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Water quality — Determination of toxicity of fresh water sediments using *Hyalella azteca*

*Qualité de l'eau — Détermination de la toxicité des sédiments d'eau
douce vis-à-vis de *Hyalella azteca**



Reference number
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Foreword

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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 147, *Water quality*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Biological methods*.

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Introduction

Sediment in the aquatic environment serves as a reservoir for agricultural, industrial, and municipal contaminants. Contaminated sediment adversely affects the benthic community directly and acts as a source of contamination for the overlying water, often negatively impacting pelagic communities as well. Sediment toxicity tests are used globally to determine and monitor the toxic effects of discrete substances or complex mixtures that might be harmful to indigenous life in the aquatic and benthic environments. This International Standard outlines procedures for conducting 14 d and/or 28 d tests for sediment toxicity, using the fresh water amphipod *Hyalella azteca*. The biological end points for the tests include mortality and growth.