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Fifth edition
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Water quality — Sampling —

Part 3: Preservation and handling of water samples

Qualité de l'eau — Échantillonnage —

Partie 3: Conservation et manipulation des échantillons d'eau



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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).

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).

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For an explanation on 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 the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 147, *Water quality*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Sampling (general methods)*.

This fifth edition cancels and replaces the fourth edition (ISO 5667-3:2012), of which it constitutes a minor revision. The changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- updated references in [Table A.1](#);
- clarification in the Introduction concerning use of the preservation times and conditions set out in [Table A.1](#).

A list of all parts in the ISO 5667 series can be found on the ISO website.

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Introduction

This document is intended to be used in conjunction with ISO 5667-1, which deals with the design of sampling programmes and sampling techniques.

Where possible this document has been brought into line with current standards. Where new research or validation results have provided new insights, the latest knowledge has been used.

Guidance on validation protocols can be found in ISO 17034.

ISO 5667-3 provides in [Table A.1](#) validated preservation times and/or conditions as well as descriptions of best practice. [Table A.1](#) also refers, for each analyte, to those ISO standards available at the date of publication of this ISO 5667-3. This is however not an exhaustive list. Other methods may be used when they have been validated. However, it is strongly recommended that where a method validation is not available, the preservation times for the analyte as listed in [Table A.1](#) for ISO test methods be followed.

The preservation and storage conditions and maximum storage times per analyte as listed in [Table A.1](#) should be regarded as default conditions to be applied in the absence of any other information.

However, if validation of preservation techniques and holding times has been carried out, relative to specific circumstances and matrices, by a laboratory, then, provided that it can produce evidence of this validation where they differ from those set out in [Table A.1](#) of this standard, these validated preservation and storage conditions and maximum storage times are deemed acceptable for use by the validating laboratories.

Attention is drawn to the proposed development of a new part in the ISO 5667 series, which further elaborates on ISO 5667-3:2018, Annex C, and which will contain guidelines and the elaboration of the required techniques of how to validate new storage times or preservative methods and details of the techniques described.