



ISO 20236

**Second edition
2024-11**

**Water quality — Determination
of total organic carbon (TOC),
dissolved organic carbon (DOC),
total bound nitrogen (TNb) and
dissolved bound nitrogen (DNb)
after high temperature catalytic
oxidative combustion**

*Qualité de l'eau — Dosage du carbone organique total (COT),
carbone organique dissous (COD), azote lié total (TNb) et azote
lié dissous (DNb) après combustion catalytique oxydante à haute
température*

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This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 20236:2018), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- the method to determine concentrations <1 mg/l of C and N has been expanded;
- the normative references have been updated;
- the method to apply single component standard calibration solutions e.g. based on as ammonium sulfate or potassium nitrate, has been expanded;
- [Clause A.5](#) has been added in order to require referencing the difference methods with the results report.

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Total organic carbon (TOC), dissolved organic carbon (DOC), total bound nitrogen (TNb) and dissolved bound nitrogen (DNb) are an analytical convention, whose characteristic is a parameter used for water quality control purposes. These parameters represent the sum of organically bound carbon as well as the sum of inorganic and organic nitrogen (but not nitrogen gas), which can be dissolved in water or bonded to dissolved or suspended matter under specified conditions and, if the sample is not filtered, includes that associated with suspended matter. It does not give information on the nature of the substances. The abbreviations TOC, DOC, TNb, DNb, TC and TIC refer to values determined by the high temperature method.

Details of a validation interlaboratory trial with the performance data for TOC or DOC and TNb or DNb, all using the high temperature method in this document, are given in [Annex B](#).