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**Gaseous fire-extinguishing systems —  
Physical properties and system design —**

Part 12:  
**IG-01 extinguishant**

*Systèmes d'extinction d'incendie utilisant des agents gazeux —  
 Propriétés physiques et conception des systèmes —*

*Partie 12: Agent extincteur IG-01*

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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

ISO 14520-12 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 21, *Equipment for fire protection and fire fighting*, Subcommittee SC 8, *Gaseous media and firefighting systems using gas*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 14520-12:2000), which has been technically revised.

ISO 14520 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Gaseous fire-extinguishing systems — Physical properties and system design*:

- *Part 1: General requirements*
- *Part 2: CF<sub>3</sub>I extinguishant*
- *Part 5: FK-5-1-12 extinguishant*
- *Part 6: HCFC Blend A extinguishant*
- *Part 8: HFC 125 extinguishant*
- *Part 9: HFC 227ea extinguishant*
- *Part 10: HFC 23 extinguishant*
- *Part 11: HFC 236fa extinguishant*
- *Part 12: IG-01 extinguishant*
- *Part 13: IG-100 extinguishant*
- *Part 14: IG-55 extinguishant*
- *Part 15: IG-541 extinguishant*

Parts 3, 4 and 7, which dealt with FC-2-1-8, FC-3-1-10 and HCFC 124 extinguishants, respectively, have been withdrawn, as these types are no longer manufactured.



# Gaseous fire-extinguishing systems — Physical properties and system design —

## Part 12: IG-01 extinguishant

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO 14520 gives specific requirements for gaseous fire-extinguishing systems, with respect to the IG-01 extinguishant. It includes details of physical properties, specification, usage and safety aspects and is applicable to systems operating at nominal pressures of 160 bar, 200 bar and 300 bar at 15 °C. This does not preclude the use of other systems; however, design data for other pressures were not available at time of publication.

### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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.

ISO 14520-1:—<sup>1)</sup>, *Gaseous fire-extinguishing systems — Physical properties and system design — Part 1: General requirements*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 14520-1 apply.

### 4 Characteristics and uses

#### 4.1 General

Extinguishant IG-01 shall comply with the specification according to Table 1.

IG-01 is a colourless, almost odourless, electrically non-conductive gas at ambient (20 °C) temperature, with a density approximately 1,4 times that of air.

The physical properties are given in Table 2.

IG-01 extinguishes fires mainly by a reduction of the oxygen concentration in the atmosphere of the hazard enclosure.

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1) To be published. (Revision of ISO 14520-1:2000)

**Table 1 — Specification for IG-01**

Property	Requirement
Purity	99,9 % by volume, min.
Water content	$50 \times 10^{-6}$ by mass, max.
Suspended matter or sediment	None visible

**Table 2 — Physical properties of IG-01**

Property	Unit	Value
Molecular mass	—	39,9
Boiling point at 1,013 bar (absolute) <sup>a</sup>	°C	-185,9
Freezing point	°C	-189,4
Critical temperature	°C	-122,3
Critical pressure	bar abs <sup>a</sup>	49,0
Critical volume	cm <sup>3</sup> /mol	—
Critical density	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	536
Vapour pressure 20 °C	bar abs <sup>a</sup>	—
Liquid density 20 °C	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	—
Saturated vapour density 20 °C	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	—
Specific volume of superheated vapour at 1,013 bar and 20 °C	m <sup>3</sup> /kg	0,602
Chemical formula	Ar	
Chemical name	Argon	

<sup>a</sup> 1 bar = 0,1 MPa = 10<sup>5</sup> Pa; 1 MPa = 1 N/mm<sup>2</sup>.

#### 4.2 Use of IG-01 systems

IG-01 total flooding systems may be used for extinguishing fires of all classes within the limits specified in ISO 14520-1:—<sup>2)</sup>, Clause 4.

The extinguishant requirements per volume of protected space are shown in Table 3 for various levels of concentration. These are based on methods given in ISO 14520-1—<sup>2)</sup>, 7.6.

The extinguishing concentrations and design concentrations for heptane and Surface Class A hazards are given in Table 4, while inerting concentrations are given in Table 5.

2) To be published. (Revision of ISO 14520-1:2000)

Table 3 — IG-01 total flooding quantity

Temperature <i>T</i> °C	Specific vapour volume <i>S</i> m <sup>3</sup> /kg	IG-01 volume requirements per unit volume of protected space, <i>V/V</i> (m <sup>3</sup> /m <sup>3</sup> ) This information refers only to IG-01, and may not represent any other products containing argon as a component.							
		Design concentration (by volume)							
		34 %	38 %	42 %	46 %	50 %	54 %	58 %	62 %
-40	0,4790	0,522	0,601	0,685	0,775	0,872	0,976	1,091	1,217
-35	0,4893	0,511	0,588	0,671	0,758	0,853	0,956	1,068	1,191
-30	0,4996	0,501	0,576	0,657	0,743	0,836	0,936	1,046	1,167
-25	0,5098	0,491	0,565	0,644	0,728	0,819	0,917	1,025	1,143
-20	0,5201	0,481	0,554	0,631	0,714	0,803	0,899	1,005	1,120
-15	0,5304	0,472	0,543	0,619	0,700	0,787	0,882	0,985	1,099
-10	0,5406	0,463	0,533	0,607	0,686	0,772	0,865	0,966	1,078
-5	0,5509	0,454	0,523	0,596	0,674	0,758	0,849	0,948	1,058
0	0,5612	0,446	0,513	0,585	0,661	0,744	0,833	0,931	1,038
5	0,5715	0,438	0,504	0,574	0,649	0,731	0,818	0,914	1,020
10	0,5817	0,430	0,495	0,564	0,638	0,718	0,804	0,898	1,002
15	0,5920	0,423	0,486	0,554	0,627	0,705	0,790	0,883	0,984
20	0,6023	0,416	0,478	0,545	0,616	0,693	0,777	0,868	0,968
25	0,6126	0,409	0,470	0,536	0,606	0,682	0,764	0,853	0,951
30	0,6228	0,402	0,462	0,527	0,596	0,670	0,751	0,839	0,936
35	0,6331	0,395	0,455	0,518	0,586	0,659	0,739	0,825	0,920
40	0,6434	0,389	0,448	0,510	0,577	0,649	0,727	0,812	0,906
45	0,6536	0,383	0,440	0,502	0,568	0,639	0,716	0,799	0,892
50	0,6639	0,377	0,434	0,494	0,559	0,629	0,704	0,787	0,878
55	0,6742	0,371	0,427	0,487	0,550	0,619	0,694	0,775	0,864
60	0,6845	0,366	0,421	0,479	0,542	0,610	0,683	0,763	0,851
65	0,6947	0,360	0,414	0,472	0,534	0,601	0,673	0,752	0,839
70	0,7050	0,355	0,408	0,465	0,526	0,592	0,663	0,741	0,827
75	0,7153	0,350	0,403	0,459	0,519	0,584	0,654	0,730	0,815
80	0,7256	0,345	0,397	0,452	0,511	0,575	0,645	0,720	0,803
85	0,7358	0,340	0,391	0,446	0,504	0,567	0,636	0,710	0,792
90	0,7461	0,335	0,386	0,440	0,497	0,560	0,627	0,700	0,781
95	0,7564	0,331	0,381	0,434	0,491	0,552	0,618	0,691	0,770
100	0,7666	0,326	0,376	0,428	0,484	0,545	0,610	0,682	0,760

*V/V* is the agent volume requirement (in cubic metres per cubic metre); i.e. the quantity *Q* (in cubic metres) of agent required at a reference temperature of 20 °C and a pressure of 1,013 bar per cubic metre of protected volume to produce the indicated concentration at the temperature specified:

$$Q_R = m \cdot S_R$$

where

*S<sub>R</sub>* is the specific reference volume (in cubic metres per kilogram); i.e. the specific vapour volume at the filling reference temperature for superheated IG-01 vapour at a pressure of 1,013 bar which may be approximated by the formula:

$$S_R = k_1 + k_2 \cdot T_R$$

where  $k_1 = 0,561\ 19$ ;  $k_2 = 0,002\ 054\ 5$ ; *T<sub>R</sub>* is the reference temperature (in degrees Celsius); i.e. filling temperature (20 °C in the table);

$$m = \frac{V}{S} \cdot \ln \left( \frac{100}{100 - c} \right)$$

*V* is the net volume of hazard (in cubic metres); i.e. the enclosed volume minus the fixed structures impervious to extinguishant;

*T* is the temperature (in degrees Celsius); i.e. the design temperature in the hazard area;

*S* is the specific volume (in cubic metres per kilogram); the specific volume of superheated IG-01 vapour at a pressure of 1,013 bar may be approximated by

$$S = k_1 + k_2 \cdot T$$

*c* is the concentration (in percent); i.e. the volumetric concentration of IG-01 in air at the temperature indicated, and a pressure of 1,013 bar absolute.

**Table 4 — IG-01 reference extinguishing and design concentrations**

Fuel	Extinguishment % by volume	Minimum design % by volume
<b>Class B</b>		
Heptane (cup burner)	39,2	51,0
Heptane (room test)	33,7	
<b>Surface Class A</b>		
Wood crib	30,7	41,9
PMMA	31,6	
PP	31,6	
ABS	32,2	
<b>Higher Hazard Class A</b>	a	48,4
<p>The extinguishment values for the Class B and the Surface Class A fuels are determined by testing in accordance with ISO 14520-1:—<sup>3)</sup>, Annexes B and C.</p> <p>The minimum design concentration for the Class B fuel is the higher value of the heptane cup burner or room test heptane extinguishment concentration multiplied by 1,3.</p> <p>The minimum design concentration for Surface Class A fuel is the highest value of the wood crib, PMMA, PP or ABS extinguishment concentrations multiplied by 1,3. In the absence of any of the 4 extinguishment values, the minimum design concentration for Surface Class A shall be that of Higher Hazard Class A.</p> <p>See ISO 14520-1:—<sup>3)</sup>, 7.5.1.3, for guidance on Class A fuels.</p> <p>The extinguishing and design concentrations for room-scale test fires are for informational purposes only. Lower and higher extinguishing concentrations than those shown for room-scale test fires may be achieved and allowed when validated by test reports from internationally recognized laboratories.</p>		
<p><sup>a</sup> The minimum design concentration for Higher Hazard Class A fuels shall be the higher of the Surface Class A or 95 % of the Class B minimum design concentration.</p>		

**Table 5 — IG-01 inerting and design concentrations**

Fuel	Inertion % by volume	Minimum design % by volume
Methane	55,8	61,4
<p>Inerting concentrations derived in accordance with ISO 14520-1:—<sup>3)</sup>, Annex D and 7.5.2.</p>		

3) To be published. (Revision of ISO 14520-1:2000)

## 5 Safety of personnel

Any hazard to personnel created by the discharge of IG-01 shall be considered in the design of the system.

Potential hazards can arise from the following:

- a) oxygen reduction;
- b) the combustion products of the fire.

For minimum safety requirements, see ISO 14250-1:—<sup>4)</sup>, Clause 5.

Physiological information for IG-01 is given in Table 6.

**Table 6 — Physiological information for IG-01**

Property	Value % by volume
No observed adverse effect level (NOAEL)	43
Lowest observed adverse effect level (LOAEL)	52
These values are based on physiological effects in human subjects of hypoxic atmospheres. These values are the functional equivalents of NOAEL and LOAEL values, and correspond to 12 % minimum oxygen for the no-effect level and 10 % minimum oxygen for the low-effect level.	

## 6 System design

### 6.1 Fill pressure

The fill pressure of the container shall not exceed the values given in Tables 7, 8 and 9.

The relationships between pressure and temperature are shown in Figure 1 for various levels of pressurization.

**Table 7 — Storage container characteristics for IG-01 — 160 bar**

Property	Unit	Value
Filling pressure at 15 °C	bar <sup>a</sup>	160
Maximum container working pressure at 50 °C	bar <sup>a</sup>	188
Reference should be made to Figure 1 for further data on pressure/temperature relationships.		
<sup>a</sup> 1 bar = 0,1 MPa = 10 <sup>5</sup> Pa; 1 MPa = 1 N/mm <sup>2</sup> .		

4) To be published. (Revision of ISO 14520-1:2000)