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NSAI Standards

Irish Standard
I.S. EN 15348:2014

Plastics - Recycled plastics - Characterization of poly(ethylene terephthalate) (PET) recyclates

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

EN 15348

November 2014

ICS 13.030.50; 83.080.20

Supersedes EN 15348:2007

English Version

Plastics - Recycled plastics - Characterization of poly(ethylene terephthalate) (PET) recyclates

Plastiques - Plastiques recyclés - Caractérisation des recyclats de poly(éthylène téréphtalate) (PET)

Kunststoffe - Kunststoff-Rezyklate - Charakterisierung von Polyethylenterephthalat (PET)-Rezyklaten

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 20 September 2014.

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This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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Foreword

This document (EN 15348:2014) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 249 “Plastics”, the secretariat of which is held by NBN.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2015 and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2015.

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 15348:2007.

EN 15348:2014 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to EN 15348:2007:

a) the deletion of former informative Annex B and replacement by a reference to EN ISO 1133-2 in Table 1;

b) the use of a porcelain crucible instead of a crucible of platinum in B.5.

This European Standard is one part of a series of CEN publications on Plastics Recycling which is structured as follows:

— EN 15342, *Plastics — Recycled Plastics — Characterization of polystyrene (PS) recyclates*

— EN 15343, *Plastics — Recycled Plastics — Plastics recycling traceability and assessment of conformity and recycled content*

— EN 15344, *Plastics — Recycled Plastics — Characterization of Polyethylene (PE) recyclates*

— EN 15345, *Plastics — Recycled Plastics — Characterization of Polypropylene (PP) recyclates*

— EN 15346, *Plastics — Recycled plastics — Characterization of poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC) recyclates*

— EN 15347, *Plastics — Recycled Plastics — Characterization of plastics wastes*

— EN 15348, *Plastics — Recycled plastics — Characterization of poly(ethylene terephthalate) (PET) recyclates*

— CEN/TR 15353, *Plastics — Recycled plastics — Guidelines for the development of standards for recycled plastics*

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

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Introduction

Recycling of plastics waste is one type of material recovery process intended to save resources (virgin raw materials, water, and energy), while minimizing harmful emissions into air, water and soil as well as any impacts on human health. The environmental impact of recycling has to be assessed over the whole life cycle of the recycling system (from the waste generation point to the disposal of final residues). To ensure that recycling constitutes the best environmental option for treating the available waste, some prerequisites should preferably be met:

— recycling scheme being contemplated should generate lower environmental impacts than alternative recovery options;

— existing or potential market outlets should be identified that will secure a sustainable industrial recycling operation;

— collection and sorting schemes should be properly designed to deliver recyclable plastics waste fractions fitting reasonably well with the available recycling technologies and with the (changing) needs of the identified market outlets, preferably at minimum costs to society.

This European Standard has been produced in accordance with the guidance produced by CEN on Environmental Aspects and in accordance with CEN/TR 15353.

NOTE CEN/TR 15353 considers the general environmental aspects which are specific to the recycling process.

It is often impossible to trace back each individual product at the end user stage and to check whether the product has been used correctly through its life. Consequently products are out of industrial control for a period of time. It is possible that during this period contamination with other materials might occur that could affect the product's suitability for recycling into the intended application.

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1 Scope

This European Standard defines a method of specifying delivery conditions for poly(ethylene terephthalate) (PET) recyclates.

It gives the most important characteristics and associated test methods for assessing PET recyclates intended to be used for the production of semi-finished/finished products. It is intended for use by the supplier and purchaser of such materials, to assist them in agreeing on specifications.

This European Standard is applicable without prejudice to any existing legislation.

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.

CEN/TR 15353, *Plastics — Recycled plastics — Guidelines for the development of standards for recycled plastics*

EN ISO 472, *Plastics — Vocabulary (ISO 472)*

EN ISO 1133-2, *Plastics — Determination of the melt mass-flow rate (MFR) and melt volume-flow rate (MVR) of thermoplastics — Part 2: Method for materials sensitive to time-temperature history and/or moisture (ISO 1133-2)*

EN ISO 11664-4, *Colorimetry — Part 4: CIE 1976 L*a*b* Colour space (ISO 11664-4)*

EN ISO 15512, *Plastics — Determination of water content (ISO 15512)*

ISO 565, *Test sieves — Metal wire cloth, perforated metal plate and electroformed sheet — Nominal sizes of openings*

ISO 1628-5, *Plastics — Determination of the viscosity of polymers in dilute solution using capillary viscometers — Part 5: Thermoplastic polyester (TP) homopolymers and copolymers*

ISO 3534-2, *Statistics — Vocabulary and symbols — Part 2: Applied statistics*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN ISO 472 and CEN/TR 15353 and the following apply.

3.1
sieve retention
percentage-of the recycled test sample retained on a sieve at the end of the test

Note 1 to entry: The sieve retention is expressed in percent (mass fraction).

3.2
container retention
percentage of recycled matter retained in the container at the bottom of a stack of sieves, or under a single sieve, at the end of the test compared to the mass of the sample

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