

This is a preview of "ISO 16000-16:2008". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

First edition
2008-12-15

Indoor air —

Part 16:

Detection and enumeration of moulds — Sampling by filtration

Air intérieur —

*Partie 16: Détection et dénombrement des moisissures —
Échantillonnage par filtration*



Reference number
ISO 16000-16:2008(E)

© ISO 2008

This is a preview of "ISO 16000-16:2008". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

PDF disclaimer

This PDF file may contain embedded typefaces. In accordance with Adobe's licensing policy, this file may be printed or viewed but shall not be edited unless the typefaces which are embedded are licensed to and installed on the computer performing the editing. In downloading this file, parties accept therein the responsibility of not infringing Adobe's licensing policy. The ISO Central Secretariat accepts no liability in this area.

Adobe is a trademark of Adobe Systems Incorporated.

Details of the software products used to create this PDF file can be found in the General Info relative to the file; the PDF-creation parameters were optimized for printing. Every care has been taken to ensure that the file is suitable for use by ISO member bodies. In the unlikely event that a problem relating to it is found, please inform the Central Secretariat at the address given below.



COPYRIGHT PROTECTED DOCUMENT

© ISO 2008

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from either ISO at the address below or ISO's member body in the country of the requester.

ISO copyright office
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47
E-mail copyright@iso.org
Web www.iso.org

Published in Switzerland

This is a preview of "ISO 16000-16:2008". Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.

Contents

Page

Foreword.....	iv
Introduction	vi
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions.....	1
4 Principle.....	3
5 Apparatus and materials	3
5.1 Sampling device.....	3
5.2 Materials	4
6 Measurement procedure	4
6.1 Preparation for sampling	4
6.2 Sampling.....	6
6.3 Sampling period.....	6
6.4 Transport and storage.....	6
7 Sampling efficiency and method limitations	7
8 Calibration of flow rate, function control and maintenance of the sampling system	7
8.1 Calibration of flow rate	7
8.2 Function control and maintenance	7
9 Quality assurance	7
10 Sampling protocol	8
11 Performance characteristics	8
Annex A (informative) Recovery of spores on gelatine filters in combination with polycarbonate filters	9
Annex B (informative) Technical description of a suitable filtration device	11
Annex C (informative) Sampling protocol.....	14
Annex D (informative) Trials for method validation.....	16
Bibliography	20

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 16000-16 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 146, *Air quality*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Indoor air*.

ISO 16000 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Indoor air*:

- *Part 1: General aspects of sampling strategy*
- *Part 2: Sampling strategy for formaldehyde*
- *Part 3: Determination of formaldehyde and other carbonyl compounds — Active sampling method*
- *Part 4: Determination of formaldehyde — Diffusive sampling method*
- *Part 5: Sampling strategy for volatile organic compounds (VOCs)*
- *Part 6: Determination of volatile organic compounds in indoor and test chamber air by active sampling on Tenax TA[®] sorbent, thermal desorption and gas chromatography using MS/FID*
- *Part 7: Sampling strategy for determination of airborne asbestos fibre concentrations*
- *Part 8: Determination of local mean ages of air in buildings for characterizing ventilation conditions*
- *Part 9: Determination of the emission of volatile organic compounds from building products and furnishing — Emission test chamber method*
- *Part 10: Determination of the emission of volatile organic compounds from building products and furnishing — Emission test cell method*
- *Part 11: Determination of the emission of volatile organic compounds from building products and furnishing — Sampling, storage of samples and preparation of test specimens*
- *Part 12: Sampling strategy for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (PCDDs), polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDFs) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)*
- *Part 13: Determination of total (gas and particle-phase) polychlorinated dioxin-like biphenyls (PCBs) and polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins/dibenzofurans (PCDDs/PCDFs) — Collection on sorbent-backed filters*

This is a preview of "ISO 16000-16:2008". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

- *Part 14: Determination of total (gas and particle-phase) polychlorinated dioxin-like biphenyls (PCBs) and polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins/dibenzofurans (PCDDs/PCDFs) — Extraction, clean-up and analysis by high-resolution gas chromatography and mass spectrometry*
- *Part 15: Sampling strategy for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂)*
- *Part 16: Detection and enumeration of moulds — Sampling by filtration*
- *Part 17: Detection and enumeration of moulds — Culture-based method*
- *Part 23: Performance test for evaluating the reduction of formaldehyde concentrations by sorptive building materials*
- *Part 24: Performance test for evaluating the reduction of volatile organic compounds and carbonyl compounds without formaldehyde concentrations by sorptive building materials*

The following parts are under preparation:

- *Part 18: Detection and enumeration of moulds — Sampling by impaction*
- *Part 19: Sampling strategy for moulds*
- *Part 25: Determination of the emission of semi-volatile organic compounds by building products — Micro-chamber method*
- *Part 28: Sensory evaluation of emissions from building materials and products*

The following parts are planned:

- *Part 20: Detection and enumeration of moulds — Sampling from house dust*
- *Part 21: Detection and enumeration of moulds — Sampling from materials*
- *Part 22: Detection and enumeration of moulds — Molecular methods*
- *Part 27: Standard method for the quantitative analysis of asbestos fibres in settled dust*

Furthermore,

- *ISO 12219-1 (under preparation), Indoor air — Road vehicles — Part 1: Whole vehicle test chamber — Specification and method for the determination of volatile organic compounds in car interiors,*
- *ISO 16017-1, Indoor, ambient and workplace air — Sampling and analysis of volatile organic compounds by sorbent tube/thermal desorption/capillary gas chromatography — Part 1: Pumped sampling, and*
- *ISO 16017-2, Indoor, ambient and workplace air — Sampling and analysis of volatile organic compounds by sorbent tube/thermal desorption/capillary gas chromatography — Part 2: Diffusive sampling*

focus on volatile organic compound (VOC) measurements.

Introduction

Mould is a common name for filamentous fungi from different taxonomic groups (Zygomycetes, Ascomycetes [Ascomycota], Deuteromycetes). They form a mycelium (hyphae) and spores — namely conidiospores (conidia), sporangiospores or ascospores — by which they become visible macroscopically. Most spores are in the size range 2 µm to 10 µm, some up to 30 µm and a very few up to 100 µm. Spores of some mould genera are small and become airborne very easily (e.g. *Aspergillus*, *Penicillium*) while others are bigger and/or embedded in a slime matrix (*Stachybotrys*, *Fusarium*) and less mobile.

Mould spores are widely distributed in the outdoor environment and, therefore, also occur in varying concentrations indoors. Growth of moulds in indoor environments, however, should be considered a public health problem because epidemiological studies have revealed that dampness and/or mould growth in homes and health impairment of occupants are closely related.

Standardised methods for sampling, detection and enumeration of moulds including standards for sampling strategies are important for comparative assessment of mould problems indoors. Before taking any measurements, a measurement strategy is required.

The procedure specified in this part of ISO 16000 is based on VDI 4252-2 ^[7], which is widely used for detection and enumeration of fungi in ambient air and was adapted to be suitable also for indoor environments.