

INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD
ISO

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First edition
1999-06-01

Water quality — Determination of the inhibitory effect of water constituents on the growth of activated sludge microorganisms

Qualité de l'eau — Détermination de l'effet inhibiteur des constituants de l'eau sur la croissance des micro-organismes de boues activées



Reference number
ISO 15522:1999(E)

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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 3.

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.

International Standard ISO 15522 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 147, *Water quality*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Biological methods*.

Annexes A, B and C of this International Standard are for information only.

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Introduction

Information generated by this method may be helpful in estimating the effect of a test material on mixed bacterial communities in aerobic biological wastewater treatment systems and in choosing suitable initial concentrations for aerobic biodegradability tests

The results of this test should be considered only as a guide to the likely toxicity of the test material, since activated sludge from different sources, or even from the same source taken at different times, may differ in bacterial composition and concentration. Also, laboratory tests cannot truly simulate environmental conditions. For example, no account is taken of longer term adaptation of the microorganisms to the test material or of materials which may adsorb onto biofilm or activated sludge in subsequent wastewater treatment and build up to a toxic concentration over a longer period of time.