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Determination of the ultimate aerobic biodegradability of plastic materials in an aqueous medium — Method by analysis of evolved carbon dioxide

Évaluation de la biodégradabilité aérobie ultime des matériaux plastiques en milieu aqueux — Méthode par analyse du dioxyde de carbone libéré



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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 14, *Plastics and environment*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 14852:1999), which has been technically revised. It also incorporates the Technical Corrigendum ISO 14852:1999/Cor.1:2005 and contains the following changes:

- the validity criteria has been revised to comply with ISO 14855;
- in the introduction, an obsolete, potentially misleading paragraph has been deleted;
- the normative reference clause has been updated;
- the “Terms and definitions” clause has been revised and updated;
- the test methods have been updated for better comprehension.

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Introduction

With the increasing use of plastics, their recovery and disposal have become a major issue. As a first priority, recovery should be promoted. Biodegradable plastics are now emerging as one of the options available to solve such environmental problems. Plastic materials, such as products or packaging, which are sent to composting facilities should be potentially biodegradable. Therefore, it is very important to determine the potential biodegradability of such materials and to obtain an indication of their potential biodegradability.