

**Plast – Bestämning av kaprolaktans
permanganatabsorptionsal – Spektrometrisk
metod**

**Plastics – Determination of permanganate
absorption number of caprolactam –
Spectrometric method**

Den internationella standarden ISO 8660:2002 gäller som svensk standard. Detta dokument innehåller den officiella engelska versionen av ISO 8660:2002.

The International Standard ISO 8660:2002 has the status of a Swedish Standard. This document contains the official English version of ISO 8660:2002.

Dokumentet består av 11 sidor.

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ISO 8660:2002(E)

Foreword

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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 International Standard may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard ISO 8660 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Physical-chemical properties*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 8660:1988), which has been technically revised.

Introduction

The permanganate index, expressed as the permanganate absorption number (PAN), defines the stability of a caprolactam sample to potassium permanganate in a buffered neutral aqueous solution and is a measure of the purity of the caprolactam in relation to the presence of oxidizable impurities, e.g. unsaturated caprolactams.

Permanganate in a neutral aqueous solution is a strong oxidizing agent, capable of oxidizing the impurities in caprolactam. The determination of the permanganate absorption number is based on measurement of the absorbance of a 3 % (by mass) aqueous caprolactam solution at a wavelength of 420 nm. The measurement is carried out 10 min after adding a potassium permanganate solution of 0,002 mol/l. To correct for the oxidation of water, a blank determination is carried out.

In general, the oxidation reaction with unsaturated organic compounds is faster than with saturated organic compounds. Unsaturated caprolactam is oxidized at a faster rate than saturated caprolactam. The reaction speed depends upon the reducing agent and, in addition to other experimental conditions, strongly on the pH of the solution. The majority of the unsaturated impurities in caprolactam are considered to react within a period of 10 min. The reaction does not end there, however, as the oxidation of slowly oxidizing compounds, e.g. caprolactam, will continue.

The amount of manganese dioxide generated during the reaction is determined at a wavelength of 420 nm. The contribution of caprolactam at this wavelength in the method described here is less than 0,2 % of the total absorbance.

The method is sensitive to external factors and therefore needs to be followed closely. The results obtained with the method in this edition of ISO 8660 are approximately 11 % lower than those obtained with ISO 8660:1988. The difference is due to buffering of the test solution and the blank at pH 7,0. Buffering the solution at a pH of 7,0 results in a significantly higher precision of the method, as fluctuations caused by the acidity/alkalinity of the sample are eliminated.

