



BSI Standards Publication

**Plastics — Standard table for
reference global solar spectral
irradiance at sea level —
Horizontal, relative air mass 1
(ISO/TR 17801:2014)**

National foreword

This Published Document is the UK implementation of CEN ISO/TR 17801:2017. It is identical to ISO/TR 17801:2014. It supersedes PD ISO/TR 17801:2014 which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee PRI/21, Testing of plastics.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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31 March 2017	This corrigendum renames PD ISO/TR 17801:2014 as PD CEN ISO/TR 17801:2017

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English Version

Plastics - Standard table for reference global solar spectral
irradiance at sea level - Horizontal, relative air mass 1
(ISO/TR 17801:2014)

Plastiques - Table de référence pour l'irradiance
solaire spectrale totale au niveau de la mer -
Horizontale, masse d'air relative 1 (ISO/TR
17801:2014)

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European foreword

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Foreword

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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Ageing, chemical and environmental resistance*.

Introduction

The effect of solar radiation on surface of the earth (global radiation) is the most important primary weathering factor. The photons absorbed by the molecules during radiation exposure are often sufficient to split chemical bonds, start photochemical reactions and cause an electron transfer^[1]. The spectral irradiance of the solar radiation is variable locally and in time. A reference spectrum is therefore required as a basis for the simulation of the spectral irradiance of solar radiation with artificial radiation sources/radiation systems. Data of the CIE (Commission Internationale de L'Éclairage) Publication (No. 85, 1989) have been used as a basis for years. Table 4 specifies the spectral irradiance of global radiation (direct and diffuse radiation) for a cloudless sky, zenith position of the sun by day and night comparisons at the equator at sea level. But in CIE 85, the data of the global solar irradiance only begins at 305 nm, the step width is very rough and the calculation code got unexplainably lost. Therefore, there have been efforts to revise CIE No. 85 for many years. The new [Table 1](#) gives modelled data (using the SMARTS model version 2.9.2) generated using an air mass zero (AM0) spectrum based on extraterrestrial spectrum of Gueymard^{[2][3]}.

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Plastics — Standard table for reference global solar spectral irradiance at sea level — Horizontal, relative air mass 1

1 Scope

This Technical Report provides a reference spectrum to the field of weathering degradation (see [Table 1](#)) in order to classify solar simulators in the UV, visible and infrared wavelength range.

The photochemical ageing which occurs in practice is simulated with time compression in laboratory weathering instruments by sequencing maximum stress climate episodes. To give a spectral irradiance target, the table specifies the spectral irradiance of global radiation (direct and diffuse radiation) with a cloudless sky, zenith position of the sun by day and night comparisons at the equator at sea level as defined in Table 4 of CIE No. 85. This is a realistic maximum exposure under representative clear sky conditions.

The data contained in [Table 1](#), [Figure 2](#), and [Figure 3](#) were generated using the SMARTS2 Version 2.9.2[2] [3] to recalculate the CIE No. 85, Table 4.

[Table 2](#) contains the original data from CIE No. 85, Table 4. The numbers are shown in [Figure 2](#) and [Figure 3](#) as well.

2 References

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

CIE No. 85, Technical Report; *Solar Spectral Irradiance*; 1989

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

global solar irradiance

solar radiant flux, both direct and diffuse, received on a horizontal plane unit area from a solid angle of 2π steradians

Note 1 to entry: It is measured in watts per square metre ($\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$).

3.2

spectral irradiance

radiant flux per unit area per wavelength interval

Note 1 to entry: It is measured in watts per square metre per nanometre ($\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{nm}^{-1}$).