

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Determination of certain substances in electrotechnical products –
Part 11: Tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP) in plastics by gas
chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) and liquid chromatography-mass
spectrometry (LC-MS)**

**Détermination de certaines substances dans les produits électrotechniques –
Partie 11: Phosphate de tris(2-chloroéthyle) (TCEP) dans les plastiques par
chromatographie en phase gazeuse et spectrométrie de masse (GC-MS) et
chromatographie en phase liquide et spectrométrie de masse (LC-MS)**



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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
INTRODUCTION.....	6
1 Scope.....	7
2 Normative references	7
3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms	7
3.1 Terms and definitions.....	7
3.2 Abbreviated terms.....	8
4 Principle.....	9
5 Reagents and materials.....	
6 Apparatus.....	10
6.1 GC-MS method.....	10
6.2 LC-MS method.....	11
7 Sampling.....	11
8 Procedure.....	11
8.1 General instructions for the analysis	11
8.2 Sample preparation.....	11
8.2.1 General.....	11
8.2.2 GC-MS method.....	12
8.2.3 LC-MS method.....	13
8.3 Instrumental parameters	14
8.3.1 GC-MS method.....	14
8.3.2 LC-MS method.....	15
8.4 Calibrants	16
8.5 Calibration	17
8.5.1 General	17
8.5.2 TCEP and surrogate (100 µg/ml) stock solution	17
8.5.3 Internal standard solution (100 µg/ml of anthracene-d ₁₀)	17
8.5.4 Standard solutions.....	17
9 Calculation of TCEP concentration	19
10 Precision	21
10.1 GC-MS method.....	21
10.2 LC-MS method.....	21
11 Quality assurance and control	22
11.1 General.....	22
11.2 GC-MS method.....	22
11.2.1 Performance.....	22
11.2.2 Method detection limit and reporting limit.....	23
11.3 LC-MS method.....	24
11.3.1 Performance.....	24
11.3.2 Method detection limit and reporting limit.....	25
12 Test report.....	25
Annex A (informative) Tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP) in plastics by gas chromatography-mass spectrometry using a pyrolyser/thermal desorption accessory (Py/TD-GC-MS).....	26
A.1 Principle	26

A.2	Reagents and materials	27
A.3	Apparatus	27
A.4	Sampling.....	28
A.5	Procedure.....	28
A.5.1	General instructions for the analysis	28
A.5.2	Sample preparation	28
A.5.3	Instrumental parameters	29
A.5.4	Calibration	30
A.6	Calculation of TCEP concentration.....	31
A.6.1	General	31
A.6.2	Determination of RF of DEHP	31
A.6.3	Calculation	32
Annex B (informative)	Examples of chromatograms and mass spectrum by GC-MS	33
Annex C (informative)	Examples of chromatograms and mass spectrum by LC-MS.....	34
Annex D (informative)	Examples of chromatograms and mass spectrum by Py-TD-GC-MS.....	35
Bibliography.....		36
Figure B.1	– Gas chromatogram of TCEP, TCEP-d ₁₂ , and anthracene-d ₁₀	33
Figure B.2	– Mass spectrum of TCEP by GC-MS	33
Figure B.3	– Mass spectrum of TCEP-d ₁₂ by GC-MS	33
Figure C.1	– Liquid chromatogram of TCEP and TCEP-d ₁₂	34
Figure C.2	– Mass spectrum of TCEP by LC-MS.....	34
Figure C.3	– Mass spectrum of TCEP-d ₁₂ by LC-MS	34
Figure D.1	– Total ion current chromatogram of TCEP by Py-TD-GC-MS	35
Figure D.2	– Mass spectrum of TCEP by Py-TD-GC-MS	35
Table 1	– Measurement conditions of GC-MS	14
Table 2	– Reference masses for the quantification of TCEP	15
Table 3	– Measurement conditions of LC-MS.....	16
Table 4	– Calibration standard solution of TCEP with internal standard – Estimated TCEP sample solution concentration 0,1 µg/ml and higher.....	18
Table 5	– Calibration standard solution of TCEP with internal standard – Estimated TCEP sample solution concentration lower than 0,1 µg/ml	18
Table 6	– IIS 11 repeatability and reproducibility (GC-MS).....	21
Table 7	– IIS 11 repeatability and reproducibility (LC-MS).....	22
Table A.1	– Measurement conditions of Py/TD-GC-MS	29

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**DETERMINATION OF CERTAIN SUBSTANCES
IN ELECTROTECHNICAL PRODUCTS –****Part 11: Tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP) in plastics by gas
chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) and liquid
chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS)**

FOREWORD

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IEC 62321-11 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 111: Environmental standardization for electrical and electronic products and systems, in collaboration with IEC subcommittee SC 5: Physical-chemical properties of ISO technical committee 61: Plastics. It is an International Standard.

It is published as a double logo standard.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
111/723/FDIS	111/735A/RVD

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/publications.

A list of all parts in the IEC 62321 series, published under the general title *Determination of certain substances in electrotechnical products*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under webstore.iec.ch in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn, or
- revised.

INTRODUCTION

The widespread use of electrotechnical products has drawn increased attention to their impact on the environment. In many countries, this has resulted in the adoption of regulations affecting wastes, substances, and energy use of electrotechnical products.

The use of certain substances (e.g. lead (Pb), cadmium (Cd), and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs)) in electrotechnical products is a source of concern in current and proposed regional legislation.

The purpose of the IEC 62321 series is therefore to provide test methods that will allow the electrotechnical industry to determine the levels of certain substances of concern in electrotechnical products on a consistent global basis.

This first edition of IEC 62321-11 introduces a new subject covering tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP) in the IEC 62321 series.

TCEP is a halogenated phosphorus-based flame retardant that is disclosed as a substance of very high concern (SVHC) as it is classified as toxic to reproduction category 2 (R60) and was included in the candidate list for authorization on 13 January 2012 following ECHA's decision ED/68/2009 [1]¹ and in regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 ANNEX VI [2].

TCEP is used as a flame retardant in plastics such as polyester and polyurethane foam and as a plasticizer in polyvinyl chloride. Additionally, TCEP is used as an alternative for brominated flame retardants that have been restricted. No applicable testing standard exists for TCEP analysis in plastics.

As a result, analysis criteria have been established by an IEC TC 111 and ISO/TC 61/SC 5 joint working group for the joint development of an IEC and ISO double logo International Standard, to provide a test method that will allow the industry to determine the concentrations of TCEP in plastics.

WARNING – Persons using this document should be familiar with normal laboratory practice. This document does not purport to address all of the safety problems, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user to establish appropriate safety and health practices and to ensure compliance with all national regulatory conditions.

¹ Numbers in square brackets refer to the Bibliography.

DETERMINATION OF CERTAIN SUBSTANCES IN ELECTROTECHNICAL PRODUCTS –

Part 11: Tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP) in plastics by gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) and liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS)

1 Scope

This part of IEC 62321 specifies two different techniques for the determination of tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP) in plastics, the GC-MS or LC-MS method, both of which are applicable to quantitative analysis.

These two techniques are applicable to use with polyurethane, polyvinyl chloride, and polyethylene materials containing TCEP between 200 mg/kg to 2 000 mg/kg.

These test methods do not apply to plastic materials having a processing temperature higher than 230 °C.

GC-MS using a pyrolyser/thermal desorption accessory (PyTD-GC-MS) technique is described in Annex A and can be used for the screening of TCEP in plastics.

NOTE TCEP starts thermal decomposition at approximately 230 °C. Polymer types that have a processing temperature into shapes of plastics (e.g. pellets, moulded parts or sheets) not exceeding the decomposition temperature can contain TCEP.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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.

IEC 62321-1:2013, *Determination of certain substances in electrotechnical products – Part 1: Introduction and overview*

IEC 62321-2:2021, *Determination of certain substances in electrotechnical products – Part 2: Disassembly, disassembly and mechanical sample preparation*

3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms

3.1 Terms and definitions

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

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

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