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# Cryolite, natural and artificial, and aluminium fluoride for industrial use – Determination of water content – Electrometric method

Cryolithe, naturelle et artificielle, et fluorure d'aluminium à usage industriel — Dosage de l'eau — Méthode électrométrique

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### FOREWORD

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It has been approved by the Member Bodies of the following countries :

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# Cryolite, natural and artificial, and aluminium fluoride for industrial use – Determination of water content – Electrometric method

### **1 SCOPE AND FIELD OF APPLICATION**

This International Standard specifies an electrometric method for determination of the water content of natural and artificial cryolite and aluminium fluoride for industrial use.

### 2 REFERENCES

ISO/R 760, Determination of water by the Karl Fischer method.

ISO 1619, Cryolite (natural and artificial) – Preparation and storage of test samples.

ISO 2925, Aluminium fluoride for industrial use – Preparation and storage of test samples.

# **3 PRINCIPLE**

Simultaneous determinations of :

- a) loss of mass at 550  $^{\circ}$ C, which is the sum of the masses of water which has not undergone any reaction, and of hydrogen fluoride formed by pyrohydrolysis;
- b) water released at 550 °C, determined by the Karl Fischer method (direct electrometric titration).

The difference between these two determinations is due to the formation of hydorgen fluoride by pyrohydrolysis (2 HF corresponds to  $1 H_2O$ ).

Calculation of the water content from the two results obtained.

### **4 REAGENTS**

During the analysis use only reagents of recognized analytical grade.

4.1 Nitrogen.

4.2 Calcium chloride, anhydrous.

**4.3** Pyridine, anhydrous (water content less than 0,05% (*m/m*)) (see ISO/R 760 sub-clause 4.3).

**4.4 Karl Fischer reagent** (of which 1 ml corresponds to about 1 mg of water).

Prepare the reagent as specified in 4.5 of ISO/R 760 and standardize it as specified in 7.2.1 of ISO/R 760, using the sodium tartrate (4.5) as water standard.

**4.5 Sodium tartrate,** crystalline, dihydrate  $(Na_2C_4H_4O_6.2H_2O)$ , for use as a water standard (see ISO/R 760 clause 4.6) or, alternatively, **water**.

NOTE – If water is used, prepare the standard solution as specified in 4.7 of ISO/R 760 (with suitable dilution in a one-mark volumetric flask with methanol) and standardize the Karl Fischer reagent as specified in A.2 of ISO/R 760.

4.6 Magnesium perchlorate  $[Mg(ClO_4)_2]$ .

## **5 APPARATUS**

All the glassware used shall be previously dried for 30 min in an oven, controlled at approximately 130 °C, and allowed to cool and stored in a dry atmosphere.

Ordinary laboratory apparatus and

5.1 Steel cylinders, containing the nitrogen (4.1), fitted with a pressure reducer and a flowmeter covering the range 0 to 90 l/h.

**5.2** Absorption tower, filled with the calcium chloride (4.2).

5.3 Two gas washing bottles, Drechsel type, containing concentrated sulphuric acid ( $\rho$  approximately 1,84 g/ml).

5.4 Tubular electric furnace, capable of being controlled at  $550 \pm 5$  °C. Length of the heated part 400 mm, diameter of the tube 50 mm.

**5.5** Quartz tube, consisting of a 450 mm length of internal diameter 25 mm, extended by a short length at right angles of length 150 mm and internal diameter 4 mm.

**5.6** Nickel combustion boat, 80 mm long, 15 mm wide and 10 mm high.