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Australian Standard®

Natural gas—Standard reference conditions

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- Australian Institute of Physics
- Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association
- Institute of Institutionation, Control and Automation, Australia
- LPG Australia
- National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia
- National Measurement Institute

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Natural gas—Standard reference conditions

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee ME-049, Oil and Gas Measurement. It is identical with, and has been reproduced from ISO 13443:1996, *Natural gas—Standard reference conditions*.

The objective of this Standard is to provide standard reference conditions of temperature, pressure and humidity for use in measurements and calculations for natural gas, natural gas substitutes and similar fluids.

As this Standard is reproduced from an international standard, the following applies:

(a) Its number appears on the cover and title page while the international standard number appears only on the cover.

(b) In the source text 'this International Standard' should read 'this Australian Standard'.

(c) A full point substitutes for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

None of the references in the source document have been adopted as Australian or Australian/New Zealand Standards.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the annex to which they apply. A 'normative' annex is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' annex is only for information and guidance.

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INTRODUCTION

The multiplicity of so-called "standard reference conditions" of temperature, pressure and humidity (state of saturation) used in the measurement of natural-gas quality and quantity can cause much confusion. Failure to take unrecognized differences of reference conditions into account can have serious consequences in, for example, custody transfer applications. Often enough, even an experienced gas engineer may not recognize the potential for error, as the units of measurement usually employ identical terminology, irrespective of differences in the reference conditions. All of the ambiguity and its undesirable consequences may easily be removed by the adoption of a single standardized set of reference conditions. The set chosen in this International Standard will be known as the ISO standard reference conditions.

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

Natural gas — Standard reference conditions

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the standard reference conditions of temperature, pressure and humidity to be used for measurements and calculations carried out on natural gases, natural-gas substitutes and similar fluids.

The primary application is expected to be in international custody transfer, where the reduction to a common basis of those physical attributes of a gas which describe both its quality and quantity will simplify the practice of world trade and commerce.

2 Normative reference

The following standard contains provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of publication, the edition indicated was valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent edition of the standard indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 6976:1995, *Natural gas — Calculation of calorific values, density, relative density and Wobbe index from composition.*

3 Standard reference conditions

The standard reference (or base) conditions of temperature, pressure and humidity (state of saturation) to be used for measurements and calculations carried out on natural gases, natural-gas substitutes and similar fluids in the gaseous state are 288,15 K and 101,325 kPa for the real dry gas.

The physical properties to which these ISO standard reference conditions apply include volume, density, relative density, compression factor, superior calorific value, inferior calorific value and Wobbe index. Full definitions of these quantities are given in ISO 6976:1995. In the cases of calorific value and Wobbe index, both the volume of gas burned and the energy released by combustion shall relate to the ISO standard reference conditions.

It is recognized, however, that in certain circumstances it may be impracticable or even unallowable to use the ISO standard reference conditions. For example, national legislation or contractual obligations may demand the use of alternative reference conditions. For this reason, annex A provides factors for conversion between several sets of metric reference conditions which are known to be in regular use, and annex B gives equations which enable values of properties (relating to any other known reference conditions) to be converted to values for the ISO