercial product

The three types of iron (II) chloride specified in Table 4 reflect the quality of commercially available products. Figures A.1 to A.3 show the maximum concentrations of trace metals that would be added to the raw water by the addition of products corresponding to the purity levels specified in Table 4. It can be seen that the concentrations of metal added are well below the Parametric Values given in the EU Directive 98/83/EC (see [1]) at typical product doses. Furthermore, the figures overstate the concentrations of metals that would be present in the treated water since a substantial proportion of the trace metals will be incorporated in the sludge. Users of this product should select an appropriate grade and type to enable them to achieve treated water quality targets taking into account raw water characteristics, required dosage, process plant conditions and other relevant factors.

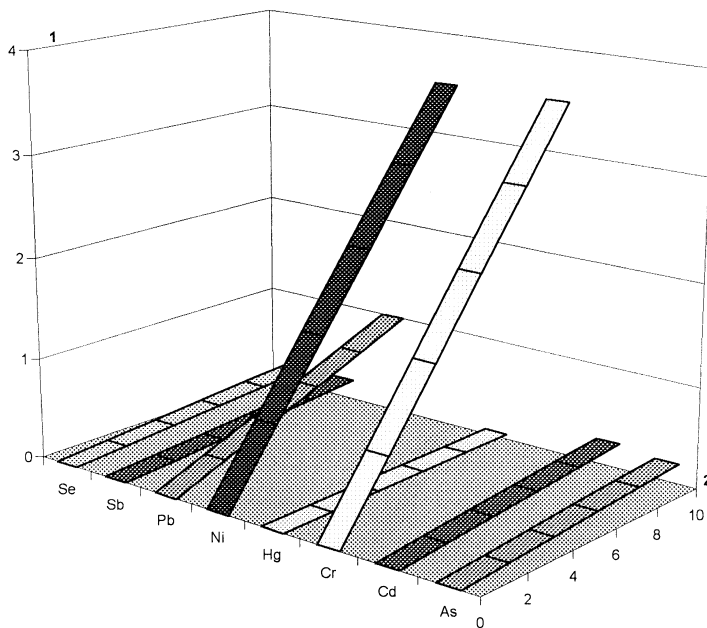


A	B
As	10
Cd	5
Cr	50
Hg	1
Ni	20
Pb	10
Sb	5
Se	10

**Key**

- 1 Maximum addition to water  $\mu\text{g/l}$  metal
- 2 Product dosage  $\text{mg/l}$  Fe - Typical dose
- A Element
- B Drinking water limit  $\mu\text{g/l}$

**Figure A.1 — Maximum impact of iron (III) chloride, type 1, on trace metal content of water**

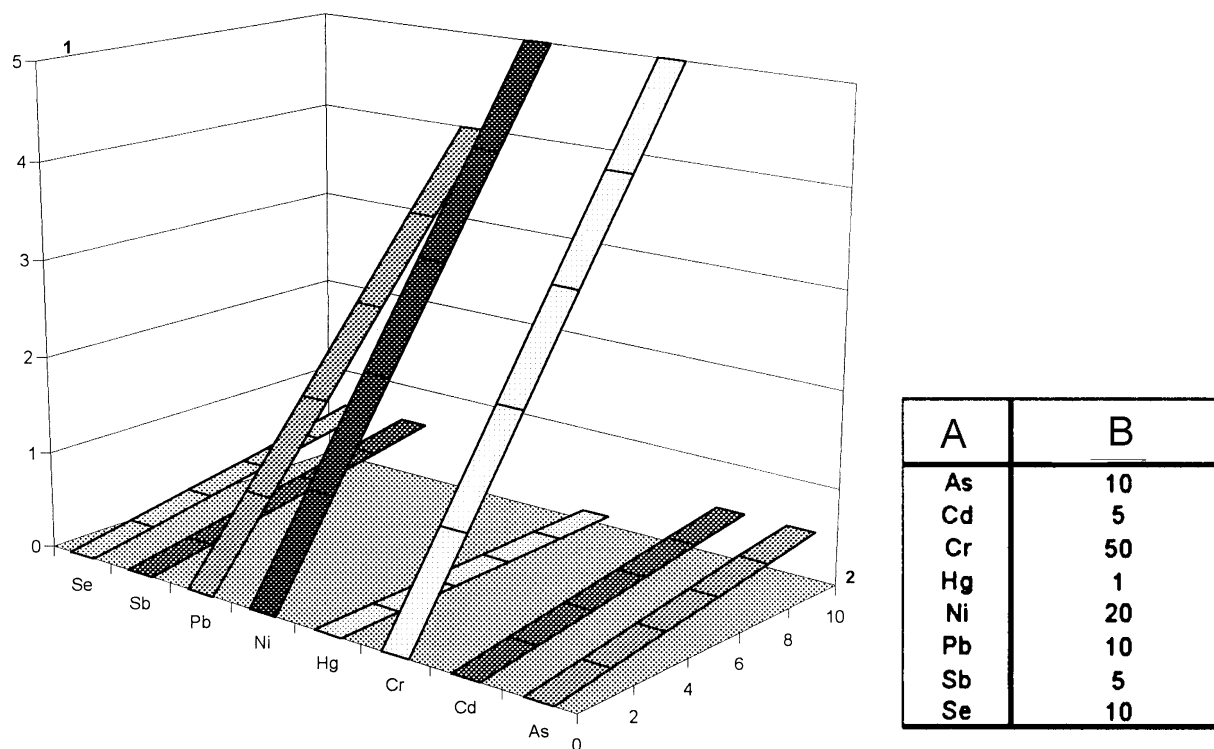


A	B
As	10
Cd	5
Cr	50
Hg	1
Ni	20
Pb	10
Sb	5
Se	10

**Key**

- 1 Maximum addition to water  $\mu\text{g/l}$  metal
- 2 Product dosage  $\text{mg/l}$  Fe - Typical dose
- A Element
- B Drinking water limit  $\mu\text{g/l}$

**Figure A.2 — Maximum impact of iron (III) chloride, type 2, on trace metal content of water**

**Key**

- 1 Maximum addition to water µg/l metal  
 2 Product dosage mg/l Fe - Typical dose  
 A Element  
 B Drinking water limit µg/l

Figure A.3 — Maximum impact of iron (III) chloride, type 3, on trace metal content of water

**A.3 Use****A.3.1 Function**

The products are used as primary coagulants.

**A.3.2 Form in which it is used**

The products are used up to about a mass fraction of 40 % of  $\text{FeCl}_3$  (the concentration should not be less than a mass fraction of 1 % of  $\text{FeCl}_3$ , because solutions of lower concentration can hydrolyse and form a precipitate).

**A.3.3 Treatment dose**

The treatment dose is variable depending on raw water quality and applications. In most cases, the treatment dose corresponds to approximately  $2 \text{ g/m}^3$  to  $10 \text{ g/m}^3$  expressed as Fe.

### **A.3.4 Means of application**

The products are applied in solution form usually dosed by positive displacement metering pump. Sufficient turbulence should be provided at the point of addition to promote rapid dispersion. Product supplied as solution can be dosed by metering of the neat product followed by dilution with carrier water.

### **A.3.5 Secondary effects**

- Reduction of pH value
- Reduction of alkalinity.
- Increase in chloride concentration.

### **A.3.6 Removal of excess product**

The coagulation process includes the hydrolysis of the ferric ions to ferric hydroxide. This precipitate is removed by sedimentation, flotation, and/or filtration.

## **A.4 General rules relating to safety**

### **A.4.1 Rules for safe handling and use**

The supplier will provide current safety instructions.

### **A.4.2 Emergency procedures**

#### **A.4.2.1 First aid**

In case of contact with skin, all contaminated clothing should be removed and the skin washed with plenty of soap and water.

In case of contact with eyes, they should be rinsed with running water (15 min), with eyelids open.

In case of ingestion, the patient should be made to drink water.

In case of inhalation, the patient should be removed to fresh air.

In all cases of contact with skin and eyes, ingestion and inhalation: medical advice should be sought.

#### **A.4.2.2 Spillage**

The major of the spillage should be collected; the remainder should be neutralized with calcium hydroxide and rinsed with plenty of water.

#### **A.4.2.3 Fire**

The products are not combustible. In case of excessive heat: chlorine and hydrogen chloride can be produced.

## Annex B (normative)

### Analytical methods

#### B.1 Determination of iron(III) chloride

##### B.1.1 Total iron

###### B.1.1.1 General

This method applies to products with iron contents greater than a mass fraction of 0,2 %.

###### B.1.1.2 Principle

Iron is reduced by tin (II) chloride and is subsequently titrated with potassium dichromate solution.

###### B.1.1.3 Reagents

All reagents shall be of a recognized analytical grade and the water used shall conform to the grade 3 in accordance with EN ISO 3696.

**B.1.1.3.1** Hydrochloric acid, HCl concentrated, density  $\rho = 1,19$  g/ml.

**B.1.1.3.2** Tin (II) chloride solution,  $c(\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}) = 0,5$  mol/l. Dissolve 22,6 g of  $\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  with 20 ml of hydrochloric acid (B.1.1.3.1) and dilute with water to 200 ml. Keep this solution in the dark.

**B.1.1.3.3** Mercury (II) chloride, saturated solution  $c(\text{HgCl}_2) = 0,27$  mol/l.

**B.1.1.3.4** Sulfuric acid,  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  concentrated, density  $\rho = 1,84$  g/ml.

**B.1.1.3.5** Phosphoric acid,  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  concentrated, density  $\rho = 1,71$  g/ml.

**B.1.1.3.6** Barium diphenylamine sulfonate solution,  $c(\text{Ba}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{-NH-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_3)_2) = 8$  mmol/l.

**B.1.1.3.7** Potassium dichromate solution,  $c(\text{K}_2\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7) = 0,0166$  mol/l.

###### B.1.1.4 Apparatus

Ordinary laboratory apparatus and glassware.

###### B.1.1.5 Procedure

###### B.1.1.5.1 Test solution

Weigh to the nearest 0,1 mg, 10 g of the laboratory sample and transfer into a 200 ml volumetric flask, dilute to the mark with water. Pipette 10 ml and transfer to a 500 ml conical flask.

#### B.1.1.5.2 Determination

Add some drops of hydrochloric acid (B.1.1.3.1) and heat until boiling while stirring.

Add drop by drop tin (II) chloride solution (B.1.1.3.2) until discoloration.

Reduction shall be achieved with great care. Two drops of tin (II) chloride (B.1.1.3.2) are necessary, more shall be avoided.

Cool the solution rapidly in cool water.

Add 10 ml of mercury (II) chloride (B.1.1.3.3). Dilute to 200 ml and wait 3 min. A slight white cloud will appear regarding to mercury (II) chloride addition. If a precipitate appears, stop the titration and reduce another aliquot of the laboratory sample.

Add 10 ml of sulfuric acid (B.1.1.3.4) and 10 ml of phosphoric acid (B.1.1.3.5).

NOTE An alternative reduction method is given in annex C.

Titrate the test solution with potassium dichromate (B.1.1.3.7) with a volumetric burette and add five drops of barium diphenylamine sulfonate (B.1.1.3.6) near the end-point.

End-point is achieved when a persistent purple colour appears. Record the volume ( $V$ ) of potassium dichromate required for the complete titration.

**SAFETY PRECAUTIONS** Collect the residual solutions obtained from titrations and treat them in accordance with annex B of ISO 5790:1979, in order to prevent pollution of waste water.

#### B.1.1.5.3 Expression of results

The total iron content,  $C_{\text{tot}}$  expressed as mass fraction in %, is given by the following equation:

$$C_{\text{tot}} = \frac{V \times 11,16}{m} \quad (1)$$

where

$V$  is the volume, in millilitres, of potassium dichromate required for the titration;

$m$  is the mass, in grams, of the sample used for the test solution.

### B.1.2 Determination of iron (II): Fe (II)

#### B.1.2.1 General

This method applies to products with iron contents greater than a mass fraction of 0,2 %.

#### B.1.2.2 Principle

Iron is directly titrated with potassium dichromate solution.

**B.1.2.3 Reagents**

All reagents shall be of a recognized analytical grade and the water used shall conform to the grade 3 in accordance with EN ISO 3696.

**B.1.2.3.1** Sulfuric acid,  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  concentrated, density  $\rho = 1,84$  g/ml.

**B.1.2.3.2** Phosphoric acid,  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  concentrated, density  $\rho = 1,71$  g/ml.

**B.1.2.3.3** Barium diphenylamine sulfonate solution,  $c(\text{Ba}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{-NH-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_3)_2) = 8$  mmol/l.

**B.1.2.3.4** Potassium dichromate solution,  $c(\text{K}_2\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7) = 0,0166$  mol/l.

**B.1.2.4 Apparatus**

Ordinary laboratory apparatus and glassware.

**B.1.2.5 Procedure****B.1.2.5.1 Test solution**

In a 500 ml conical flask, pour 200 ml of water, add 10 ml of sulfuric acid (B.1.2.3.1) and 10 ml of phosphoric acid (B.1.2.3.2). Cool with water.

Weigh, to the nearest 0,1 mg, between 3 g and 10 g of the laboratory sample and transfer to the conical flask containing the acid solution.

**B.1.2.5.2 Determination**

Titrate the test solution with potassium dichromate (B.1.2.3.4) with a volumetric burette and add five drops of barium diphenylamine sulfonate (B.1.2.3.3) near the end-point.

End-point is achieved when a persistent purple colour appears, record the volume ( $V$ ) of potassium dichromate required for the complete titration.

**B.1.2.5.3 Expression of results**

The iron (II) content,  $C_{(\text{II})}$  expressed as mass fraction in %, is given by the following equation:

$$C_{(\text{II})} = \frac{V \times 0,558}{m} \quad (2)$$

where

$V$  is the volume, in millilitres, of potassium dichromate required for the titration;

$m$  is the mass, in grams, of the sample used for the test solution.

### B.1.3 Determination of iron (III): Fe (III)

The iron (III) content,  $C_{(III)}$  expressed as mass fraction in %, is given by the following equation:

$$C_{(III)} = C_{\text{tot}} - C_{(II)} \quad (3)$$

where

$C_{\text{tot}}$  is the total iron content (B.1.1.5.3), expressed as mass fraction;

$C_{(II)}$  is the iron (II) content (B.1.2.5.3), expressed as mass fraction.

## B.2 Determination of manganese

### B.2.1 General

This method is applicable to iron salts or iron solutions with manganese content greater than a mass fraction of 0,05 %.

### B.2.2 Principle

Iron salts or iron solutions are diluted in water. Manganese is determined in this diluted solution by direct injection of the solution into the flame of an atomic absorption spectrometer. Manganese is converted to the atomic state by thermal dissociation. The absorption of the atoms is measured in the light path of the FAAS at a wavelength specific to the element. The concentrations are calculated by means of a calibration curve.

### B.2.3 Reagents

All reagents shall be of a recognized analytical grade, water shall conform to the grade 3 in accordance with EN ISO 3696 and ultra pure grade hydrochloric acid shall be used.

**B.2.3.1** Hydrochloric acid (HCl), solution, mass fraction 30 %.

**B.2.3.2** Manganese, standard stock solution  $c_0(\text{Mn}) = 1 \text{ g/l}$ .

**B.2.3.3** Manganese, intermediate standard solution,  $c_1(\text{Mn}) = 100 \text{ mg/l}$  : Pipette 10 ml of standard stock solution (B.2.3.2) into a 100 ml volumetric flask (B.2.4.1), add 3 ml of hydrochloric acid (B.2.3.1) and dilute to the mark with water .

**B.2.3.4** Manganese, standard solution,  $c_2(\text{Mn}) = 0,5 \text{ mg/l}$  : Pipette 0,5 ml of intermediate standard solution (B.2.3.3) into a 100 ml volumetric flask (B.2.4.1) and dilute to the mark with water.

**B.2.3.5** Manganese, standard solution,  $c_3(\text{Mn}) = 1 \text{ mg/l}$  : Pipette 1 ml of intermediate standard solution (B.2.3.3) into a 100 ml volumetric flask (B.2.4.1) and dilute to the mark with water.

**B.2.3.6** Manganese, standard solution,  $c_4(\text{Mn}) = 2 \text{ mg/l}$ : Pipette 2 ml of intermediate standard solution (B.2.3.3) into a 100 ml volumetric flask (B.2.4.1) and dilute to the mark with water.

**B.2.3.7** Manganese, standard solution,  $c_5(\text{Mn}) = 3 \text{ mg/l}$ : Pipette 3 ml of intermediate standard solution (B.2.3.3) into a 100 ml volumetric flask (B.2.4.1) and dilute to the mark with water.

**B.2.3.8** Blank solution: Pipette 3 ml of hydrochloric acid (B.2.3.1) into a 200 ml volumetric flask (B.2.4.1) and dilute to the mark with water.



## B.2.4 Apparatus

Ordinary laboratory apparatus and glassware together with the following.

- B.2.4.1 Volumetric flasks, capacity 100 ml and 200 ml.
- B.2.4.2 Analytical balance, having an accuracy of  $\pm 0,1$  mg.
- B.2.4.3 Flame atomic absorption spectrometer.
- B.2.4.4 Electrode-less discharge or hollow cathode lamp for the determination of manganese.

## B.2.5 Procedure

### B.2.5.1 Sample solution

Weigh to the nearest 0,1 mg, 20 g of the laboratory sample, transfer into a 200 ml volumetric flask (B.2.4.1) and dilute to the mark with water.

### B.2.5.2 Spectrometer settings

The operating parameters of the flame atomic absorption spectrometer are adjusted in accordance with the operating manual issued by the manufacturer.

The spectrometer is operated at the wavelength specific for manganese: 279,5 nm. The flame composition is the following: Air : 13,5 l/min - Acetylene : 2,0 l/min.

### B.2.5.3 Determination

#### B.2.5.3.1 Test solution

Pipette 5 ml of the sample solution (B.2.5.1) into a 100 ml volumetric flask (B.2.4.1), add 3 ml of hydrochloric acid (B.2.3.1) and dilute to the mark with water.

#### B.2.5.3.2 Measurement

Inject the test solution (B.2.5.3.1) directly into the flame by aspiration through the nebuliser, setting the spectrometer as described in B.2.5.2. Repeat the injection three times, record the absorbance and calculate the mean.

#### B.2.5.4 Calibration function

To provide the calibration function, measure the absorbance of the four standard solutions (B.2.3.7, B.2.3.6, B.2.3.5 and B.2.3.4) and the absorbance of the blank solution (B.2.3.8) respectively measured in the same way as the sample solutions (see B.2.5.3.2). Calculate a calibration function with the absorbance means, expressed in absorbance unit, of each solutions on vertical axis and the concentrations, expressed in milligrams per litre, on the horizontal axis.

### B.2.5.5 Expression of results

The manganese concentration ( $C_{\text{Mn}}$ ) in the test solution is calculated with the calibration function (B.2.5.4).

The manganese concentration of the iron salts or iron solutions ( $C_s$ ) expressed in milligrams per kilogram of iron product is calculated as follows:

$$C_s = \frac{C_{\text{Mn}} \times 100 \times 200}{5 \times m} = C_{\text{Mn}} \times 4000 / m \quad (4)$$

where

$C_{\text{Mn}}$  is the manganese concentration in the test solution in milligrams per litre;

$m$  is the mass, in grams, of the sample used for the test solution.

## B.3 Determination of insoluble matters

### B.3.1 General

This method is applicable to the determination of insoluble matters in iron based coagulants.

The measuring range of insoluble matters is between a mass fraction of 0,002 % and 10 %.

### B.3.2 Principle

The sample is diluted with hydrochloric acid, in order to maintain the pH value below 2, and filtered through a dried 0,22  $\mu\text{m}$  pore size membrane filter. The filter is washed with diluted hydrochloric acid and dried at 105 °C. The mass of material retained by the filter is determined.

### B.3.3 Reagents

**B.3.3.1** Deionised water.

**B.3.3.2** Hydrochloric acid solution,  $c(\text{HCl}) = 0,2 \text{ mol/l}$ .

**B.3.3.3** Hydrochloric acid solution. Dissolve 5,0 ml hydrochloric acid (B.3.3.2) with 100 ml water (B.3.3.1). The pH of the solution shall be less than 2.

### B.3.4 Apparatus

Ordinary laboratory apparatus and glassware together with the following

**B.3.4.1** Membrane filter, pore size 0,22  $\mu\text{m}$ .

**B.3.4.2** Desiccator with dry silica gel.

**B.3.4.3** Oven.

### B.3.5 Procedure

Dry a 0,22 µm pore size membrane filter (B.3.4.1) in an oven (B.3.4.3) for 30 min at 105°C. Transfer the membrane filter to a desiccator with dry silica gel (B.3.4.2) and let it cool to room temperature. Determine the mass of the dried filter on a balance weighing to an accuracy of 0,001g.

Dilute about 60 g of the sample ( $m_0$ ) with 100 ml diluted hydrochloric acid (B.3.3.3).

Filter the diluted sample through the weighed dried filter. Wash the filter with three 50 ml portions of diluted hydrochloric acid (B.3.3.3).

Dry the filter for 2 h at 105 °C. Cool the filter in a desiccator. Weigh the filter.

### B.3.6 Calculation

The insoluble matters ( $l_m$ ) as mass fraction are given by the following equation:

$$l_m = \frac{(m_2 - m_1) \times 100}{m_0} \quad (5)$$

where

$m_0$  is the mass, in grams, of the test portion;

$m_1$  is the mass, in grams, of the dry filter;

$m_2$  is the mass, in grams, of the dry filter cake with filter.

### B.3.7 Precision

Under the repeatability conditions the coefficient of variation is 18 % with 10 measurements.

## B.4 Determination of arsenic, antimony and selenium by hydride generation atomic absorption spectrometry (AAS)

### B.4.1 General

This method is suitable for the determination of low concentrations of arsenic, antimony and selenium in iron salts or iron solutions.

The suitable concentration ranges of this method are:

— As 0,1 mg/kg to 0,5 mg/kg;

— Sb 0,1 mg/kg to 0,5 mg/kg;

— Se 0,1 mg/kg to 0,5 mg/kg.

For higher concentrations the sample solution shall be diluted.

## B.4.2 Principle

Arsenic (As), antimony (Sb) and selenium (Se) are reduced to the elemental hydrides  $\text{AsH}_3$ ,  $\text{SbH}_3$  and  $\text{SeH}_4$  by sodium tetrahydroborate. The gaseous hydrides are conveyed with argon gas to a heated quartz cuvette and thermally decomposed. The absorption of the atoms is measured in the light path of an atomic absorption spectrometer at a wavelength specific to the element. The concentrations are calculated by means of calibration curves.

## B.4.3 Reagents

All reagents shall be of a recognized analytical grade and the water used shall conform to the grade 3 in accordance with EN ISO 3696.

**B.4.3.1** Hydrochloric acid (HCl), solution, mass fraction 30 %.

**B.4.3.2** L-ascorbic acid, solution 100 g/l.

**B.4.3.3** Oxalic acid, solution 100 g/l.

**B.4.3.4** Potassium iodide, solution 100 g/l.

**B.4.3.5** Sulfuric acid solution,  $c(\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4) = 1 \text{ mol/l}$ .

**B.4.3.6** Sodium tetrahydroborate solution, mass fraction of 5 %  $\text{NaBH}_4$  in NaOH solution of a mass fraction of 1 %.

**B.4.3.7** Element stock solutions,  $c_0(\text{As, Sb, Se}) = 1 \text{ g/l}$ .

**B.4.3.8** Standard element solutions,  $c_1(\text{As, Sb, Se}) = 10 \text{ mg/l}$ , to be prepared by dilution of B.4.3.7.

**B.4.3.9** Standard element solutions,  $c_2(\text{As, Sb, Se}) = 0,1 \text{ mg/l}$ , to be prepared by dilution of B.4.3.8.

**B.4.3.10** Element reference solutions, prepared by pipetting 1 ml, 2 ml, 4 ml, 8 ml and 10 ml of each of the standard element solutions (B.4.3.9) into a series of 100 ml volumetric flasks (B.4.4.3), adding 30 ml oxalic acid (B.4.3.3), 10 ml potassium iodide (B.4.3.4), 5 ml L-ascorbic acid (B.4.3.2) and 5 ml hydrochloric acid (B.4.3.1) for As and Sb. Then fill the volumetric flasks up to the mark with water. The concentrations of the reference solutions will be 1  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 2  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 4  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 8  $\mu\text{g/l}$  and 10  $\mu\text{g/l}$ .

**B.4.3.11** Sample blank solution.

#### B.4.4 Apparatus

Ordinary laboratory apparatus and glassware together with the following.

- B.4.4.1 Pipettes, capacity, 5 ml, 10 ml and 20 ml.
- B.4.4.2 Graduated cylinder, capacity 50 ml.
- B.4.4.3 Volumetric flasks, capacity 100 ml.
- B.4.4.4 Atomic absorption spectrometer.
- B.4.4.5 Electrode-less discharge lamps for the determination of As, Sb and Se.
- B.4.4.6 Hydride system consisting of a heatable quartz cuvette, a reaction unit and a control unit.
- B.4.4.7 Argon gas supply.

#### B.4.5 Procedure

##### B.4.5.1 Spectrometer settings

The atomic absorption spectrometer (B.4.4.4) and the hydride generator unit (B.4.4.6) are adjusted in accordance with the operating manual issued by the manufacturer. The spectrometer is operating at the wavelength for each element:

- As 193,7 nm;
- Sb 217,6 nm;
- Se 196,0 nm

The quartz cuvette is heated to 900 °C.

##### B.4.5.2 Measurement of arsenic and antimony

Take 20 ml of the sample solution (5.2.3.1.5) with a pipette (B.4.4.1) and transfer to a 100 ml volumetric flask (B.4.4.3). Add with a graduated cylinder (B.4.4.2) 30 ml oxalic acid (B.4.3.3), 10 ml potassium iodide (B.4.3.4), 5 ml L-ascorbic acid (B.4.3.2) and 5 ml hydrochloric acid (B.4.3.1), then make up to the mark with water. The prepared solution shall be allowed to stand for 3 h to ensure complete reaction. Then transfer 5 ml of the solution with a pipette (B.4.4.1) to the reduction vessel, add 10 ml sulfuric acid (B.4.3.5) and start the hydride control unit. The solution is reduced with  $\text{NaBH}_4$  and immediately  $\text{AsH}_3$  and  $\text{SbH}_3$  are transferred with the argon gas (B.4.4.7) to the 900 °C heated quartz cuvette. Measure the absorption of arsenic with an arsenic specific lamp (B.4.4.5) at wavelength 193,7 nm. Measure the absorption of antimony with an antimony specific lamp (B.4.4.5) at wavelength 217,6 nm.

##### B.4.5.3 Measurement of selenium

Transfer 20 ml of the sample solution (5.2.3.1.5) with a pipette (B.4.4.1) to a 100 ml volumetric flask. Add 30 ml oxalic acid (B.4.3.3) and 5 ml hydrochloric acid (B.4.3.1), then make up to the mark with water. Transfer 5 ml of the solution with a pipette to the reduction vessel, add 10 ml sulfuric acid (B.4.3.5) and start the hydride control unit. The solution is reduced with  $\text{NaBH}_4$  and immediately  $\text{SeH}_4$  is transferred with the argon gas (B.4.4.7) to the 900 °C heated quartz cuvette. Measure the absorption of selenium with a selenium specific lamp (B.4.4.5) at wavelength 196,0 nm.

**B.4.5.4 Calculation and expression of results**

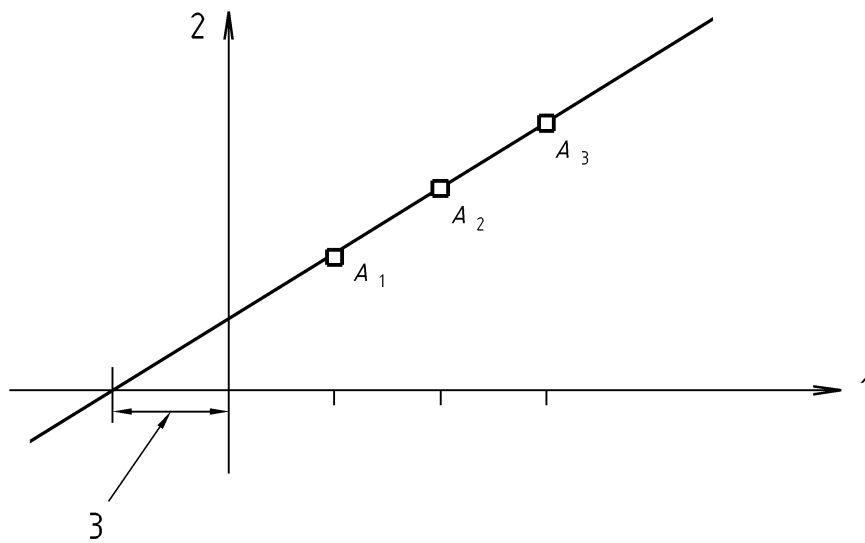
The As, Sb and Se concentrations  $C_e$  in the sample solution expressed in micrograms per litre are read out from the calibration function or regression function:

$$C_e = \frac{A_e - A_B}{S} \tag{6}$$

where:

- $A_e$  is the absorbance of the sample solution;
- $A_B$  is the absorbance of the blank solution;
- $S$  is the slope of the calibration line in litres per microgram.

The calculation by the standard addition method can be carried out as shown in Figure B.1:



**Key**

- 1 Concentration of added standard in micrograms per litre
- 2 Absorbance A
- 3 Concentration in the sample solution in micrograms per litre
- A1, A2, A3 Spiking

**Figure B.1 – Example for the calculation of the metal concentration in the sample solution by standard addition method**

The concentration in the sample solution is the intersection of the extrapolated calibration curve of the spiked concentration versus absorbance and the horizontal axis on the left side.

The As, Sb and Se concentration ( $C_s$ ) of the iron salts or iron solutions in milligrams per kilogram iron product are calculated using the following equation:

$$C_s = \frac{C_e \times 100 \times 200}{20 \times 1000 \times 20} = \frac{C_e}{20} \tag{7}$$

where

- $C_e$  is the element concentration, in micrograms per litre, in the sample solution.

NOTE The following equation gives the relation between the concentration  $C_f$  in milligrams per kilogram of Fe (III) and the concentration  $C_s$  in milligrams per kilogram of product:  $C_f = C_s \times 100 / C_{(III)}$

## B.5 Determination of mercury by cold vapour atomic absorption spectrometry (AAS)

### B.5.1 General

This method is suitable for the determination of mercury in iron salts or iron solutions.

The suitable concentration range of this method is:

— Hg 0,01 mg/kg to 0,1 mg/kg

For higher concentrations the sample solution shall be diluted.

### B.5.2 Principle

Divalent mercury in the sample solution (5.2.3.1.5) is reduced to the element by tin (II) chloride or sodium tetrahydroborate solutions. Mercury is stripped from this solution in an inert gas stream and converted to the amalgam on a gold/platinum gauze for the purpose of enrichment. Mercury is released again by rapidly heating the absorber and conveyed to a quartz cuvette. The absorption of the mercury atoms is measured in a light path of an atomic absorption spectrometer at a wavelength specific to mercury (253,7 nm). The concentration is calculated by means of a calibration curve.

### B.5.3 Reagents

All reagents shall be of a recognized analytical grade and the water used shall conform to the grade 3 in accordance with EN ISO 3696.

**B.5.3.1** Hydrochloric acid (HCl), solution, mass fraction 30 %.

**B.5.3.2** Sulfuric acid solution,  $c(\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4) = 1 \text{ mol/l}$ .

**B.5.3.3** Tin (II) chloride solution, mass fraction of 10 % of  $\text{SnCl}_2$  in HCl solution of a mass fraction of 5 %.

**B.5.3.4** Stabilizing solution (0,5 g  $\text{KMnO}_4$  in 100 ml of water).

**B.5.3.5** Mercury stock solution,  $c_0(\text{Hg}) = 1 \text{ g/l}$ .

**B.5.3.6** Standard mercury solution,  $c_1(\text{Hg}) = 10 \text{ mg/l}$  to be prepared by dilution of B.5.3.5.

**B.5.3.7** Standard mercury solution,  $c_2(\text{Hg}) = 0,1 \text{ mg/l}$ , to be prepared by dilution of B.5.3.6.

**B.5.3.8** Mercury reference solution, to be prepared by pipetting 1 ml, 2 ml, 4 ml, 8 ml and 10 ml of the standard solution (B.5.3.7) into a series of 100 ml volumetric flasks (B.5.4.2), adding 1 ml of stabilizing solution (B.5.3.4), 5 ml of hydrochloric acid (B.5.3.1), and making up to the mark with water. The reference solutions contain 1  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 2  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 4  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 8  $\mu\text{g/l}$  and 10  $\mu\text{g/l}$  mercury.

**B.5.3.9** Sample blank solution.

## B.5.4 Apparatus

Ordinary laboratory apparatus and glassware together with the following.

- B.5.4.1** Pipettes, capacity, 1 ml, 5 ml and 10 ml.
- B.5.4.2** Volumetric flasks, capacity, 100 ml.
- B.5.4.3** Atomic absorption spectrometer.
- B.5.4.4** Electrode-less discharge lamp for the determination of mercury.
- B.5.4.5** Reduction system consisting of a reaction unit with tin (II) chloride, a quartz cuvette and a control unit.
- B.5.4.6** Argon gas supply.
- B.5.4.7** Attachment for the amalgam technique.

## B.5.5 Procedure

### B.5.5.1 Spectrometer settings

The atomic absorption spectrometer (B.5.4.3) and the reduction unit (B.5.4.5) are adjusted in accordance with the operating manual issued by the manufacturer. The spectrometer is operated at the wavelength 253,7 nm specific for mercury. The quartz cuvette is heated to 200 °C.

### B.5.5.2 Measurement of mercury

Transfer 5 ml of the sample solution (5.2.3.1.5) with a pipette (B.5.4.1) to the reduction vessel (B.5.4.5). Add 10 ml sulfuric acid (B.5.3.2) and 1 ml stabilizing solution (B.5.3.4). The reaction with tin (II) chloride is started from the control unit and the mercury vapour is enriched at the gold/platinum gauze (B.5.4.7). After rapidly heating the absorber, mercury is transferred with the argon gas (B.5.4.6) to the 200 °C heated quartz cuvette. Measure and record the absorption of mercury with a mercury specific lamp (B.5.4.4) at wavelength 253,7 nm.

### B.5.5.3 Calibration curve

To provide the calibration curve measure the blank solution and at least five reference solutions (B.5.3.8) in the same way as the sample solution, so that 5 ml of the reference solutions are also pipetted in the reduction vessel. The further procedure is the same as in B.5.5.2. The standard addition method is also possible to avoid matrix effects.

## B.5.6 Calculation

The mercury concentration ( $C_{\text{Hg}}$ ) in the sample solution is read out from the calibration curve and the calculation is the same as in B.4.5.4.

The mercury concentration ( $C_s$ ) of the iron salts or iron solutions in milligrams per kilogram of iron product is calculated using the following equation:

$$C_s = \frac{C_{\text{Hg}} \times 200}{1000 \times 20} = \frac{C_{\text{Hg}}}{100} \quad (8)$$

where

$C_{\text{Hg}}$  is the mercury concentration, in micrograms per litre, in the sample solution.

NOTE The following equation gives the relation between the concentration  $C_f$  in milligrams per kilogram of Fe (III) and the concentration  $C_s$  in milligrams per kilogram of product:  $C_f = C_s \times 100 / C_{(\text{III})}$



## B.6 Determination of cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead by graphite furnace atomic absorption spectrometry (AAS)

### B.6.1 General

This method is suitable for the determination of low concentrations of cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead in iron salts or iron solutions.

The suitable concentration ranges of this method are:

- Cd 0,1 mg/kg to 1,0 mg/kg;
- Cr 1,0 mg/kg to 10 mg/kg;
- Ni 1,0 mg/kg to 10 mg/kg;
- Pb 1,0 mg/kg to 10 mg/kg.

NOTE For higher concentrations the sample solution should be diluted or inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry (ICP/OES) and flame atomic absorption spectrometry (FAAS) can be used.

### B.6.2 Principle

Cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead are converted to the atomic state by thermal dissociation in an electrically-heated graphite tube of an atomic absorption spectrometer. As the temperature is raised in steps, the stages of drying, thermal decomposition of the matrix and thermal cleavage into free atoms are passed through in that order. The absorption of the atoms is measured in the light path of the atomic absorption spectrometer at a wavelength specific to the element. Interferences due to background absorption resulting from high salt concentrations can be suppressed with a background correction system such as the Zeeman effect. The concentrations are calculated by means of calibration curves.

### B.6.3 Reagents

All reagents shall be of a recognized analytical grade, water shall conform to the grade 3 in accordance with EN ISO 3696 and ultra pure grade hydrochloric acid shall be used.

**B.6.3.1** Hydrochloric acid (HCl), solution, mass fraction 30 %.

**B.6.3.2** Element stock solutions,  $c_0(\text{Cd, Cr, Ni, Pb}) = 1 \text{ g/l}$ .

**B.6.3.3** Standard element solutions,  $c_1(\text{Cd, Cr, Ni, Pb}) = 10 \text{ mg/l}$ , to be prepared by dilution of B.6.3.2.

**B.6.3.4** Standard element solutions,  $c_2(\text{Cr, Ni, Pb}) = 1 \text{ mg/l}$  and  $c_3(\text{Cd}) = 0,1 \text{ mg/l}$ , to be prepared by dilution of B.6.3.3.

**B.6.3.5** Element reference solutions, to be prepared by pipetting 1 ml, 2 ml, 4 ml, 8 ml and 10 ml of the standard solution (B.6.3.4) into a series of 100 ml volumetric flasks (B.6.4.2), adding 3 ml hydrochloric acid (B.6.3.1) and filling up to the mark with water. The chromium, nickel and lead concentration of the reference solutions will be 10  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 20  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 40  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 80  $\mu\text{g/l}$  and 100  $\mu\text{g/l}$ . The cadmium concentration of the reference solutions will be 1  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 2  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 4  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 8  $\mu\text{g/l}$  and 10  $\mu\text{g/l}$ .

**B.6.3.6** Sample blank solution.

## B.6.4 Apparatus

Ordinary laboratory apparatus and glassware together with the following.

- B.6.4.1** Pipettes, capacity, 1 ml, 5 ml and 10 ml.
- B.6.4.2** Volumetric flasks, capacity, 100 ml.
- B.6.4.3** Atomic absorption spectrometer equipped with graphite furnace and temperature controller.
- B.6.4.4** Electrode-less discharge or hollow cathode lamps for the determination of cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead.
- B.6.4.5** Background compensator (e.g. Zeeman).
- B.6.4.6** Auto-sampler, capable of being adjusted to pipetting volumes from 5  $\mu$ l to 20  $\mu$ l.

## B.6.5 Procedure

### B.6.5.1 Spectrometer settings

Adjust in accordance with the operating manual issued by the manufacturer the operating parameters of the graphite furnace atomic absorption spectrometer (B.6.4.3). The spectrometer is operated at the wavelength specific for each element:

- Cd 228,8 nm;
- Cr 357,9 nm;
- Ni 232,0 nm;
- Pb 283,3 nm.

A suitable background correction (see B.6.4.5) is highly recommended. Optimised heat programs are used for each atomisation of Cd, Cr, Ni and Pb, an example is given in B.6.5.2.

**B.6.5.2 Measurement of cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead**

Transfer 10 ml of the sample solution (5.2.3.1.5) with a pipette (B.6.4.1) to a 100 ml volumetric flask (B.6.4.2), add 1 ml of hydrochloric acid (B.6.3.1), and make up with water. Inject 10  $\mu$ l of this sample solution in the graphite tube by means of an auto-sampler (B.6.4.6). Then start the heat programme, (e.g. see Table B.1).

**Table B.1-Heat programme of the spectrometer**

<b>Cd, Pb</b>	<b>Ramp, in s</b>	<b>Hold, in s</b>	<b>Temperature in °C</b>
Preheating	5	10	90
Drying	20	10	130
Ashing	30	10	850
Atomisation	0	3	1 800
Cleaning	1	4	2 650
<b>Cr, Ni</b>			
Preheating	5	10	90
Drying	20	10	130
Ashing	30	10	1 400
Atomisation	0	4	2 500
Cleaning	1	4	2 650

Carry out the measurements with gas-stop mode during the atomisation phase. Use the L'vov platform for cadmium, nickel and lead. Wall atomisation is preferred for chromium. Measure the absorption using the specific lamp (B.6.4.4) of the atomised elements cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead at the specific wavelength given in B.6.5.1.

**B.6.5.3 Calibration function**

To provide the calibration curve measure the blank solution and at least five reference solutions (B.6.3.5), in the same way as the sample solution, so that 10  $\mu$ l of the reference solutions are also injected in the graphite tube. The further procedure is the same as in B.6.5.2, the standard addition method is strongly recommended to avoid matrix effects.

**B.6.5.4 Calculation**

The cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead concentration in the sample solution are read out from the calibration curve and the calculation is the same as in B.4.5.4.

The cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead concentrations ( $C_s$ ) for the iron salts or iron solutions in milligrams per kilogram of iron product are calculated using the following equation:

$$C_s = \frac{C_e \times 100 \times 200}{10 \times 1000 \times 20} = \frac{C_e}{10} \quad (9)$$

where

$C_e$  is the element concentration in the sample solution in micrograms per litre.

NOTE 1 The following equation gives the relation between the concentration  $C_f$  in milligrams per kilogram of Fe (III) and the concentration  $C_s$  in milligrams per kilogram of product:  $C_f = C_s \times 100 / C_{(III)}$

NOTE 2 An alternative method for determination of cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead with the ICP optical emission spectrometry is described in Annex D.

## Annex C (informative)

### Reduction of Fe (III) on a silver column

#### C.1 Principle

The Fe (III) is reduced to Fe (II) by means of silver powder.

#### C.2 Reagents

- C.2.1 Silver nitrate.
- C.2.2 Nitric acid, solution, mass fraction 60 %.
- C.2.3 Sulfuric acid solution,  $c(\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4) = 3 \text{ mol/l}$ .
- C.2.4 Hydrochloric acid solution,  $c(\text{HCl}) = 1 \text{ mol/l}$ .
- C.2.5 Sheet of copper metal.
- C.2.6 Sodium hydrogen carbonate ( $\text{NaHCO}_3$ ), saturated solution.
- C.2.7 Distilled water.

#### C.3 Apparatus

Ordinary laboratory apparatus and glassware together with the following.

- C.3.1 Cylindrical glass tube with a stopcock at the bottom, about 20 mm inside diameter and 20 cm length.
- C.3.2 Beaker, capacity, 800 ml.
- C.3.3 Glass wool.

#### C.4 Procedure

##### C.4.1 Preparation of the silver powder

Dissolve into a 800 ml beaker (C.3.2) 200 g silver nitrate (C.2.1) with 600 ml distilled water (C.2.7) and add a few drops of nitric acid (C.2.2). Put a sheet of copper metal (C.2.5) in this solution in order to precipitate metallic silver. The silver powder is separated from the sheet of copper and the solution. Then heat the silver powder in sulfuric acid (C.2.3) for 10 min, filter, wash with hot water and store in hydrochloric acid (C.2.4).

##### C.4.2 Reduction of Fe (III)

Fill the cylindrical tube (C.3.1) with some glass wool (C.3.3) at the bottom and then with the silver powder. Introduce 10 ml of the diluted test solution of Fe (III) into the silver column and discharge dropwise from the bottom to a conical flask which contains 5 ml saturated sodium hydrogen carbonate solution (C.2.6). Add 100 ml of hydrochloric acid (C.2.4) to the silver column. Then titrate the reduced iron solution with potassium dichromate as given in B.1.1.5.2.

## Annex D (informative)

### Determination of cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead (inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry (ICP/OES))

#### D.1 General

This method is suitable for the determination of cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead in iron salts and iron solutions.

The suitable concentration ranges of this method are:

- Cd 1 mg/kg to 50 mg/kg;
- Cr 1 mg/kg to 50 mg/kg;
- Ni 1 mg/kg to 50 mg/kg;
- Pb 1 mg/kg to 50 mg/kg.

For higher concentrations the sample solution shall be diluted.

#### D.2 Principle

The basis of this method is the measurement of atomic emission by an optical spectroscopy technique. Sample solutions are nebulized and the aerosol, that is produced with argon gas is transported to the plasma torch where excitation occurs. Characteristic atomic line emission spectra are produced by an inductively coupled plasma (ICP). The spectra are dispersed by a grating spectrometer and the intensities of the lines are monitored by photomultiplier tubes. The concentrations are calculated by means of calibration curves.

#### D.3 Reagents

All reagents shall be of a recognized analytical grade and the water used shall conform to the appropriate grade in accordance with EN ISO 3696.

**D.3.1** Hydrochloric acid (HCl), solution, mass fraction 30 %.

**D.3.2** Element stock solutions,  $c_0(\text{Cd, Cr, Ni, Pb}) = 1 \text{ g/l}$ .

**D.3.3** Multi-element standard solution, to be prepared by pipetting 10 ml of each of the element stock solutions (D.3.2) to one 1 000 ml volumetric flask, adding 10 ml hydrochloric acid (D.3.1) and filling up to the mark with water. The concentration  $c_1$  of the multi-element standard solution will be Cd = 10 mg/l, Cr = 10 mg/l, Ni = 10 mg/l and Pb = 10 mg/l.

**D.3.4** Multi-element reference solutions, to be prepared by pipetting 1 ml, 5 ml, 10 ml, 20 ml and 50 ml of the multi-element standard solution (D.3.3) into a series of 100 ml volumetric flasks, adding 25 ml hydrochloric acid (D.3.1) and filling up with water. The Cd, Cr, Ni and Pb concentrations of the multi-element reference solutions will be 0,1 mg/l, 0,5 mg/l, 1 mg/l, 2 mg/l and 5 mg/l.

**D.3.5** Sample blank solution.

## D.4 Apparatus

Ordinary laboratory apparatus and glassware together with the following.

**D.4.1** ICP optical emission spectrometer.

**D.4.2** Argon gas supply.

## D.5 Procedure

### D.5.1 Spectrometer settings

Adjust the operating parameters of the ICP optical emission spectrometer in accordance with the operating manual issued by the manufacturer. Sensitivity, instrumental detection limit, precision, linear dynamic range and interference effects shall be investigated and established for each individual analyte line on that particular instrument. It is the responsibility of the analyst to verify that the instrument configuration and operating conditions used satisfy the analytical requirements and to maintain quality control data confirming instrument performance and analytical results.

A background correction procedure is highly recommended. The analytical lines at wavelength:

- Cd 228,80 nm ;
- Cr 357,87 nm ;
- Ni 231,60 nm ;
- Pb 220,35 nm ;

are suitable for the determination of these elements in an iron matrix.

### D.5.2 Calibration, measurement and calculation of the elements cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead

An analytical program is designed to calibrate and measure cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead in the iron salt solution. To provide the calibration curves measure the blank solution (D.3.5) and the five multi-element reference solutions (D.3.4). Subtract the emission intensities from the blank solution from the reference solutions. These corrected emission intensities versus the concentrations are the calibration functions which are calculated by means of regression analysis.

Spray the sample solution (5.2.3.1.5) with argon gas (D.4.2) in a well adjusted and calibrated ICP-optical emission spectrometer (D.4.1). Run the analytical program and record the results.

The cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead concentrations ( $C_s$ ) of the iron salts or iron solutions in milligrams per kilogram iron product are calculated using the following equation:

$$C_s = C_e \times 10 \quad (10)$$

where

$C_e$  is the element concentration in milligrams per litre in the sample solution.

**NOTE** The following equation gives the relation between the concentration  $C_f$  in milligrams per kilogram of Fe (III) and the concentration  $C_s$  in milligrams per kilogram of product:  $C_f = C_s \times 100 / C_{(III)}$

## Bibliography

- [1] 98/83/EC : Council Directive of 3 November 1998 on the Quality of Water intended for Human Consumption
- [2] 67/548/EEC : Council Directive of 27th June 1967 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances and its amendments and adaptations

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