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## **Rolling bearings — Measuring methods for vibration —**

### **Part 1: Fundamentals**

*Roulements — Méthodes de mesurage des vibrations —*

*Partie 1: Principes fondamentaux*



Reference number  
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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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.

ISO 15242-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 4, *Rolling bearings*.

ISO 15242 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Rolling bearings — Measuring methods for vibration*:

- *Part 1: Fundamentals*
- *Part 2: Radial ball bearings with cylindrical bore and outside surface*
- *Part 3: Radial double-row spherical and tapered roller bearings with cylindrical bore and outside surface*

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## Introduction

Vibration in rotating rolling bearings can be of importance as an operating characteristic of such bearings. The vibration can affect the performance of the mechanical system incorporating the bearing and can result in audible noise when the vibration is transmitted to the environment in which the mechanical system operates.

Vibration of rotating rolling bearings is a complex physical phenomenon dependent on the conditions of operation. Measuring the vibration output of an individual bearing under a certain set of conditions does not necessarily characterize the vibration output under a different set of conditions or when the bearing becomes part of a larger assembly. Assessment of the audible sound generated by the mechanical system incorporating the bearing is complicated further by the influence of the interface conditions, the location and orientation of the sensing device, and the acoustical environment in which the system operates. Assessment of airborne noise, which for the purpose of this document can be defined as any disagreeable and undesired sound, is further complicated by the subjective nature of the terms *disagreeable* and *undesired*. Structure-borne vibration can be considered the driving mechanism that ultimately results in the generation of airborne noise. Only selected methods for the measurement of the structure-borne vibration of rotating rolling bearings are addressed in the current edition of ISO 15242.

This part of ISO 15242 serves to define and specify the physical quantities measured and the general test conditions and environment utilized in the measurement of vibration generated by rolling bearings on a test rig. Based on this part of ISO 15242, parties to the acceptance inspection of rolling bearings may, by agreement, establish acceptance criteria with which to control bearing vibration.

Vibration of rotating rolling bearings can be assessed by any of a number of means using various types of transducers and test conditions. No simple set of values characterizing the vibration of a bearing is adequate for the evaluation of the vibratory performance in all possible applications. Ultimately, a knowledge of the type of bearing, its application and the purpose of the vibration testing (e.g., as a manufacturing process diagnostic or an assessment of product quality) is required to select the most suitable method for testing. The field of application for standards on bearing vibration is, therefore, not universal. However, certain methods have established a wide enough level of application to be considered as standard methods for the purposes of this part of ISO 15242.

This part of ISO 15242 serves to define the general principles involved in vibration measurement. It is intended that further parts will specify in more detail the methods for assessing vibration of different types of bearings with cylindrical bore and outside surface.