

Fourth edition 2008-11-01

Hard coal — Determination of total moisture

Houille — Détermination de l'humidité totale



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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.

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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.

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ISO 589 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 27, Solid mineral fuels, Subcommittee SC 5, Methods of analysis.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 589:2003), which has been technically revised.

Introduction

Moisture is an important parameter in respect of coal quality.

The moisture content of coal is not an absolute value and conditions for its determination have to be standardized. It is expected that the results given by the different methods specified here should be comparable within the limits of the tolerance quoted.

It is always necessary that the determination of the total moisture content of hard coals be considered in close connection with sampling. Therefore, this International Standard has been prepared in close relationship with the ISO standards for mechanical sampling ISO 13909 (all parts) and manual sampling ISO 18283.

A major problem with the preparation of test samples for the determination of moisture is the risk of bias due to inadvertent loss of moisture. This is dependent on the tightness of the sealing of sampling containers, the level of moisture content in the sample, the ambient conditions, the type of coal and the reduction and division procedures used. This is described in detail in ISO 13909-4 or ISO 18283.

Depending on the mass, the nominal top size and the facilities available where samples are taken, it is possible to dry the sample directly after sampling (air-drying), then to reduce the particle size and prepare a test sample for determination of moisture in the air-dried sample. Alternatively, the whole sample may be transported to the laboratory and the total moisture determined.