
**Rubber, raw natural — Guidelines for the
specification of technically specified
rubber (TSR)**

*Caoutchouc naturel brut — Lignes directrices pour la spécification de
caoutchoucs spécifiés techniquement (TSR)*

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Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47
E-mail copyright@iso.org
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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 2000 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 45, *Rubber and rubber products*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Raw materials (including latex) for use in the rubber industry*.

This sixth edition cancels and replaces the fifth edition (ISO 2000:1989), which has been technically revised (for details, see the Introduction).

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Introduction

Since the initial development of ISO 2000 — when requirements for raw natural rubber were first specified — a number of different grades have become available, and significant developments have taken place in the supply of raw natural rubber, especially in relation to constant-viscosity (CV) grades. Rather than continuing to closely specify a limited number grades — possibly restricting future developments — it was felt that a more open approach was appropriate, providing guidance and assistance to those parties (such as producers, suppliers and purchasers) involved in the specification of requirements for technically specified rubber rather than imposing potentially inappropriate limits on the TSR available.

This guide encompasses rubbers that are typically more closely defined elsewhere, in more precise specifications. Reference may need to be made to such specifications in particular cases.

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Rubber, raw natural — Guidelines for the specification of technically specified rubber (TSR)

1 Scope

This International Standard provides guidance on the specification of technically specified rubber (TSR). A grading system is proposed, based on the origin of the natural rubber content and on properties exhibited by the rubber.

This International Standard is intended for use by parties involved in the procurement of TSR, and is intended to form a basis from which requirements for a particular case may be more closely specified. As such, it describes a number of criteria that will need to be the subject of appropriate agreement between the interested parties.

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 247:1990, *Rubber — Determination of ash*

ISO 248:1991, *Rubbers, raw — Determination of volatile-matter content*

ISO 249:1995, *Rubber, raw natural — Determination of dirt content*

ISO 289-1:1994, *Rubber, unvulcanized — Determinations using a shearing-disc viscometer — Part 1: Determination of Mooney viscosity*

ISO 1656:1996, *Rubber, raw natural, and rubber latex, natural — Determination of nitrogen content*

ISO 1795:2000, *Rubber, raw natural and raw synthetic — Sampling and further preparative procedures*

ISO 2007:1991, *Rubber, unvulcanized — Determination of plasticity — Rapid-plastimeter method*

ISO 2930:1995, *Rubber, raw natural — Determination of plasticity retention index (PRI)*

ISO 4660:1999, *Rubber, raw natural — Colour index test*

3 Terms and definitions

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

3.1

technically specified rubber

natural rubber obtained from the latex of *Hevea brasiliensis* (typically processed into block rubber), and having properties complying with the criteria for the grade concerned

3.2

constant viscosity (cv) rubber

natural rubber whose viscosity is controlled, typically by treating it with viscosity-stabilizing agents, prior to or after the drying process

3.3

dirt

foreign matter retained on a 45 µm sieve

3.4

field-grade coagulum

natural rubber obtained from acid-coagulated latex or from latex naturally coagulated (i.e. by auto-coagulation) in tapping cups or other suitable vessels

3.5

sheet rubber

typically, rubber which has been deliberately coagulated and sheeted

NOTE It may be dried, partially dried or undried.

3.6

whole field latex

latex material derived from *Hevea Brasiliensis* which may be diluted but is not fractionated

4 Material composition

TSR shall be divided into three principal groups based on the raw materials used, as follows:

- bulked field latex coagulated with a coagulant such as formic acid or acetic acid under controlled conditions;
- field-grade coagulum;
- sheet rubber.

5 Grade structure

The grade of the TSR shall be based on the properties of the TSR and the type of material used in its production (see Table 1).

Table 1 — Grades of TSR

Raw material	Characteristics	Grade
Whole field latex	With controlled viscosity	CV
	Light-coloured rubber, with a specified colour index	L
	With no specified viscosity or colour	WF
Sheet rubber or coagulated bulked field latex	With no specified viscosity or colour	5 or 5S
Field-grade coagulum and/or sheet rubber	With no specified viscosity	10 or 20
	With controlled viscosity	10V or 20CV