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## **Metallic powders — Determination of envelope-specific surface area from measurements of the permeability to air of a powder bed under steady-state flow conditions**

*Poudres métalliques — Détermination de la surface spécifique d'enveloppe à partir de mesures de la perméabilité à l'air d'un lit de poudre dans des conditions d'écoulement permanent*



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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 of 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 [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 119, *Powder metallurgy*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Sampling and testing methods for powders (including powders for hardmetals)*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 10070:1991), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- introduction of an automated test device based on the Gooden and Smith method, including procedure and calibration.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

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## Introduction

The measurement of the permeability of a packed powder bed to a laminar gas flow is the basis of this document. The determination can be made either at constant pressure drop (steady-state flow) or at variable pressure drop (constant volume). This document deals only with determinations made under steady-state flow conditions.

The permeability measured is influenced by the porosity of the powder bed. For a given particle shape, the values of permeability and porosity can be used to calculate a specific surface area of the powder by means of different formulae.

The surface area so calculated includes only those walls of the pores in the powder bed which are swept by the gas flow. It does not take into account closed or blind pores. It is known as the envelope-specific surface area. It can be very different from the total surface area of particles as measured, for instance, by gas adsorption methods.

A single equation is used in the standard methods described in this document. It entails certain limitations with respect to the type of powder (particle shape) and the porosity of the powder bed for which the method is applicable. Consequently, this is not an absolute method, and the value obtained depends upon the procedure used and the assumptions made.

The specific surface area determined can be converted into a mean equivalent spherical diameter (see [Clause 3](#)).