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Third edition
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Water quality — Sampling —

Part 6:

Guidance on sampling of rivers and streams

Qualité de l'eau — Échantillonnage —

Partie 6: Lignes directrices pour l'échantillonnage des rivières et des cours 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).

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 147, *Water Quality*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Sampling*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 5667-6:2005), which has been technically revised.

ISO 5667 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Water quality — Sampling*:

- *Part 1: Guidance on the design of sampling programmes and sampling techniques*
- *Part 3: Preservation and handling of water samples*
- *Part 4: Guidance on sampling from lakes, natural and man-made*
- *Part 5: Guidance on sampling of drinking water from treatment works and piped distribution systems*
- *Part 6: Guidance on sampling of rivers and streams*
- *Part 7: Guidance on sampling of water and steam in boiler plants*
- *Part 8: Guidance on the sampling of wet deposition*
- *Part 9: Guidance on sampling from marine waters*
- *Part 10: Guidance on sampling of waste waters*
- *Part 11: Guidance on sampling of groundwaters*
- *Part 12: Guidance on sampling of bottom sediments*
- *Part 13: Guidance on sampling of sludges*
- *Part 14: Guidance on quality assurance and quality control of environmental water sampling and handling*
- *Part 15: Guidance on the preservation and handling of sludge and sediment samples*

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- *Part 16: Guidance on biotesting of samples*
- *Part 17: Guidance on sampling of bulk suspended solids*
- *Part 19: Guidance on sampling of marine sediments*
- *Part 20: Guidance on the use of sampling data for decision making — Compliance with thresholds and classification systems*
- *Part 21: Guidance on sampling of drinking water distributed by tankers or means other than distribution pipes*
- *Part 22: Guidance on the design and installation of groundwater monitoring points*
- *Part 23: Guidance on passive sampling in surface water*

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Introduction

An understanding of the purpose of sampling is an essential prerequisite to identifying the principles to be applied to a particular sampling problem. Examples of the purposes of sampling programmes commonly devised for rivers and streams are as follows:

- a) to determine the suitability of the water quality of a river or stream within a river basin for a particular use, such as
 - 1) a source of drinking water,
 - 2) for agricultural use (e.g. all types of irrigation, live-stock watering),
 - 3) for the maintenance or development of fisheries,
 - 4) for amenity use (e.g. aquatic sports and swimming), and
 - 5) for conservation and protection of aquatic life;
- b) to assess the impact of human activities on the quality of water, such as
 - 1) study of the effects of waste discharge or accidental spillages on a receiving water,
 - 2) assessment of the impact of land use on river or stream quality,
 - 3) assessment of the effect of the accumulation and release of substances including contaminants from bottom deposits on aquatic biota within the water mass, or on bottom deposits,
 - 4) study of the effects of abstraction, river regulation, and river-to-river water transfers on the chemical quality of rivers and their aquatic biota, and
 - 5) study of the effects of river engineering works on the water quality (e.g. addition or removal of weirs, changes to channel or bed structure).