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Test methods for environmental characterization of solid matrices - Guide to flash point testing

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English Version

**Test methods for environmental characterization of solid
matrices - Guide to flash point testing**Caractérisation des déchets - Lignes directrices pour la
détermination du point d'éclairPrüfverfahren für die umwelbezogene
Charakterisierung fester Matrices - Anleitung zur
Prüfung des Flammpunkts

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
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European foreword

This document (CEN/TR 17309:2019) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 444 "Test methods for environmental characterization of solid matrices", the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

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Introduction

Flash point values are used in transporting, storage, handling and safety regulations, as a classification property to define “flammable” and “combustible” materials. Precise definition of the classes is given in each particular regulation.

A flash point value can indicate the presence of highly volatile material(s) in a relatively non-volatile or non-flammable material and flash point testing can be a preliminary step to other investigations into the composition of unknown materials. For products material safety data sheets provide further information also for flash point, but e. g. material safety data sheets for waste do not exist.

It is not appropriate for flash point determinations to be carried out on potentially unstable, decomposable, or explosive materials, unless it has been previously established that heating the specified quantity of such material in contact with the metallic components of the flash point apparatus, within the temperature range required for the method, does not induce decomposition, explosion or other adverse effects.

Flash point values are not a constant physical-chemical property of material tested. They are a function of the apparatus design, the condition of apparatus used, and no general valid correlation can be guaranteed between results obtained by different test methods or with test apparatus different from that specified.

CEN/TR 17309:2019 (E)**1 Scope**

The flash point test can be summarised as a procedure where a test portion is introduced into a temperature controlled test cup and an ignition source is applied to the vapours produced by the test portion to determine if the vapour / air mixture is flammable or at what temperature the vapour / air mixture is flammable.

This document is not intended to be a comprehensive manual on flash point tests and the interpretation of test results, however it covers the key aspects on these subjects.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

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