



**NSAI**  
Standards

Irish Standard  
I.S. EN ISO 4938:2016

# Steel and iron - Determination of nickel content - Gravimetric or titrimetric method (ISO 4938:2016)

## I.S. EN ISO 4938:2016

*Incorporating amendments/corrigenda/National Annexes issued since publication:*

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NSAI  
1 Swift Square,  
Northwood, Santry  
Dublin 9

T +353 1 807 3800  
F +353 1 807 3838  
E standards@nsai.ie  
W NSAI.ie

Sales:  
T +353 1 857 6730  
F +353 1 857 6729  
W standards.ie

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## National Foreword

I.S. EN ISO 4938:2016 is the adopted Irish version of the European Document EN ISO 4938:2016, Steel and iron  
- Determination of nickel content - Gravimetric or titrimetric method (ISO 4938:2016)

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**EUROPEAN STANDARD**

**EN ISO 4938**

**NORME EUROPÉENNE**

**EUROPÄISCHE NORM**

March 2016

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English Version

**Steel and iron - Determination of nickel content -  
Gravimetric or titrimetric method (ISO 4938:2016)**

Aciers et fontes - Détermination du nickel - Méthode  
gravimétrique ou titrimétrique (ISO 4938:2016)

Stahl und Eisen - Bestimmung des Nickelanteils -  
Gravimetrisches oder titrimetrisches Verfahren (ISO  
4938:2016)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 21 November 2015.

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**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels**

**EN ISO 4938:2016 (E)**

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## **European foreword**

This document (EN ISO 4938:2016) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 17 “Steel” in collaboration with Technical Committee ECISS/TC 102 “Methods of chemical analysis for iron and steel” the secretariat of which is held by SIS.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by September 2016, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by September 2016.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN 24938:1990.

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

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### **Endorsement notice**

The text of ISO 4938:2016 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 4938:2016 without any modification.

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# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

**ISO  
4938**

Second edition  
2016-02-01

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## **Steel and iron — Determination of nickel content — Gravimetric or titrimetric method**

*Aciers et fontes — Détermination du nickel — Méthode gravimétrique  
ou titrimétrique*



Reference number  
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**ISO 4938:2016(E)**



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ISO copyright office  
Ch. de Blandonnet 8 • CP 401  
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel. +41 22 749 01 11  
Fax +41 22 749 09 47  
copyright@iso.org  
www.iso.org

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## ISO 4938:2016(E)

## 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 documents 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](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#).

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 17, *Steel*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Methods of determination of chemical composition*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 4938:1988), which has been technically revised.

# Steel and iron — Determination of nickel content — Gravimetric or titrimetric method

## 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a method for the determination of nickel in steel and iron by gravimetry or titrimetry.

The method is applicable to nickel contents from 1 % to 30 % (mass fraction).

## 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 648, *Laboratory glassware — Single-volume pipettes*

ISO 1042, *Laboratory glassware — One-mark volumetric flasks*

ISO 3696, *Water for analytical laboratory use — Specification and test methods*

ISO 4793, *Laboratory sintered (fritted) filters — Porosity grading, classification and designation*

ISO 14284, *Steel and iron — Sampling and preparation of samples for the determination of chemical composition*

## 3 Principle

Dissolution of a test portion with appropriate acids.

Precipitation of the nickel as nickel-dimethylglyoxime.

- Cobalt, if present, is oxidized by potassium hexacyanoferrate(III).
- Copper, if present with cobalt, preferably is removed by controlled potential electrolysis.

Acid dissolution of the precipitate and filtration of the solution, followed by a second precipitation of the nickel as nickel dimethylglyoxime.

In the case of the gravimetric determination, weighing the dried dimethylglyoxime precipitate.

In the case of the titrimetric determination, acid dissolution of the precipitate, addition of excess EDTA.Na<sub>2</sub> solution and back titration of the excess EDTA.Na<sub>2</sub> by zinc solution using xylenol orange as an indicator.

In both cases, determination of residual nickel in the filtrate(s) by atomic absorption spectrometry (see [Annex C](#)).

## 4 Reagents

During the analysis, unless otherwise specified, use only reagents of recognized analytical grade and only distilled grade 2 water as specified in ISO 3696 or water of equivalent purity.

### 4.1 Sodium hydrogen sulphate (NaHSO<sub>4</sub>).

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