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## **Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Estimation of life-time and maximum temperature of use**

*Caoutchouc vulcanisé ou thermoplastique — Estimation de la durée  
de vie et de la température maximale d'utilisation*



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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)).

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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 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 45, *Rubber and rubber products*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Testing and analysis*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 11346:2004), of which it constitutes a minor revision.

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## Introduction

The rate of a chemical reaction normally increases with increase in temperature. By exposing test pieces to a series of elevated temperatures, the relation between the reaction rate of degradative mechanisms and temperature can be deduced. Estimates can then be made by extrapolation of the degree of degradation after a given time at a given temperature or the time at a given temperature to reach a given degree of degradation.

The reaction rate/temperature relationship can often be represented by the Arrhenius equation. The reaction rate at any given temperature is obtained from the change in the value of a selected property with exposure time at that temperature. The reaction rate can be represented by the time to a particular degree of degradation (threshold value) and this might be the only measure to use if the property/temperature relation is complex.

The Arrhenius approach is only suitable for chemical degradation reactions and might give wrong results for tests where physical (viscoelastic) changes cannot easily be separated from chemical changes.

An alternative approach for rubbers is to use the Williams Landel Ferry (WLF) equation. This equation performs a time/temperature transformation and no assumptions are made as to the form of the property/time relation at any temperature. Hence, in principle, it can be applied to any physical property, including set and relaxation, or where the property/time relation is complex. Further explanation of the use of the WLF equation can be found in the literature.<sup>[1]</sup>

During the preparation of this International Standard, account was taken of the contents of ISO 2578<sup>[2]</sup> and IEC 60216.<sup>[3]</sup>