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Second edition  
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# Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) on coated and uncoated metallic specimens —

## Part 1: Terms and definitions

*Spectroscopie d'impédance électrochimique (SIE) sur des éprouvettes métalliques revêtues et non revêtues —*

*Partie 1: Termes et définitions*



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ISO copyright office  
Ch. de Blandonnet 8 • CP 401  
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel. +41 22 749 01 11  
Fax +41 22 749 09 47  
copyright@iso.org  
www.iso.org

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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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 35, *Paints and varnishes*, Subcommittee SC 9, *General test methods for paints and varnishes*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 16773-1:2007), which has been technically revised. The main changes are the following:

- a) the introductory element of the title, *Paints and varnishes*, has been omitted because the scope is broadened to include metals and alloys and the main element of the title has been changed to: *Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) on coated and uncoated metallic specimens*;
- b) a reference to ISO/TR 16208 has been added;
- c) the terms are listed in alphabetical order;
- d) the definition for working electrode has been implemented from ISO/TR 16208;
- e) the units and symbols have added where applicable.

ISO 16773 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) on coated and uncoated metallic specimens*:

- *Part 1: Terms and definitions*
- *Part 2: Collection of data*
- *Part 3: Processing and analysis of data from dummy cells*
- *Part 4: Examples of spectra of polymer-coated and uncoated specimens*

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## Introduction

ISO 16773 describes the application of electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS). Although this International Standard was originally developed for coatings and major sections are specific for coatings, the general guidelines can be used also for uncoated samples. For uncoated samples extra information can be found in ISO/TR 16208.

This part of ISO 16773 defines terms used in electrochemical impedance spectroscopy.

ISO 16773-2 describes an experimental procedure for testing laboratory instrumentation for collecting and presenting EIS data collected under potentiostatic control with a focus on high-impedance organic coatings on metal surfaces. ISO 16773-2 specifies a dummy cell that models the properties of a high-impedance system. It gives a test procedure and set-up parameters for the collection of impedance data from the dummy cell and the coated metal specimens. It outlines a procedure for comparing the recorded spectra with the theoretical data for the dummy cell in order to establish guidelines for acceptable instrumental accuracy and limitations. It does not provide any guidance on data interpretation.

ISO 16773-3 specifies the procedure used for the evaluation of the experimental results obtained from dummy cells which simulate high-impedance coated samples and it gives acceptance criteria for the values obtained.

ISO 16773-4, which is informative in nature, includes some background on impedance spectra of coated metal specimens and some typical examples of spectra from actual coatings.

ISO/TR 16208 describes basic principles of electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) specially focusing on the corrosion of metallic materials. It also deals with how to use electrochemical apparatus, set up and connect electrical instruments, present measured data, and analyse results.