



## INTRODUCTION

The force values in this part of ISO 6506 were calculated from kilogram force values. They were introduced before the SI-system was adopted. It was decided to keep the values based on the old units for this part of ISO 6506 but for the next revision it will be necessary to consider the advantage of introducing rounded values of test force and possible consequences on the hardness scales.

Attention is drawn to the fact that in this part of ISO 6506, only the use of the hardmetal ball indenter is specified.

The designation of the Brinell hardness is HBW and should not be confused with the former designation HB, or HBS when a steel ball indenter was used.

## 1 Scope

This part of ISO 6506 specifies the method for the Brinell hardness test for metallic materials and is applicable up to the limit of 650 HBW.

For specific materials and/or products, particular International Standards exist (i.e. ISO 4498-1).

## 2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this part, constitute provisions of this part of ISO 6506. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this part of ISO 6506 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 4498-1, *Sintered metal materials, excluding hardmetals — Determination of apparent hardness — Part 1: Materials of essentially uniform section hardness.*

ISO 6506-2:1999, *Metallic materials — Brinell hardness test — Part 2: Verification and calibration of testing machines.*

## 3 Principles

An indenter (hardmetal ball with diameter  $D$ ) is forced into the surface of a test piece and the diameter of the indentation  $d$  left in the surface after removal of the force  $F$  is measured.

The Brinell hardness is proportional to the quotient obtained by dividing the test force by the curved surface area of the indentation. The indentation is assumed to be spherical with a radius corresponding to half of the diameter of the ball.

## 4 Symbols and designations

See Figure 1 and Table 1.