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**CHARACTERIZATION OF WASTE - SAMPLING  
OF WASTE MATERIALS - PART 3: GUIDANCE  
ON PROCEDURES FOR SUB-SAMPLING IN  
THE FIELD**

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TECHNICAL REPORT  
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English Version

**Characterization of waste - Sampling of waste materials - Part 3:  
Guidance on procedures for sub-sampling in the field**

Caractérisation des déchets - Prélèvement des déchets -  
Partie 3: Guide relatif aux procédures de sous-  
échantillonnage sur le terrain

Charakterisierung von Abfall - Probenahme - Teil 3:  
Verfahren zur Teilprobenahme im Gelände

This Technical Report was approved by CEN on 21 February 2006. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 292.

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EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

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## **Foreword**

This Technical Report (CEN/TR 15310-3:2006) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 292 “Characterization of waste”, the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

This Technical Report has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association.

This Technical Report is one of a series of five, dealing with sampling techniques and procedures, which provide essential information for the application of the EN-Standard:

EN 14899 Characterisation of waste - Sampling of waste materials - Framework for the preparation and application of a Sampling Plan

The principal component of the EN Standard is the mandatory requirement to prepare a Sampling Plan. This EN 14899 standard can be used to:

- produce standardised sampling plans for use in regular or routine circumstances (i.e. the elaboration of daughter/derived standards dedicated to well defined sampling scenarios);
- incorporate specific sampling requirements into national legislation;
- design and develop a Sampling Plan on a case by case basis.

The Technical Reports display a range of potential approaches and tools to enable the project manager to tailor his sampling plan to a specific testing scenario (i.e. a ‘shop shelf’ approach to sampling plan development for waste testing). This approach allows flexibility in the selection of the sampling approach, sampling point, method of sampling and equipment used.

This Technical Report describes procedures for reducing the overall size of the sample in the field, to aid practical transportation of a sample to the laboratory. It does not deal with sub-sampling in the laboratory to provide a test portion or the pre-treatment of samples prior to analysis.

This report does not attempt to provide a definitive procedure for each and every situation that may arise from sampling a given waste type or specific analytical requirement, rather it aims to expose the factors that influence the selection of these practical field activities to ensure the most appropriate procedure is selected for any given sampling scenario. The most appropriate approach, tools, and methodology, in the absence of an existing recognised Sampling Plan, should be chosen on a scenario-specific basis. However, this does not present a barrier to technical innovation, and there is no reason why methodologies other than those detailed in this Technical Report cannot be substituted.

## CEN/TR 15310-3:2006 (E)

### Introduction

Wastes are materials, which the holder discards, or intends or is required to discard, and which may be sent for final disposal, reuse or recovery. Such materials are generally heterogeneous and it will be necessary therefore to specify in the testing programme the amount of material for which the characteristics of interest need to be defined. The testing of wastes allows informed decisions to be made on how they should be treated (or not), recovered or disposed. In order to undertake valid tests, some sampling of the waste is required.

The principal component of the standard EN 14899 is the mandatory requirement to prepare a Sampling Plan, within the framework of an overall testing programme as illustrated in Figure 1 of EN 14899:2005. This standard can be used to:

- produce standardised sampling plans for use in regular or routine circumstances (i.e. the elaboration of daughter/derived standards dedicated to well defined sampling scenarios);
- incorporate specific sampling requirements into national legislation;
- design and develop a Sampling Plan on a case by case basis.

The development of a Sampling Plan within this framework involves the progression through three steps or activities.

- 1) Define the Sampling Plan;
- 2) Take a field sample in accordance with the Sampling Plan;
- 3) Transport the laboratory sample to the laboratory.

This Technical Report provides information to support Key Step 2 of the Sampling Plan process map and elaborates on the range of potential approaches that can be used to reduce the size of a sample in the field to facilitate the appropriate storage and preservation of the sample and ultimately its transportation to the designated analytical facility.

This Technical report describes procedures for reducing the overall size of the sample in the field, to aid practical transportation of a sample to the laboratory. It does not deal with sub-sampling in the laboratory to provide a test portion, or the pre-treatment of samples prior to analysis. Samples dispatched to the laboratory may require additional sub-sampling and/or pre-treatment steps prior to analysis. Some samples may be analysed without additional treatment. Field sub-sampling should be carried out in such a way as to obtain, at all stages, a sample that is representative of the field sample. Specifically this Technical Report supports 4.2.8.2 (Procedures for sub-sampling in the field) of the Framework Standard.

This Technical Report should be read in conjunction with the Framework Standard for the preparation and application of a Sampling Plan as well as the other Technical Reports that contain essential information to support the Framework Standard. The full series comprises:

EN 14899, Characterization of waste - Sampling of waste materials - Framework for the preparation and application of a Sampling Plan.

CEN/TR 15310-1, Characterization of waste – Sampling of waste materials - Part 1: Guidance on selection and application of criteria for sampling under various conditions.

CEN/TR 15310 -2, Characterization of waste – Sampling of waste materials - Part 2 - Guidance on sampling techniques.

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