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Measurement of liquid flow in closed conduits — Weighing method

Mesure de débit des liquides dans les conduites fermées — Méthode par pesée

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards institutes (ISO member bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO technical committees. Every member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been set up 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.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 4185 was developed by Technical Committee ISO/TC 30, *Measurement of fluid flow in closed conduits*, and was circulated to the member bodies in August 1978.

It has been approved by the member bodies of the following countries :

Australia	Germany, F.R.	Poland
Belgium	India	Romania
Brazil	Italy	Spain
Chile	Korea, Rep. of	United Kingdom
Czechoslovakia	Mexico	USA
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	Netherlands	USSR
France	Norway	Yugoslavia

The member bodies of the following countries expressed disapproval of the document on technical grounds :

Japan
South Africa, Rep. of

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1 General

1.1 Scope and field of application

This International Standard specifies a method of liquid flow-rate measurement in closed conduits by measuring the mass of liquid delivered into a weighing tank in a known time interval. It deals in particular with the measuring apparatus, the procedure, the method for calculating the flow-rate and the uncertainties associated with the measurement.

The method described may be applied to any liquid provided that its vapour pressure is such that any escape of liquid from the weighing tank by vaporization is not sufficient to affect the required measurement accuracy. Closed weighing tanks and their application to the flow measurement of liquids of high vapour pressure are not considered in this International Standard.

This International Standard does not cover the cases of corrosive or toxic liquids.

Theoretically, there is no limit to the application of this method which is used generally in fixed laboratory installations only. However, for economic reasons, usual hydraulic laboratories using this method can produce flow-rates of 1.5 m^3/s or less.

Owing to its high potential accuracy, this method is often used as a primary method for calibration of other methods or devices for mass flow-rate measurement or volume flow-rate measurement provided that the density of the liquid is known accurately. It must be ensured that the pipeline is running full with no air or vapour pockets present in the measuring section.

1.2 References

ISO 4006, *Measurement of fluid flow in closed conduits — Vocabulary and symbols.*

ISO 5168, *Measurement of fluid flow — Estimation of uncertainty of a flow-rate measurement.*

OIML, Recommendations Nos. 1, 2, 3, 20, 28, 33.

1.3 Definitions

Only terms which are used in a special sense or the meaning of which merits restatement are defined below.

1.3.1 static weighing : The method in which the net mass of liquid collected is deduced from tare and gross weighings made respectively before and after the liquid has been diverted for a measured time interval into the weighing tank.

1.3.2 dynamic weighing : The method in which the net mass of liquid collected is deduced from weighings made while fluid flow is being delivered into the weighing tank. (A diverter is not required with this method.)

1.3.3 diverter : A device which diverts the flow either to the weighing tank or to its by-pass without changing the flow-rate during the measurement interval.

1.3.4 flow stabilizer : A structure forming part of the measuring system, ensuring a stable flow-rate in the conduit being supplied with liquid; for example, a constant level head tank, the level of liquid in which is controlled by a weir of sufficient length.

1.3.5 buoyancy correction : The correction to be made to the readings of a weighing machine to take account of the difference between the upward thrust exerted by the atmosphere, on the liquid being weighed and on the reference weights used during the calibration of the weighing machine.

1.4 Units

The units used in this International Standard are the SI units, metre, kilogram, and second; the degree Celsius is used for convenience instead of the kelvin.