INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Plastics — Symbols and abbreviated terms —

Part 1: Basic polymers and their special characteristics

Plastiques — Symboles et termes abrégés —

Partie 1: Polymères de base et leurs caractéristiques spéciales

Reference number
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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.

ISO 1043-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Terminology*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 1043-1:2001), which has been technically revised.

ISO 1043 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Plastics — Symbols and abbreviated terms*:

— *Part 1: Basic polymers and their special characteristics*

— *Part 2: Fillers and reinforcing materials*

— *Part 3: Plasticizers*

— *Part 4: Flame retardants*

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Plastics — Symbols and abbreviated terms —

Part 1:
Basic polymers and their special characteristics

1 Scope

This part of ISO 1043 defines abbreviated terms for the basic polymers used in plastics, symbols for components of these terms, and symbols for special characteristics of plastics. It includes only those abbreviated terms that have come into established use and its aim is both to prevent the occurrence of more than one abbreviated term for a given plastic and to prevent a given abbreviated term being interpreted in more than one way.

NOTE 1 For symbols and abbreviated terms for fillers and reinforcing materials, see ISO 1043-2, for plasticizers see ISO 1043-3, and for flame retardants see ISO 1043-4. Nomenclature for rubbers and latices is given in ISO 1629. Nomenclature for thermoplastic elastomers is given in ISO 18064.

NOTE 2 Guidance for the preparation of new abbreviated terms is given in Annex A, and reference lists of symbols for the components of plastics terms used to form the abbreviated terms for plastics are given in Annex B.

NOTE 3 A classification of abbreviated terms for polymers grouped by type is given in Annex C.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 472, *Plastics — Vocabulary*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 472 and the following apply.

3.1
abbreviated term
term resulting from the omission of any part of a term while designating the same concept

4 Use of symbols and abbreviated terms

4.1 Abbreviated terms for homopolymers, copolymers and natural polymers are given in Clause 5, symbols for special characteristics are given in Clause 6, the symbol for plastics recyclate is given in Clause 7, and examples of the use of symbols are given in Clause 8.

4.2 To distinguish the essential molecular characteristics within a given generic type of plastics material, additional symbols, with guidance for their use, are provided. The use of symbols for describing properties that can only be ascertained subjectively should be avoided since this can lead to confusion.

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