



**International
Standard**

ISO 17717

**Meteorological balloons —
Specification**

Ballons météorologiques — Spécifications

**Second edition
2024-04**

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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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

ISO draws attention to the possibility that the implementation of this document may involve the use of (a) patent(s). ISO takes no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of any claimed patent rights in respect thereof. As of the date of publication of this document, ISO had not received notice of (a) patent(s) which may be required to implement this document. However, implementers are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information, which may be obtained from the patent database available at www.iso.org/patents. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 45, *Rubber and rubber products*, Subcommittee SC4, *Products (other than hoses)*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 17717:2017), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- in [Table 3](#), the size 10 and its specified values have been added;
- in [Table 6](#), the sizes 10 to 100 and their specified values have been added;
- in [Table B.2](#), the sizes of 10 to 100 and their specified values have been added;
- in [Table 8](#) and [C.3.2](#), the mass range has been changed to size range;
- in [A.2.4](#) and [B.3.1](#), thin cotton gloves without coating on palm for precision work have been added;
- in [E.3](#), the statement has been changed to "the number of samples shall be in accordance with [Table 8](#)".

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Meteorological balloons — Specification

Warning — Persons using this document should be familiar with 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 determine the applicability of any other restrictions.

1 Scope

This document specifies the minimum requirements and the test methods for meteorological balloons made from natural rubber latex or natural rubber latex compounded with synthetic rubber emulsion.

This document applies to two types of balloons:

- Type 1: meteorological balloon by dipping process;
- Type 2: meteorological balloon by moulding process.

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.

ISO 37, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Determination of tensile stress-strain properties*

ISO 188, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Accelerated ageing and heat resistance tests*

ISO 2859-1, *Sampling procedures for inspection by attributes — Part 1: Sampling schemes indexed by acceptance quality limit (AQL) for lot-by-lot inspection*

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:

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

3.1

air bubble

thin portion with definite edge, concave or convex, which is created by air in the balloon film

3.2

body thickness

single-walled thickness of a meteorological balloon

3.3

cracking

localized cracks in the balloon film

3.4

grease mark

stains on the balloon film due to machine grease or oil

3.5

hole

opening due to a ruptured *air bubble* (3.1), foreign body impurities or other external factors

3.6

latex coagulum

gel adhered to inside and outside of the balloon film

3.7

permanent creases with adhesion of the film

localized occurrence of the balloon film folding over and sticking to itself

3.8

thin spot

portion of the balloon which has no defined edge and has a film thickness which is less than that of the average thickness of the balloon film

4 Requirements

4.1 Colour

The balloon shall be natural colour unless otherwise specified.

4.2 Appearance

When inspected in accordance with [Annex A](#), the appearance of the balloon shall conform to the requirements in [Table 1](#). If the defect cannot be confirmed by visual inspection, then [Annex B](#) shall be carried out.

Table 1 — Appearance

Defects		Requirements
Serious defects	hole, cracking	Non-existent
	grease mark	Non-existent
	permanent creases with adhesion of the film	Non-existent
Light defects	air bubble, latex coagulum	Air bubble and latex coagulum are allowed to exist, which is not concentrated, obviously thin, not more than 5 mm in diameter and does not affect the balloon film stretching.
	thin spot	The thin spot is allowed to exist, which is not concentrated, not obvious, and does not affect the balloon film stretching and the length is not more than 10 mm, double layer thickness is not more than 0,12 mm.

4.3 Size, mass and dimensions

When measured in accordance with [Annex C](#) and [Annex D](#), the size, masses and dimensions of the type 1 meteorological balloons shall conform to the values given in [Table 2](#), the size, masses and dimensions of the type 2 meteorological balloons shall conform to the values given in [Table 3](#).

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Table 2 — Size, mass and dimensions of the type 1 meteorological balloons

Size	Mass g	Dimension				
		Body length mm	Body thickness mm	Neck diameter mm	Neck length mm	Neck thickness mm
10	10 ± 4	200 to 300	0,05 to 0,3	18 to 26	40 to 80	0,5 to 0,9
20	20 ± 4	245 to 355	0,05 to 0,3	20 to 28	40 to 80	0,5 to 0,9
30	30 ± 4	340 to 460	0,05 to 0,3	24 to 32	60 to 100	0,5 to 0,9
50	50 ± 5	520 to 680	0,05 to 0,3	25 to 33	60 to 100	0,5 to 0,9
70	70 ± 5	540 to 740	0,05 to 0,3	25 to 35	60 to 100	0,6 to 1,0
100	100 ± 10	560 to 800	0,05 to 0,3	26 to 40	70 to 110	0,8 to 1,2
200	200 ± 20	950 to 1 250	0,05 to 0,3	28 to 54	70 to 110	0,8 to 1,2
300	300 ± 30	1 300 to 1 700	0,05 to 0,3	38 to 65	100 to 160	0,8 to 1,2
350	350 ± 30	1 450 to 1 850	0,05 to 0,3	39 to 65	100 to 160	0,8 to 1,2
400	400 ± 35	1 500 to 1 900	0,05 to 0,3	40 to 65	100 to 160	0,8 to 1,2
500	500 ± 40	1 800 to 2 200	0,05 to 0,3	46 to 70	100 to 160	0,8 to 1,2
600	600 ± 50	2 000 to 2 400	0,05 to 0,3	49 to 75	100 to 190	0,8 to 1,2
700	700 ± 50	2 100 to 2 500	0,05 to 0,3	49 to 75	100 to 190	0,8 to 1,2
800	800 ± 60	2 100 to 2 500	0,05 to 0,3	51 to 80	100 to 190	1,0 to 1,4
1 000	1 000 ± 70	2 100 to 2 500	0,05 to 0,3	51 to 86	100 to 190	1,1 to 1,7
1 200	1 200 ± 100	2 700 to 3 300	0,05 to 0,3	55 to 86	100 to 210	1,1 to 1,7
1 600	1 600 ± 150	2 900 to 3 700	0,05 to 0,3	73 to 90	100 to 210	1,1 to 1,7
2 000	2 000 ± 150	2 900 to 3 700	0,05 to 0,3	74 to 90	100 to 210	1,1 to 1,7
3 000	3 000 ± 200	2 900 to 3 700	0,05 to 0,3	75 to 90	100 to 210	2,1 to 2,7

NOTE In addition to the above sizes, balloons of other sizes are also available for customers with special requirements.

Table 3 — Size, mass and dimensions of the type 2 meteorological balloons

Size	Mass g	Dimension				
		Body length mm	Body thickness mm	Neck diameter mm	Neck length mm	Neck thickness mm
10	10 ± 4	200 to 300	0,15 ± 0,05	12 to 18	70 to 100	1,1 ± 0,5
20	20 ± 4	250 to 380	0,15 ± 0,05	12 to 18	70 to 100	1,1 ± 0,5
30	30 ± 4	300 to 420	0,15 ± 0,05	12 to 18	70 to 100	1,1 ± 0,5
50	50 ± 4	360 to 560	0,15 ± 0,05	12 to 18	70 to 100	1,1 ± 0,5
70	70 ± 5	550 to 750	0,15 ± 0,05	12 to 18	70 to 100	1,1 ± 0,5
100	100 ± 10	600 to 800	0,15 ± 0,05	12 to 18	70 to 100	1,1 ± 0,5
200	200 ± 12	850 to 1 050	0,15 ± 0,05	25 to 35	100 to 140	1,5 ± 0,5
300	300 ± 15	950 to 1 150	0,15 ± 0,05	25 to 35	100 to 140	1,5 ± 0,5
350	350 ± 20	1 100 to 1 350	0,15 ± 0,05	25 to 35	100 to 140	1,5 ± 0,5
400	400 ± 22	1 150 to 1 400	0,15 ± 0,05	25 to 35	100 to 140	1,5 ± 0,5
500	500 ± 25	1 400 to 1 700	0,15 ± 0,05	25 to 35	100 to 140	1,5 ± 0,5
600	600 ± 27	1 600 to 1 900	0,15 ± 0,05	25 to 35	100 to 140	1,5 ± 0,5
700	700 ± 28	1 700 to 1 950	0,15 ± 0,05	25 to 35	100 to 140	1,5 ± 0,5
800	800 ± 30	1 800 to 2 050	0,15 ± 0,05	25 to 35	100 to 140	1,5 ± 0,5
1 000	1 000 ± 35	1 950 to 2 150	0,15 ± 0,05	25 to 35	100 to 140	1,5 ± 0,5
1 200	1 200 ± 40	2 200 to 2 500	0,15 ± 0,05	25 to 35	100 to 140	1,5 ± 0,5

NOTE In addition to the sizes given in this table, balloons of other sizes are also available for customers with special requirements.

Table 3 (continued)

Size	Mass g	Dimension				
		Body length mm	Body thickness mm	Neck diameter mm	Neck length mm	Neck thickness mm
1 500	1 500 ± 45	2 300 to 2 600	0,15 ± 0,05	25 to 35	120 to 160	2,15 ± 0,55
1 600	1 600 ± 50	2 300 to 2 700	0,15 ± 0,05	25 to 35	120 to 160	2,15 ± 0,55
2 000	2 000 ± 80	2 800 to 3 300	0,15 ± 0,05	40 to 60	160 to 200	2,15 ± 0,55
3 000	3 000 ± 110	3 200 to 3 800	0,15 ± 0,05	40 to 60	160 to 200	2,15 ± 0,55

NOTE In addition to the sizes given in this table, balloons of other sizes are also available for customers with special requirements.

4.4 Tensile Property

4.4.1 General

Tensile properties of balloons shall be measured in accordance with ISO 37, using three test pieces of Type 1 or Type 1A dumb-bell and taking the median value as the test result. Test pieces shall be taken from the middle part of balloon and equidistantly distributed along the circumference of the balloon body. The test pieces shall also be flat and the edge shall be smooth.

4.4.2 Tensile strength and elongation at break before accelerated ageing

Tensile strength and elongation at break of the balloons before accelerated ageing shall conform with the requirements given in [Table 4](#).

4.4.3 Tensile strength and elongation at break after accelerated ageing

Accelerated ageing shall be conducted in accordance with the method specified in ISO 188. The accelerated ageing condition is (8 ± 0,25) h at (100 ± 1) °C or (168 ± 2) h at (70 ± 1) °C. For reference purposes, the accelerated ageing conditions shall be (168 ± 2) h at (70 ± 1) °C. Tensile strength and elongation at break of the balloons after accelerated ageing shall comply with the requirements given in [Table 4](#).

Table 4 — Tensile properties

Property	Requirement
Tensile strength before accelerated ageing, MPa	≥17,0
Elongation at break before accelerated ageing, %	≥600
Tensile strength after accelerated ageing, (8 ± 0,25) h at (100 ± 1) °C or (168 ± 1) h at (70 ± 1) °C, MPa	≥16,0
Elongation at break after accelerated ageing, (8 ± 0,25) h at (100 ± 1) °C or (168 ± 1) h at (70 ± 1) °C, %	≥600

4.5 Bursting diameters

When tested in accordance with [Annex E](#), the bursting diameters of the type 1 meteorological balloons shall conform to the values given in [Table 5](#). The bursting diameters of the type 2 meteorological balloons shall conform to the values given in [Table 6](#).

Table 5 — Bursting diameters of the type 1 meteorological balloons

Size	10	20	30	50	70	100	200	300	350	400
Bursting Diameter, m	≥ 0,4	≥ 0,9	≥ 1,1	≥ 1,3	≥ 1,5	≥ 1,6	≥ 2,9	≥ 3,7	≥ 4,1	≥ 4,4
Size	500	600	700	800	1 000	1 200	1 600	2 000	3 000	—
Bursting diameter, m	≥ 4,9	≥ 5,8	≥ 6,1	≥ 6,6	≥ 7,6	≥ 8,0	≥ 9,2	≥ 10,0	≥ 12,0	—

Table 6 — Bursting diameters of the type 2 meteorological balloons

Size	10	20	30	50	70	100	200	300	350	400
Bursting diameter, m	≥ 0,4	≥ 0,9	≥ 1,2	≥ 1,4	≥ 1,6	≥ 1,8	≥ 3,5	≥ 4,3	≥ 4,8	≥ 5,2
Size	500	600	700	800	1 000	1 200	1 500	1 600	2 000	3 000
Bursting diameter, m	≥ 5,7	≥ 6,8	≥ 6,9	≥ 7,4	≥ 8,2	≥ 8,9	≥ 10,0	≥ 10,5	≥ 11,3	≥ 13,5

4.6 Ozone resistance

When testing the test pieces in accordance with [Annex F](#), crack, hole, split and other deterioration shall not be visible on the test pieces during the time given in [Table 7](#).

Table 7 — Ozone resistance

Size	300	350	400	500	600	700	800	1 000	1 200	1 600	2 000	3 000
Time, h	2									3		

5 Sampling

The unit of product to be inspected is one balloon, the extent of nonconformity shall be expressed in terms of nonconformities per 100 items. This document does not specify the size of a lot, but it is possible for a purchaser to do so as part of the purchasing contract. Attention is drawn to the difficulties that can be associated with the distribution and control of very large lots. The recommended maximum individual lot size for production is 10 000.

For reference purpose, the balloons shall be sampled and inspected in accordance with single sampling plans for normal inspection specified in ISO 2859-1. The inspection levels and acceptance quality limits (AQLs) shall conform to the requirements in [Table 8](#).

Table 8 — Inspection levels and acceptance quality limits

Characteristic	Inspection level	AQL
Appearance	Serious defects	Special Inspection Level S-2 but at least code letter D
	Light defects	Special Inspection Level S-2 but at least code letter D
Size and dimensions	Special Inspection Level S-2 but at least code letter D	6,5
Bursting diameter	Number of samples: size < 300: 5 samples 300 ≤ size < 1 200: 3 samples 1 200 ≤ size: 1 sample.	size < 300: 4 samples shall conform to the requirement. 300 ≤ size < 1 200: 1 sample shall conform to the requirement. 1 200 ≤ size: 1 sample shall conform to the requirement.
Tensile property		
Ozone resistance		

6 Packing, marking, transport and storage

6.1 Packing

6.1.1 The balloons shall be packed by minimizing the inside air and by keeping sufficient amount of release agents such as talc powder on its inner and outer surface.

6.1.2 Minimum package requirements: The balloons shall be packed individually in plastic bags unless otherwise agreed between the interested parties. Individual plastic bags may be put into paper boxes which shall be lined with suitable moisture proof paper. The container may be lined with suitable moisture proof paper and shall be sturdy enough to withstand normal wear and tear during transportation. Packing requirement as specified by the user may differ from the previously mentioned minimum requirements.

6.1.3 A qualification of certification of product inspection as described in [6.2.3](#) shall be put on each container.

6.2 Marking

6.2.1 Paper box

Paper boxes for package of balloons shall be marked clearly on the obvious positions at least with the following information:

- a) size, e. g. 500;
- b) quantity, e. g. 10;
- c) colour (if applicable), e. g. red.

6.2.2 Container

Containers for package of balloons shall be marked clearly on the obvious positions at least with the following information:

- a) the product name, e. g. Meteorological balloon;
- b) the manufacturer's name or identification, e. g. xxxx;
- c) the size, e. g. 500;
- d) the quantity, e. g. 10;
- e) the lot number;
- f) the transportation information, e. g. by air;
- g) the colour (if applicable), e. g. red;
- h) the size of container;
- i) the date of package, e. g. yy-mm-dd.

6.2.3 Certification of proof

The certification of proof, with the approval stamp, shall be marked clearly at least with the following information:

- a) the product name, e. g. Meteorological balloon;
- b) a reference to this document, e. g. ISO 17717;

- c) the size, e. g. 500;
- d) the quantity, e. g. 10;
- e) the lot number;
- f) the date of manufacture, e. g. yy-mm;
- g) the colour (if applicable), e. g. red;
- h) the code of inspector (if known).

6.3 Transport and storage

6.3.1 Minimum packing requirements are applicable for balloons transported by air, sea, road as well as by rail. During transportation, the balloons should be protected from high temperature, direct sunlight, rain and snow. The balloons should be also protected from acids, alkalis, oils, organic solvents, and sources of heat as well as any materials that may affect the performance of the rubber.

6.3.2 The store room for balloons should be well ventilated, cool and dry. The storage temperature should be 10 °C to 30 °C and relative humidity should not exceed 70 %. Balloons shall be placed on shelves with at least 0,2 m distance from the ground. Reasonable number boxes may be stacked as long as none of the lower boxes are crushed. Stacked boxes should be shuffled at least once every three months.

6.3.3 Under the storage conditions (see [6.3.1](#), [6.3.2](#)), the quality guarantee period of the product is 18 months.

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Annex A (normative)

Visual inspection of meteorological balloons

A.1 Principle

Prepare a hemispherical hollow balloon and put it under a filament lamp. Unfold the balloon to be inspected on the hemispheroid, inspect the balloon's surface by pulling it from left to right and from top to bottom. Repeat this process for reverse side.

A.2 Test preparation

A.2.1 Use an unqualified balloon with a certain volume of air filled into it. Hold the balloon nozzle by one hand, and squeeze balloon along with the balloon nozzle upward by another hand, so that a height of about 80 cm of a hemispherical hollow balloon bag is formed and knot and fasten at the bottom of the balloon bag.

A.2.2 Have a dedicated workbench with several hemispherical balloon bags settled, an operation station consists of a balloon bag and a work chair with appropriate compatible height from the ground to the top of the balloon bag. Soft and smooth textile fabric should be used to cover up the whole workbench, preventing inspected product from being damaged due to contact friction with the workbench surface.

A.2.3 A fluorescent lamp should be installed over each work station, which can help workers see clearly under the conditions of sight and sitting position.

A.2.4 Latex gloves or cotton gloves without coating on palm for precision work should be worn before inspecting product.

A.3 Test procedure

A.3.1 Grip the two nozzle edges of meteorological balloon by two hands, and squeezing inward to each edge to open the nozzle, then lifting the balloon instantly to let less air in it.

A.3.2 Put the middle part of a balloon bag as a centre, and spread out the balloon surface parallel to the operator of left and right, up and down direction.

A.3.3 Along the balloon edges, inspect the appearance of balloon by pulling it. Any suspected appearance flaw can be determined finally by stretching it in any directions slightly. Using the plastic ruler whose index value is not more than 1 mm, measure the diameter of defects (e.g. air bubble, thin spot and latex coagulum). When the balloon surface is inspected over within visible range over the balloon bag under natural spread state, the whole balloon should be turned over, and be inspected by the same method.

A.3.4 After completing the inspection of the balloon surface ([A.3.3](#)), spread the balloon out along its edges over the balloon bag naturally and stretch it. Then turn it over to another surface.

A.3.5 Repeat the operation of [A.3.3](#), and try to inspect all surfaces of the whole balloon as far as possible to prevent the product from being undetected.

A.4 Inspection report

The inspection report shall include the following information:

- a) the temperature and humidity in the workplace;
- b) the product name, quantity, size and batch;
- c) the type and quantity of defect;
- d) the name of the inspectors and/or the re-inspectors;
- e) the date of inspection.

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Annex B (normative)

Inflatable inspection of meteorological balloons

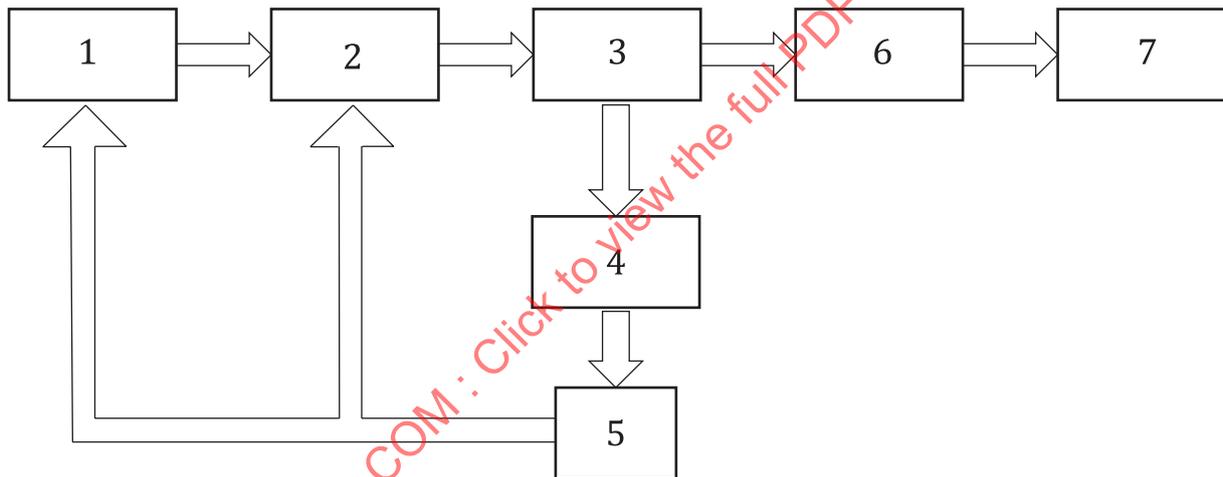
B.1 Principle

Inflate balloons to a certain volume by pressure air, inspect product surface visually and observe the intended volume of balloons in visible light.

B.2 Apparatus

B.2.1 Inflator for meteorological balloons (see the schematic diagram [Figure B.1](#)).

B.2.2 Inspection room should be flat and smooth, and the whole work area should be covered by soft and smooth fabrics to protect the inspected product from being damaged when it touches the ground.



Key

- 1 gas source
- 2 electric control valve
- 3 transducer of flow quantity
- 4 cumulative flow control instrument
- 5 controller
- 6 nozzle
- 7 meteorological balloon

Figure B.1 — Schematic diagram of inflator for meteorological balloons

B.3 Test procedure

B.3.1 The inspector shall wear latex gloves or cotton gloves without coating on palm for precision work before operating.

B.3.2 Insert the nozzle to the balloon neck banded up by latex strips, which help fasten the nozzle while inflating.

B.3.3 The balloon is freely hanged up, and its height should be increased with the enlargement of balloon diameter.

B.3.4 Turn on the inflator ([B.2.1](#)) and move the balloon gently at the beginning of inflation to avoid fierce shaking.

B.3.5 Observe the balloon surface, judge and confirm balloon defects, record defect types and quantities. Inspect the whole balloon surface as far as possible in case of missing inspection.

B.3.6 When the balloon diameter reaches the specified diameter displayed in [Table B.1](#) (for type 1 meteorological balloons) and [Table B.2](#) (for type 2 meteorological balloons), stop the test inflator and remove the nozzle. Collect sample after the balloon exhausts naturally.

Table B.1 — Diameter of inflatable inspection of the type1 meteorological balloons

Size	Diameter mm	Size	Diameter mm	Size	Diameter mm
10	≥330	300	≥2 600	1 000	≥5 000
20	≥480	350	≥2 700	1 200	≥5 500
30	≥640	400	≥2 800	1 600	≥6 000
50	≥900	500	≥3 800	2 000	≥6 500
70	≥1 000	600	≥4 000	3 000	≥7 000
100	≥1 220	700	≥4 400	—	—
200	≥1 650	800	≥4 700	—	—

Table B.2 — Diameter of Inflatable Inspection of the type 2 meteorological balloons

Size	Diameter mm	Size	Diameter mm	Size	Diameter mm
10	≥330	300	≥2 900	1 000	≥5 300
20	≥800	350	≥3 200	1 200	≥5 800
30	≥900	400	≥3 500	1 500	≥6 300
50	≥1 000	500	≥3 800	1 600	≥6 800
70	≥1 150	600	≥4 200	2 000	≥7 300
100	≥1 300	700	≥4 400	3 000	≥9 000
200	≥2 100	800	≥4 900	—	—

B.4 Test result

Describe the type and specify the quantity of defect of samples. During the inspection process, the sample shall be disposed as serious defect product if balloon bursts.

B.5 Test report

The test report shall include the following contents:

- a) the test temperature and humidity of the inspection room;
- b) the name of product, quantity, size and lot;

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- c) the test result of each sample;
- d) the description of any deviations from this document;
- e) the name of the inspectors and/or the re-inspectors;
- f) the date of test.

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Annex C (normative)

Mass measurement

C.1 Apparatus

C.1.1 **Balance**, accurate to $\pm 0,5$ g;

C.1.2 **Balance**, accurate to $\pm 2,0$ g;

C.1.3 **Balance or platform balance**, accurate to $\pm 5,0$ g.

C.2 Sample

An entire meteorological balloon shall be used for mass measurement.

C.3 Test procedure

C.3.1 Remove the remaining release agents from the balloon as much as possible. Ensure that all air has been removed from the balloon.

C.3.2 Put the balloon on the measuring balance and record the result. Based on the size of the balloon the following balances may be used with corresponding accuracy:

- a) $\pm 0,5$ g for balloon size less than 300 (see [C.1.1](#));
- b) $\pm 2,0$ g for balloon size 300 and between 300 and 1 000 (see [C.1.2](#));
- c) $\pm 5,0$ g for balloon size 1 000 and more than 1 000 (see [C.1.3](#)).

C.4 Test result

Take one measured value for each balloon's mass.

C.5 Test report

The test report shall include the following information:

- a) the test temperature and humidity of the laboratory/workplace;
- b) the name of product, quantity, size and lot;
- c) the test result;
- d) the name of the examiners and/or the reviewers;
- e) the date of test.

Annex D (normative)

Dimension measurement

D.1 Apparatus

D.1.1 Scale, capable of measuring to the nearest 1 mm. The scale shall not have any rough edges and the surface shall be smooth and free of any imperfections that may damage the balloons.

D.1.2 Scale, capable of measuring to the nearest 10 mm. The scale shall not have any rough edges and the surface shall be smooth and free of any imperfections that may damage the balloons.

D.1.3 Desk with a smooth flat surface.

D.1.4 Thickness gauge with a pressure on the foot of (22 ± 5) kPa, the diameter of the foot is 2 mm to 10 mm, capable of reading to the nearest 0,002 mm.

D.2 Sample

An entire meteorological balloon shall be used for dimension measurement. A typical shape of meteorological balloon is shown in [Figure D.1](#).

D.3 Procedure

D.3.1 Neck length

Place the balloon and flatten it on the desk ([D.1.3](#)). Using the scale ([D.1.1](#)), measure the shortest distance between the tip of the neck and the point at which the neck portion expands into the balloon body (see [Figure D.1](#)).

D.3.2 Neck diameter

Place the balloon neck and flatten it on the desk ([D.1.3](#)). Using the scale ([D.1.1](#)) measure the width (W) of the balloon neck at the centre (see [Figure D.1](#)). The circumference (C) of the balloon neck is twice the width [see [Formula \(D.1\)](#)]. The diameter of the balloon neck (D) is calculated using [Formula \(D.2\)](#).

$$C = 2 W \quad (D.1)$$

$$D = C / \pi \quad (D.2)$$

where

W is the width of the neck of the balloon at centre, in mm;

D is the diameter of meteorological balloon neck, in mm;

C is the circumference of meteorological balloon neck, in mm;

π is the circumference ratio, 3,14.

D.3.3 Body length

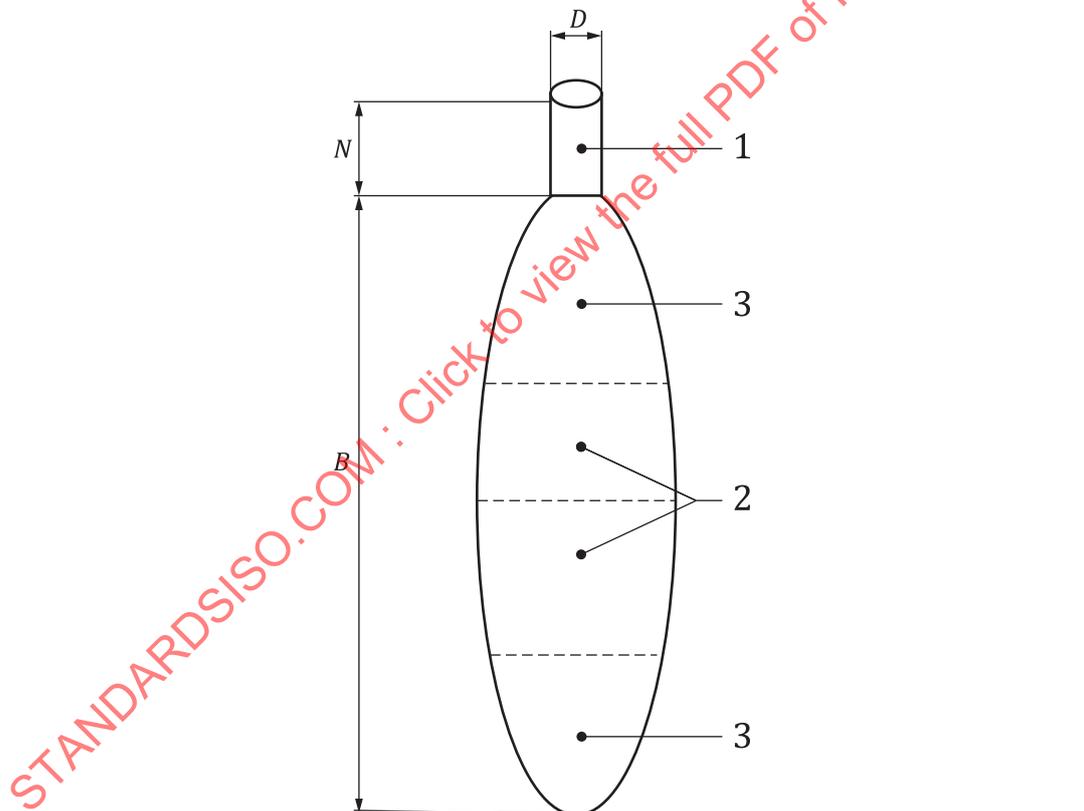
Exclude any air from the inside of the balloon and lay it down on the desk (D.1.3). Measure the shortest distance between the tip of the balloon neck and the junction of the neck with the balloon body (N in Figure D.1). Care should be taken not to apply any force and stretch the balloon while measuring the length (B in Figure D.1). When the body length is no more than 1,0 m use the scale (D.1.1). When the body length of the balloon is greater than 1,0 m, use the scale (D.1.2).

D.3.4 Body thickness

Measure the double-wall thickness of the two parts in the middle of the balloon with a thickness gauge (D.1.4), along the balloon circumferential direction, measure the circumference of a circle at the same interval points, measuring points shall be not less than nine points. Result is the average of all measuring values, and the body thickness shall be half the average value.

D.3.5 Neck thickness

Neck thickness is the single-wall thickness of neck. Measure the double-wall thickness at two ends and middle part of the neck by the thickness gauge (D.1.4), measuring points at every part shall not be less than three points. Result is the average of all measured values, and the neck thickness is expressed by half the average value.



Key

- 1 meteorological balloon neck
- 2 middle part of meteorological balloon
- 3 end of meteorological balloon
- B body length
- D neck diameter
- N neck length

Figure D.1 — A typical shape of meteorological balloon

D.4 Test result

Measure the neck length, neck width, body thickness, neck thickness and body length of each balloon, take one measured value of each measurement.

D.5 Test report

The test report shall include the following information:

- a) the temperature and humidity of the laboratory/workplace;
- b) the name of product, quantity, size and lot;
- c) the test result;
- d) the name of the examiners and/or the reviewers;
- e) the date of test.

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