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**Petroleum and natural gas industries —  
Materials for use in H<sub>2</sub>S-containing  
environments in oil and gas  
production —**

Part 1:  
**General principles for selection of  
cracking-resistant materials**

*Industries du pétrole et du gaz naturel — Matériaux pour utilisation  
dans des environnements contenant de l'hydrogène sulfuré (H<sub>2</sub>S)  
dans la production de pétrole et de gaz —*

*Partie 1: Principes généraux pour le choix des matériaux résistant au  
craquage*

An American National Standard  
Approved December 2, 2010

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ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156-  
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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.

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.

ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 67, *Materials, equipment and offshore structures for petroleum, petrochemical and natural gas industries*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ANSI/NACE/ISO 15156-1:2001), of which it constitutes a minor revision, specifically by the following:

- inclusion of changes to Table 1 in line with the version shown in ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156-2 and ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156-3;
- inclusion of changes to Clause 5 to make clearer the roles of those involved in the selection and supply and use of materials;
- replacement of the term "pre-qualified material".

ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Petroleum and natural gas industries — Materials for use in H<sub>2</sub>S-containing environments in oil and gas production*:

- *Part 1: General principles for selection of cracking-resistant materials*
- *Part 2: Cracking-resistant carbon and low-alloy steels, and the use of cast irons*
- *Part 3: Cracking-resistant CRAs (corrosion-resistant alloys) and other alloys*

## Introduction

The consequences of sudden failures of metallic oil and gas field components, associated with their exposure to H<sub>2</sub>S-containing production fluids, led to the preparation of the first edition of NACE MR0175, which was published in 1975 by the National Association of Corrosion Engineers, now known as NACE International.

The original and subsequent editions of NACE MR0175 established limits of H<sub>2</sub>S partial pressure above which precautions against sulfide stress cracking (SSC) were always considered necessary. They also provided guidance for the selection and specification of SSC-resistant materials when the H<sub>2</sub>S thresholds were exceeded. In more recent editions, NACE MR0175 has also provided application limits for some corrosion-resistant alloys, in terms of environmental composition and pH, temperature and H<sub>2</sub>S partial pressures.

In separate developments, the European Federation of Corrosion issued EFC Publication 16 in 1995 and EFC Publication 17 in 1996. These documents are generally complementary to those of NACE though they differed in scope and detail.

In 2003, the publication of the three parts of ISO 15156 and ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156 was completed for the first time. These technically identical documents utilized the above sources to provide requirements and recommendations for materials qualification and selection for application in environments containing wet H<sub>2</sub>S in oil and gas production systems. They are complemented by NACE TM0177 and NACE TM0284 test methods.

The revision of this part of ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156 involves a consolidation of all changes agreed and published in the Technical Corrigendum 1, ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156-1:2001/Cor.1:2005 and by the Technical Circular 1, ANSI/NACE/ISO 15156-1:2001/Cir.1:2007(E), published by the ISO 15156 maintenance agency secretariat at DIN, Berlin.

The changes were developed by, and approved by the ballot of, representative groups from within the oil and gas production industry. The great majority of these changes stem from issues raised by document users. A description of the process by which these changes were approved can be found at the ISO 15156 maintenance Web site, [www.iso.org/iso15156maintenance](http://www.iso.org/iso15156maintenance).

When found necessary by oil and gas production industry experts, future interim changes to this part of ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156 will be processed in the same way and will lead to interim updates to this part of ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156 in the form of Technical Corrigenda or Technical Circulars. Document users should be aware that such documents can exist and can impact the validity of the dated references in this part of ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156.

The ISO 15156 maintenance agency at DIN was set up after approval by the ISO Technical Management Board given in document 34/2007. This document describes the make-up of the agency, which includes experts from NACE, EFC and ISO/TC 67/WG 7, and the process for approval of amendments. It is available from the ISO 15156 maintenance Web site and from the ISO/TC 67 Secretariat. The Web site also provides access to related documents that provide more detail of ISO 15156 maintenance activities.

# **Petroleum and natural gas industries — Materials for use in H<sub>2</sub>S-containing environments in oil and gas production —**

## **Part 1:**

### **General principles for selection of cracking-resistant materials**

**WARNING —** Metallic materials selected using ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156 are resistant to cracking in defined H<sub>2</sub>S-containing environments in oil and gas production but not necessarily immune to cracking under all service conditions. It is the equipment user's responsibility to select materials suitable for the intended service.

#### **1 Scope**

This part of ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156 describes general principles and gives requirements and recommendations for the selection and qualification of metallic materials for service in equipment used in oil and gas production and in natural-gas sweetening plants in H<sub>2</sub>S-containing environments, where the failure of such equipment can pose a risk to the health and safety of the public and personnel or to the environment. It can be applied to help to avoid costly corrosion damage to the equipment itself. It supplements, but does not replace, the materials requirements given in the appropriate design codes, standards or regulations.

This part of ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156 addresses all mechanisms of cracking that can be caused by H<sub>2</sub>S, including sulfide stress cracking, stress corrosion cracking, hydrogen-induced cracking and stepwise cracking, stress-oriented hydrogen-induced cracking, soft zone cracking and galvanically induced hydrogen stress cracking.

Table 1 provides a non-exhaustive list of equipment to which this part of ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156 is applicable, including permitted exclusions.

This part of ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156 applies to the qualification and selection of materials for equipment designed and constructed using conventional elastic design criteria.

This part of ANSI/NACE MR0175/ISO 15156 is not necessarily applicable to equipment used in refining or downstream processes and equipment.