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Field testing of general ventilation filtration devices and systems for in situ removal efficiency by particle size and resistance to airflow

Essais in situ de filtres et systèmes de ventilation générale pour la mesure de l'efficacité en fonction de la taille des particules et de la perte de charge

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Foreword

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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 29462 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 142, *Cleaning equipment for air and other gases*.

Introduction

The purpose of this International Standard is to provide a test procedure for evaluating the in-situ performances of general ventilation filtration devices and systems. Although any filter with a filtration efficiency at or above 99% or at or below 30% when measured at 0,4 µm could theoretically be tested using this International Standard, it may be difficult to achieve statically acceptable results for these type of filtration devices.

Supply air to the Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning (HVAC) system contains viable and non-viable particles of a broad size range. Over time these particles will cause problems for fans, heat exchangers and other system parts, decreasing their function and increasing energy consumption and maintenance. For health issues, the fine particles (<2,5 µm) are the most detrimental.

Particles in the 0,3 µm to 5,0 µm size range are typically measured by particle counters that can determine the concentration of particles in specific size ranges. These instruments are commercially available and will determine particle size along with the concentration level by several techniques (e.g., light scattering, electrical mobility separation, or aerodynamic drag). Devices based on light scattering are currently the most convenient and commonly used instruments for this type of measurement and are therefore the type of device used within this International Standard.

Particles in the size range 1,0 µm to 5,0 µm are present in low numbers (less than 1%, by count) in outdoor and supply air and have higher sampling-system losses. Results in the range >1,0 µm will therefore have lower accuracy and so the results should be interpreted with respect to this.

During in-situ measurement conditions, the optical properties of the particles may differ from the optical properties of the particles used for calibrating the particle counter and testing it in the laboratory. Thus the particle counter could size the particles differently but count the overall number of particles correctly.

By adding an extra reference filter, the effect of varying measuring conditions can be reduced. Additionally, using this enhanced test method, the results can be used to correct the measured efficiencies in relation to the efficiency of the reference filter measured in laboratory using a standardized test aerosol.

The results from using the standard method or the enhanced method will give both users and manufacturers a better knowledge of actual filter and installation properties.

It is important to note that field measurements generally result in larger uncertainties in the results compared to laboratory measurements. Field measurements may produce uncertainty from temporal and spatial variability in particle concentrations, from limitations on sampling locations due to air handling unit configurations, and from the use of field instrumentation. These factors may result in lower accuracy and precision in the calculated fractional efficiencies compared to laboratory measurements. This International Standard is intended to provide a practical method in which the accuracy and precision of the result are maximized (and the precision of the result quantified) by recommending appropriate sampling locations, sample quantities, and instrumentation. This International Standard is not intended to serve as a filter performance rating method. The results obtained from the test method described in this International Standard do not replace those obtained through tests conducted in the laboratory.