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## Natural gas — Correlation between water content and water dew point

*Gaz naturel — Corrélation entre la teneur en eau et le point de rosée 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.

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 18453 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 193, *Natural gas*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Analysis of natural gas*.

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## Introduction

ISO/TC 193, *Natural gas*, was established in May 1989, with the task of creating new standards, and updating existing standards relevant to natural gas. This includes gas analysis, direct measurement of properties, quality designation and traceability.

This document provides a reliable mathematical relationship between water content and water dew point in natural gas. The calculation method was developed by GERG; it is applicable in both ways, i.e. either to calculate the water content or to calculate the water dew point. Information relating to the thermodynamic principles is given in Annex A; information relating to the traceability, applications and uncertainties associated with this work is given in Annex B.

Some of the operational problems in the natural gas industry can be traced back to water content in natural gases. Even with low water vapour content in the gas, changing operating pressure and temperature conditions can cause water to condense and thus lead to corrosion problems, hydrates or ice formation. To avoid these problems, expensive dehydration units have been installed by natural gas companies. The design and cost of these installations depend on the exact knowledge of the water content at the dew point and the (contractually) required water content.

The instruments resulting from the improvements of moisture measurement equipment during the last decades focus on the determination of water content rather than on water dew point. Therefore, if the water content is measured, a correlation is needed for the expression of water dew point.

The GERG<sup>1)</sup> Group identified a need to build a comprehensive and accurate database of measured water content and corresponding water dew point values for a number of representative natural gases in the range of interest before validating the existing correlations between water content and water dew point.

It was subsequently shown that the uncertainty range of the existing correlations could be improved.

Therefore, as a result, a more accurate, composition-dependent correlation was successfully developed on the basis of the new database.

The aim of this International Standard is to standardize the calculation procedure developed by GERG concerning the relationship between water content and water dew point (and vice versa) in the field of natural gas typically for custody transfer.

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1) GERG is an abbreviation of *Groupe Européen de Recherche Gazière*.