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Water quality — Selection and application of ready-to-use test kit methods in water analysis

Qualité de l'eau — Choix et application des méthodes utilisant des kits prêts à l'emploi en analyse de l'eau

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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.

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Introduction

In water and waste-water monitoring, an appropriate, standardized procedure exists for practically every parameter to be investigated. However, in certain circumstances, the employment of a simpler, faster and often more economical method is preferred, provided that this does not entail a breach of legislation.

This International Standard refers to methods for the analysis of water samples which can be undertaken outside the analytical laboratory, either on-site or as a field test, when the purpose of the test is to characterize the water under test for either quality or control purposes. In the case of determinands which are unstable after sampling, and which cannot be stabilized, ready-to-use methods provide the most suitable means of obtaining reliable test results. The test methods are simple procedures for use by a non-chemist after suitable training as well as by the trained chemist.

The methods described in this International Standard are not intended as a substitute for, or alternative to, other standards on the quantitative analysis of waters, which remain the reference methods for use in the laboratory.

The choice of the most suitable method depends upon the type of analysis required, and on the necessary quality of the results. This International Standard is intended to set out boundary conditions for selecting a non-standardized analytical method and to define the requirements with regard to both the application and the production of ready-to-use methods.

When applying the information contained in this International Standard, highly specialized expert knowledge is required when selecting suitable methods, whereas less stringent demands are made upon the subsequent application, in particular of simplified methods.

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