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# Geotechnical investigation and testing — Field testing —

## Part 1: Electrical cone and piezocone penetration test

*Reconnaissance et essais géotechniques — Essais en place —*

*Partie 1: Essais de pénétration au cône électrique et au piézocône*



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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 of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 182, *Geotechnics*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 341, *Geotechnical Investigation and Testing*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 22476-1:2012), which has been technically revised. It also incorporates the Technical Corrigendum ISO 22476-1:2012/Cor 1:2013.

The main changes are as follows:

- dimensional tolerances of cone penetrometer have been updated;
- application class scheme has been replaced by cone penetrometer class and test category classification scheme;
- introduction of temperature influence on measurements monitoring and requirements of internal temperature sensor for cone penetrometer class 0;
- requirements for the calibration of cone penetrometers have been added;
- minor updates to figures and text have been made.

A list of all parts in the ISO 22476 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## Introduction

This document establishes general principles equipment requirements, the execution of and reporting on cone and piezocone penetration tests.

The cone penetration test (CPT) consists of pushing a cone penetrometer using a series of pushrods into the soil at a constant rate of penetration. During penetration, measurements of cone resistance and sleeve friction are recorded. The piezocone penetration test (CPTU) also includes the measurement of pore pressures around the cone. Two International Standards define cone penetration tests: this document defines CPT and CPTU practice using electronic transducers; ISO 22476-12 defines CPT practice using mechanical measuring systems.

“Cone resistance” is the term used in practice and also in this document, although “cone penetration resistance” is a more correct description of the process.

The test results of this document are especially suited for the qualitative and/or quantitative determination of a soil profile together with other investigations (e.g. sampling according to ISO 22475-1 and identification ISO 14688-1) or as a relative comparison with in situ tests.

The results from a cone penetration test are typically used to evaluate:

- stratification;
- soil behaviour type;
- geotechnical parameters such as:
  - soil density;
  - shear strength parameters;
  - deformation and consolidation characteristics;
  - hydraulic conductivity and ground water pressure.

The results from a cone penetration test may also be used directly in geotechnical design calculations.