



BSI Standards Publication

**Guidelines for the preparation of standard
routine methods with wavelength dispersive
X-ray fluorescence spectrometry**

National foreword

This Published Document is the UK implementation of CEN/TR 10377:2023.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee ISE/102, Methods of Chemical Analysis for Iron and Steel.

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

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English Version

Guidelines for the preparation of standard routine methods with wavelength-dispersive X-ray fluorescence spectrometry

This Technical Report was approved by CEN on 12 June 2023. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 459/SC 2.

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CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

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European foreword

This document (CEN/TR 10377:2023) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 459/SC 2 “Methods of chemical analysis for iron and steel”, the secretariat of which is held by SIS.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes CR 10299:1999.

In comparison with the previous edition, the following modifications have been made:

- Conversion of the document from a CEN Report (CR) to a Technical Report (TR);
- Title: reworded;
- Clause 1, “Purpose of the guideline” split in “Introduction” and “Scope”;
- Definition 3.3, deleted;
- Definition 3.4, deleted;
- Definition 3.9, updated;
- Definition 3.10, updated;
- Definition 3.11, updated;
- Definition 3.12, updated;
- Renumbering of Clauses 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10;
- Annex A updated and became “Bibliography”;
- Annex B, became Annex A;
- Annex C, became Annex B;
- Annex D, became Annex C;
- Annex E, withdrawn.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

Introduction

X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry (XRF) has been used for several decades as an important analytical tool for routine analysis. XRF is characterized by its speed and high precision over wide content ranges. Since the technique in most cases is used as a relative method, its limitations are often connected to the quality of the calibration samples.

The technique is well established and most of its physical properties are well known.

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1 Scope

This document is intended to be used for the analysis of metals and alloys (namely steels), but it can also be applicable to other materials although the sample preparation techniques differ. The purpose of this document is to describe general concepts and the procedures for calibration and analysis by XRF.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

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

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

3.1 calibration

calculation of the best fit of net intensities and contents from a number of calibration samples to a calibration curve

3.2 recalibration

calculation of new calibration constants with a few number of samples, selected from the calibration samples

Note 1 to entry: Calibration samples using the apparent contents calculated in 3.1

Note 2 to entry: To compensate for the day-to-day variations of the instrument a set of recalibration samples is measured; either one with a low and one with a high content for each element (two-point recalibration) or one with a high content only for each element (one-point recalibration). The intensities are compared to the initial intensities recorded during the calibration procedure and recalibration coefficients are calculated. Calibration constants are not changed.

3.3 background equivalent concentration

BEC

quantity of analyte which, when subjected to excitation, provides a net intensity equal to the spectral background

3.4 limit of detection

LOD

minimum content at which the signal generated by a given element can be positively recognised above any background signals with a specified degree of certainty