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Second edition
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Measurement of antibacterial activity on plastics and other non-porous surfaces

*Mesurage de l'action antibactérienne sur les surfaces en plastique et
autres surfaces non poreuses*



Reference number
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ISO copyright office
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47
E-mail copyright@iso.org
Web 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.

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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 22196 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Ageing, chemical and environmental resistance*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 22196:2007). The main change is the extension of the scope of the standard to include non-porous surfaces other than plastics (for details, see the Introduction).

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Introduction

Antibacterial materials and products have been widely and rapidly accepted by general consumers as fulfilling a relatively new function, which is distinguishable from the more traditional function of material protection.

Antibacterial products created by incorporating an antibacterial agent (biocide) can suppress the growth of bacteria on the surfaces of products when conditions exist where growth can occur. They can keep surfaces clean and sanitary and can also have an advantage in minimizing the impact on the environment by minimizing diffusion of the agent. This technology is significant for the quality of life, not only in developed countries but also in developing countries.

Antibacterial products have been widely used in plastics, coating materials, ceramics, natural and artificial leather, stainless steel, rubber, etc. The products involved cover a variety of categories, such as electrical appliances, personal items, household goods, nursing-care articles, pet accessories and aircraft-interior fittings.

The scope of the first edition of ISO 22196 was limited to plastics surfaces. In this second edition, the scope has been extended to include surfaces made of other non-porous materials, thus making the second edition applicable to products of the kinds listed above. The test method, which is based on JIS Z 2801^[11], has remained unchanged.