
**Rubber compounding ingredients —
Zinc oxide — Test methods**

*Ingrédients de mélange du caoutchouc — Oxyde de zinc —
Méthodes d'essai*





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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 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 45, *Rubber and rubber products*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Raw materials (including latex) for use in the rubber industry*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 9298:1995), which has been technically revised. The main change is the reference to ISO 18852 as the method for the nitrogen adsorption to determine the surface area.

Rubber compounding ingredients — Zinc oxide — Test methods

WARNING — Persons using this document should be familiar with normal laboratory practice. This document does not purport to address all of the safety problems, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user to establish appropriate safety and health practices and to ensure compliance with any national regulatory conditions.

1 Scope

This document specifies the methods to be used for the evaluation of zinc oxide for use in the rubber industry.

The analytical methods are applicable to all commercial zinc oxides, for example:

- direct type (American process);
- indirect type (French process);
- other types produced by different chemical methods, i.e. precipitation and calcination.

Zinc oxide can also be coated with organic materials, such as fatty acids, oil, wetting agents, etc., in order to improve the dispersion in rubber.

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 787-2, *General methods of test for pigments and extenders — Part 2: Determination of matter volatile at 105 °C*

ISO 787-4, *General methods of test for pigments and extenders — Part 4: Determination of acidity or alkalinity of the aqueous extract*

ISO 787-7, *General methods of test for pigments and extenders — Part 7: Determination of residue on sieve — Water method — Manual procedure*

ISO 787-8, *General methods of test for pigments and extenders — Part 8: Determination of matter soluble in water — Cold extraction method*

ISO 1124, *Rubber compounding ingredients — Carbon black shipment sampling procedures*

ISO 18852, *Rubber compounding ingredients — Determination of multipoint nitrogen surface area (NSA) and statistical thickness surface area (STSA)*

3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

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 Sampling

Sampling shall be carried out in accordance with ISO 1124 for dry powders.

5 Methods of test for the determination of physical and chemical properties

5.1 General

Surface-coated zinc oxides shall be evaluated by the methods specified in [Table 1](#).

This evaluation shall be done without prior calcination or extraction, since there is little purpose in determining volatile-matter content, content of water-soluble matter or acidity if the coating is removed.

Table 1 — Methods for the evaluation of surface-coated zinc oxides

Property	Units	Test method
Matter volatile at 105 °C	% (m/m)	ISO 787-2
Water-soluble matter	% (m/m)	ISO 787-8
Acidity/alkalinity (H ₂ SO ₄ equiv.)	g H ₂ SO ₄ /100 g	ISO 787-4
Residue on sieve	% (m/m)	ISO 787-7
Nitrogen-adsorption surface area	m ² /g	ISO 18852
Zinc oxide	% (m/m)	Annex A
Lead	% (m/m)	Annex B
Cadmium	% (m/m)	Annex B
Copper	% (m/m)	Annex B
Manganese	% (m/m)	Annex B
Acid-insoluble matter	% (m/m)	Annex C

5.2 Matter volatile at 105 °C

Determine the loss on heating at 105 °C in accordance with ISO 787-2.

5.3 Water-soluble matter

Determine the percentage of water-soluble matter in accordance with ISO 787-8.

5.4 Acidity/alkalinity

Determine the acidity/alkalinity, in cm³ of 0,1 mol/dm³ standard volumetric solution per 100 g of sample, in accordance with ISO 787-4. The result shall be expressed in grams of sulfuric acid per 100 g (g H₂SO₄/100 g) by multiplying the result by 4,9 × 10⁻³.

5.5 Residue on sieve

Determine the sieve residue in accordance with ISO 787-7.

5.6 Nitrogen-adsorption surface area

Determine the surface area in accordance with ISO 18852. The test portion shall be 0,7 g to 1,0 g, or more if indicated by the initial test or past experience.

6 Classification and typical values of zinc oxides

Three types of zinc oxide are used in the rubber industry and are described in [Annex D](#).

Typical values for some of the various types of zinc oxide are given in [Annex D](#).

7 Test report

The test report shall include the following:

- a) a reference to this document, i.e. ISO 9298;
- b) all details necessary for the identification of the sample;
- c) the zinc oxide content of the sample;
- d) the lead, cadmium, copper and manganese contents of the sample;
- e) the water-soluble matter content of the sample;
- f) the acidity/alkalinity of the sample;
- g) the residue on sieve;
- h) the surface area by nitrogen adsorption;
- i) the acid-insoluble matter;
- j) the dates of the tests;
- k) details of any deviation from the procedures specified in this document.

Annex A (normative)

Determination of zinc oxide content

A.1 Reagents

Use only reagents of recognized analytical grade and distilled, deionized or distilled/deionized water for sample preparation and required dilutions.

A.1.1 Nitric acid, 65 % (*m/m*), $d \approx 1,4 \text{ Mg/m}^3$.

A.1.2 Hydrochloric acid, 20 % (*m/m*), $d \approx 1,1 \text{ Mg/m}^3$.

A.1.3 Ammonia solution, 25 % (*m/m*), $d \approx 0,91 \text{ Mg/m}^3$.

A.1.4 Hydrogen peroxide solution, 3 % (*m/m*).

A.1.5 Iron(III) solution.

Dissolve 86 g of iron(III) ammonium sulfate in water and dilute to 1 000 cm³.

A.1.6 Ammonium chloride solution.

Dissolve 250 g of ammonium chloride in water and dilute to 1 000 cm³.

A.1.7 Masking solution.

Dissolve 30 g of ammonium fluoride, 100 g of ammonium thiosulfate and 250 g of ammonium acetate in water and dilute to 1 000 cm³.

A.1.8 Bromothymol blue solution.

Dissolve 0,1 g of bromothymol blue in 100 cm³ of ethanol.

A.1.9 Xylenol orange solution.

Dissolve 0,2 g of xylenol orange, tetrasodium salt, in 100 cm³ of water.

A.1.10 EDTA, standard volumetric solution, $c(\text{EDTA}) = 0,1 \text{ mol/dm}^3$.

Dissolve 37,225 g of ethylenedinitrilotetraacetic acid, disodium salt (Na₂EDTA), in water in a 1 000 cm³ one-mark volumetric flask, dilute to the mark and mix well. Alternatively, commercially available standard solutions may be used.

A.1.11 Zinc metal, of minimum purity 99,995 % (*m/m*).

A.2 Apparatus

The usual laboratory apparatus and, in particular, the following.

A.2.1 Volumetric flasks, class A, of capacity 250 cm³, 500 cm³ and 1 000 cm³.

A.2.2 Pipettes, class A, of capacity 50 cm³ and 100 cm³.

A.2.3 Burette, class A, of capacity 50 cm³.

A.2.4 Balance, of capacity 250 g, weighing to an accuracy of at least ± 1 mg.

A.2.5 Heating device, e.g. a hotplate.

A.2.6 Filter paper, acid-washed and fluted.

A.2.7 Beakers, of capacity 600 cm³ and 1 000 cm³.

A.2.8 Conical flasks, of capacity 500 cm³ and 1 000 cm³.

A.3 Sampling

Take a representative sample in accordance with ISO 1124.

A.4 Procedure

A.4.1 Suspend 20 g of the zinc oxide sample, weighed to $\pm 0,01$ g, in 100 cm³ of water in a 1 000 cm³ beaker (A.2.7) and dissolve carefully with approximately 90 cm³ of nitric acid (A.1.1). When the zinc oxide has dissolved, boil for a short time, cool down the solution and transfer it to a 500 cm³ volumetric flask (A.2.1). Carefully dilute the solution to the mark with water and shake.

A.4.2 Pipette 50 cm³ of this solution into a 250 cm³ volumetric flask (A.2.1). Add 10 cm³ of iron(III) solution (A.1.5). Shake and then add successively 5 cm³ of hydrogen peroxide solution (A.1.4), 60 cm³ of ammonium chloride solution (A.1.6) and 30 cm³ of ammonia solution (A.1.3).

A.4.3 Shake briefly and cool down. Make up to the mark and filter through a dry folded filter paper (A.2.6) into a dry 500 cm³ conical flask (A.2.8). Pipette 50 cm³ of this solution into a 600 cm³ beaker and dilute with water to about 300 cm³.

A.4.4 Add four drops of bromothymol blue solution (A.1.8) and neutralize with hydrochloric acid (A.1.2). The colour changes from blue to light yellow. Add two drops of hydrochloric acid in excess. After addition of 20 ml of masking solution (A.1.7) and seven drops of xylenol orange solution (A.1.9), titrate with EDTA solution (A.1.10) until the colour changes from purple-red to orange-yellow.

A.4.5 After further dropwise addition of 0,5 cm³ to 1 cm³ of EDTA solution, the colour changes sharply to pale yellowish-green. Let the total volume of EDTA solution added be V_1 .

A.5 Standardization procedure

Dilute concentrated nitric acid to a concentration of approximately 30 % (*m/m*), $d \approx 1,2$ Mg/m³.

WARNING — Acid should be added carefully to water.

Then dissolve 20 g of refined zinc (A.1.11), weighed to $\pm 0,01$ g, by heating in a beaker with 40 cm³ of the diluted nitric acid. Allow the solution to cool, transfer to a 1 000 cm³ volumetric flask and dilute to the mark. Proceed according to A.4.2 to A.4.5 to obtain the titration volume V_2 .

1 cm³ of 0,1 mol/dm³ EDTA solution corresponds to 0,006 537 g of zinc or 0,008 138 g of zinc oxide.

A.6 Expression of results

Calculate the total zinc oxide content w_{ZnO} , expressed as a percentage by mass, using [Formula \(A.1\)](#):

$$w_{\text{ZnO}} = \frac{V_1 \times 100 \times 1,245}{V_2} \quad (\text{A.1})$$

where

V_1 is the volume, in cubic centimetres, of EDTA solution required for titration of the zinc in the test portion ([A.4](#));

V_2 is the volume, in cubic centimetres, of EDTA solution required for titration of the zinc in the standardization procedure ([A.5](#));

1,245 is the ratio of the relative molecular mass of zinc oxide to the relative atomic mass of zinc.

A.7 Interference

Lead and iron are precipitated as hydroxides when the ammonia solution is added.

Copper is masked by ammonium thiosulfate. Aluminium is masked by ammonium fluoride.

Cadmium is also titrated with the EDTA solution. However, since the cadmium concentration is usually lower than 0,1 % (*m/m*) in rubber-grade zinc oxides, this error is negligible.

Annex B (normative)

Determination of lead, cadmium, copper and manganese contents

B.1 Principle and range of application

B.1.1 A test portion of zinc oxide is dissolved in hydrochloric acid. Nitric acid is added, and each metal ion is determined by atomic absorption spectroscopy at the following standard wavelengths:

- cadmium 228,8 nm;
- copper 324,7 nm;
- lead 283,3 nm;
- manganese 279,5 nm.

B.1.2 Any zinc oxide suitable for rubber compounding and having a lead content less than about 1,0 % may be analysed by this procedure.

B.1.3 The method is not suitable for zinc oxides with lead contents above about 1,0 % owing to dissolution problems.

B.2 Reagents

Use only reagents of recognized analytical grade and distilled, deionized or distilled/deionized water for sample preparation and required dilutions.

B.2.1 Lead, cadmium, copper and manganese, standard solutions.

Standard solutions for the metals to be determined in each zinc oxide sample may be prepared from pure metals or metallic compounds or purchased from a chemical supply house as standard solutions.

The usual concentration of such solutions is 1 µg of the metal per cubic centimetre of solution. Suitable dilutions with water bring these solutions into the linear working range of the spectrometer ([B.3.7](#)).

It is recommended that standards below 1 µg/cm³ be prepared fresh, while those at 1 µg/cm³ or above may be stored in plastic bottles ([B.3.6](#)).

Care shall be taken to ensure that all samples, and the standards used with them, contain the same concentration of acid(s).

B.2.2 Hydrochloric acid, 36 % (m/m), $d \approx 1,18 \text{ Mg/m}^3$.

B.2.3 Nitric acid, 65 % (m/m), $d \approx 1,4 \text{ Mg/m}^3$.

B.3 Apparatus

The usual laboratory apparatus and, in particular, the following.

B.3.1 Balance, capable of weighing accurately to $\pm 0,1$ mg.

B.3.2 Hotplate.

B.3.3 Common borosilicate glassware, especially 10 cm³, 100 cm³, 200 cm³ and 500 cm³ volumetric flasks.

B.3.4 Pipettes, of 1 cm³, 2 cm³, 5 cm³ and 10 cm³ capacity.

B.3.5 Microlitre syringes, of capacity 1 mm³ and 10 mm³.

B.3.6 Plastic bottles, suitable for storage of standard solutions.

B.3.7 Atomic absorption spectrometer, operating in the flame mode.

The instrument shall be operated according to the manufacturer's instructions for optimum performance. Instrument calibration shall be carried out according to the methods of the manufacturer.

B.4 Sampling

Take a representative sample in accordance with ISO 1124.

B.5 Procedure

B.5.1 Weigh 0,2 g to 10,0 g of the zinc oxide (see [B.5.2](#)) in a 150 cm³ beaker. Weigh to $\pm 0,1$ mg accuracy for small test portions (0,2 g to 2,0 g) and to $\pm 0,01$ g for larger test portions (2,0 g to 10,0 g).

Add enough water to make a thick "slurry". Add enough HCl to effect complete dissolution of the test portion. For small test portions, 10 cm³ is enough and for larger test portions, up to 30 cm³ may be needed.

NOTE Failure to observe this sequence results in a hard cake of zinc oxide, which is difficult to dissolve in the water/acid mixture.

B.5.2 Heat the solution on the hotplate ([B.3.2](#)) to the boiling point, then carefully add 1 cm³ to 2 cm³ of concentrated HNO₃ ([B.2.3](#)). Continue heating for no more than 5 min. Remove the beaker from the hotplate, allow it to cool and quantitatively transfer the solution to a 250 cm³ volumetric flask ([B.3.3](#)), making it up to the mark with water.

Variations in the mass of the test portion and the final volume of the solution are left to the discretion of the analyst and shall be determined by prior knowledge of the approximate amounts of lead, cadmium, copper and manganese in the type of zinc oxide being analysed.

B.5.3 Carry a blank through the entire procedure, using the same quantities of reagents but without a test portion. Subtract any positive blank value, in an appropriate manner, before calculating the lead, cadmium, copper or manganese content of the zinc oxide.

B.5.4 Complete the analysis, using standard flame atomic absorption techniques appropriate to the instrument used and following the manufacturer's instructions for optimum instrument performance.

Zinc oxide solutions used for measurement shall fall within the linear range of the calibration curve. Any solution that does not meet this criterion shall be diluted suitably to fall within this range.

B.6 Expression of results

Calculation may be by graph, by equation or by calibration techniques appropriate to the atomic absorption spectrometer used.

Report the metal content as a percentage by mass if greater than or equal to 0,1 % (*m/m*) or as milligrams per kilogram if less than 0,1 % (*m/m*).

Annex C (normative)

Determination of acid-insoluble matter

C.1 Reagent

Use only reagents of recognized analytical grade and only distilled water or water of equivalent purity.

C.1.1 Hydrochloric acid, 36 % (*m/m*), $d \approx 1,18 \text{ Mg/m}^3$.

C.2 Apparatus

The usual laboratory apparatus and, in particular, the following.

C.2.1 Balance, accurate to $\pm 0,1 \text{ mg}$.

C.2.2 Oven, operating at $105 \text{ }^\circ\text{C} \pm 5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$.

C.2.3 Filter-funnel suction flask.

C.2.4 Common borosilicate glassware.

C.2.5 Sintered-glass filter, P10 series (pore size: $5,0 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$).

C.3 Sampling

Take a representative sample in accordance with ISO 1124.

C.4 Procedure

Weigh out 10 g of the zinc oxide sample to the nearest 0,01 g. Suspend the zinc oxide in 100 cm³ of distilled water in a 250 cm³ beaker and carefully add 25 cm³ of HCl (C.1.1). Dissolve the zinc oxide by stirring and gentle heating. Boil the solution for about 15 min. Dry the sintered-glass filter (C.2.5) for 15 min in the oven at $105 \text{ }^\circ\text{C} \pm 5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. Allow to cool for 30 min in a desiccator and then weigh to the nearest 0,1 mg. Filter the zinc oxide solution through the weighed sintered-glass filter and wash the residue on the filter using three 25 cm³ portions of dilute HCl (diluted 1 + 9).

Dry the sintered-glass filter with insoluble matter in the oven for 15 min at $105 \text{ }^\circ\text{C} \pm 5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. Allow to cool for 30 min in a desiccator and weigh to the nearest 0,1 mg.

The difference between the mass of the sintered-glass filter and the mass of the sintered-glass filter including the residue represents the amount of matter insoluble in hydrochloric acid.

NOTE This method also gives a qualitative indication of the presence of basic zinc carbonate and/or zinc carbonate. If carbonates are present in the zinc oxide, gassing or foaming occurs.

C.5 Expression of results

Calculate the mass fraction of acid-insoluble matter, w_{ins} , expressed as a percentage by mass, using [Formula \(C.1\)](#):

$$w_{\text{ins}} = \frac{m_2}{m_1} \times 100 \quad (\text{C.1})$$

where

m_1 is the mass, in grams, of the test portion of zinc oxide;

m_2 is the mass, in grams, of the insoluble residue.

Annex D (informative)

Zinc oxides used as rubber compounding material — Classification and typical values

D.1 Classification

D.1.1 General

Three types of zinc oxide are used in the rubber industry, produced by different processes.

D.1.2 Type A: Direct zinc oxide (American process)

This zinc oxide is manufactured by the reduction of a zinc-bearing material such as a zinc ore and re-oxidation of the zinc vapour in the same reactor. Direct zinc oxide particles are mostly acicular (needle-shaped), sometimes nodular. The nodular-type particle shape is generally preferred for rubber compounding.

D.1.3 Type B: Indirect zinc oxide (French process)

This zinc oxide is manufactured by burning zinc vapour (produced by boiling zinc metal). Commonly, indirect zinc oxide is characterized by a high degree of purity. Indirect zinc oxide particles are mostly nodular in shape.

D.1.4 Type C: Wet-process zinc oxide

This zinc oxide is manufactured by a wet process. Zinc is precipitated from zinc solutions (for example, as the carbonate or hydroxide) and then calcined to zinc oxide. Wet-process zinc oxide can be manufactured to a very fine particle size and high purity. Surface areas from 5 m²/g to 40 m²/g may be obtained with the same level of purity.

Zinc oxide can be coated with organic materials such as fatty acids (most commonly propionic acid) in order to improve dispersion in rubber.

Zinc oxide can be supplied in the form of pellets manufactured with or without organic binders.

D.2 Typical values

[Table D.1](#) shows typical values for some of the various types of zinc oxide, namely one direct type, eight indirect types and two wet-process zinc oxides.

Classes B1a, B2a, B2b and B2c are of extremely high purity and have a low cadmium content, which is required in some countries where special regulations apply.

Table D.1 — Typical values for various types of zinc oxide

Property	Units	Typical values for										
		direct type (American)	indirect type (French)								wet-process type	
		Class A1a	Class B1a	Class B2a	Class B2b	Class B2c	Class B3b	Class B4a	Class B4b	Class B4c	Class C1b	Class C1d
Lead	% (m/m)	0,25	0,004	0,005	0,005	0,005	0,1	0,25	0,25	0,25	0,03	0,001
Cadmium	% (m/m)	0,02	0,001	0,005	0,005	0,005	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,005	0,001
Surface area	% (m/m)	3,5	4,0	3,5	6,0	9,0	5,0	3,5	6,0	9,0	6,0	40,0
Zinc oxide	% (m/m)	98,5	99,5	99,5	99,5	99,5	99,0	99,0	99,0	99,0	98,0	93,0
Volatile matter	% (m/m)	0,3	0,25	0,25	0,25	0,25	0,25	0,3	0,3	0,3	0,5	0,5
Sieve residue 45 µm	% (m/m)	0,05	0,01	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,10	0,2
Acidity/alkalinity	g H ₂ SO ₄ /100 g	0,07	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,12	0,12	0,12	0,12	0,2
Copper	% (m/m)	0,005	0,000 5	0,000 5	0,000 5	0,000 5	0,000 5	0,001	0,001	0,001	0,001	0,001
Manganese	% (m/m)	0,005	0,000 5	0,000 5	0,000 5	0,000 5	0,000 5	0,001	0,001	0,001	0,001	0,001
Acid-insoluble matter	% (m/m)	1,0	0,01	0,01	0,01	0,01	0,01	0,1	0,1	0,1	1,0	1,0
Water-soluble matter	% (m/m)	1,0	0,01	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	1,0	1,0

