
Solid biofuels — Determination of fines content in pellets

*Biocombustibles solides — Détermination de la teneur en fines des
granulés*



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ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 238, *Solid biofuels*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 335, *Solid biofuels*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

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Introduction

This document specifies a method for manual determination of the fines content in pellets. The fines content is defined as the percentage in mass of material below 3,15 mm in size (measured with a round hole perforated metal plate sieve according to ISO 3310-2). The fines content is an important parameter since excessive amounts of fines in consignments of pellets can cause problems either in transportation systems or during combustion, or both. It also can cause health problems if the dust is inhaled and it increases the risk of dust explosions. Many of these problems are connected to the tendency of stratification of fines caused by any movement of the pellets.

[Annex A](#) describes a procedure for determining the amount of coarse pellet fines ($3,15 \text{ mm} \leq \text{CPF} < 5,6 \text{ mm}$). The determination of the amounts of smaller fines particles, for example the fractions $< 1 \text{ mm}$ and $< 0,5 \text{ mm}$, is given in [Annex B](#).

NOTE 1 The upper limit of 5,6 mm for CPF was chosen because a sieve with an aperture diameter of 5,6 mm is the standard commercial sieve with the next-smallest aperture diameter after 6 mm, which corresponds to the diameter of the standard pellet size. When conducting the procedure for CPF as outlined in [Annex A](#), additional CPF are created as a result of the sieving procedure. Test results are therefore indicative and best used for comparative purposes rather than treated as CPF originally present in the sample.

NOTE 2 This document will replace ISO 18846.