

Methods of test for

Paints —

**Part B16: Determination of total
mercury**

NOTE It is recommended that this Part be read in conjunction with BS 3900-0, issued separately.

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Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted by the Pigments, Paints and Varnishes Standards Policy Committee (PVC/-) to Technical Committee PVC/10, upon which the following bodies were represented:

- British Gas plc
- Chemical Industries' Association
- Health and Safety Executive
- Institute of Metal Finishing
- Ministry of Defence
- Oil and Colour Chemists' Association
- Paint Research Association
- Paintmakers' Association of Great Britain Ltd.
- Titanium Pigment Manufacturers' Technical Committee

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Pigments, Paints and Varnishes Standards Policy Committee, was published under the authority of the Board of BSI and comes into effect on 31 August 1990

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The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:
Committee reference PVC/10
Draft for comment 82/54122 DC

ISBN 0 580 18134 0

Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Comments

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National foreword

This Part of BS 3900 has been prepared under the direction of the Pigments, Paints and Varnishes Standards Policy Committee. It is identical with ISO 7252:1984 *“Paints and varnishes — Determination of total mercury — Flameless atomic absorption spectrometric method”*, published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

CAUTION. The procedures described in this Part of BS 3900 are intended to be carried out by qualified chemists or by other suitably trained and/or supervised personnel. The substrates and procedures used in this method may be injurious to health if adequate precautions are not taken. Mercury, particularly in its vapour form, and its solutions are toxic. It is essential that breathing mercury and contact of mercury or its solutions with eyes and skin be avoided, and that all procedures be carried out in a well-ventilated fume-cupboard. This Part of BS 3900 refers only to its technical suitability and does not absolve the user from statutory obligations relating to health and safety.

Cross-references

International Standard	Corresponding British Standard
ISO 1042:1981	BS 1792:1982 <i>Specification for one-mark volumetric flasks</i> (Identical) BS 3900 <i>Methods of test for paints</i>
ISO 1512:1974	Part A1:1970 <i>Sampling</i> (Technically equivalent)
ISO 1513:1980	Part A2:1983 <i>Examination and preparation of samples for testing</i> (Identical)
ISO 2629:1987 ^a	BS 3978:1987 <i>Specification for water for laboratory use</i> (Identical)

^a Although ISO 3696:1987 and ISO 385-1:1984 are indicated in the text of ISO 7252:1984 as being at the stage of draft, both are now published.

The Technical Committee has reviewed the provisions of ISO 385-1:1984¹⁾ and ISO 648:1977, to which reference is made in **5.14** and **5.16** respectively, and has decided that they are acceptable for use in conjunction with this standard. ISO 385-1 is related to BS 846 *“Specification for burettes”* and ISO 648 is related to BS 1583 *“Specification for one-mark pipettes”*.

Textual error. When adopting the text of the International Standard, the textual error given below was discovered. It has been marked in the text and has been reported to ISO in a proposal to amend the text of the International Standard.

In note to **5.1** insert “and this should be recorded in the test report” after “may be necessary”.

This correction brings the text into line with that of BS 3900-B12 which describes a similar method.

¹⁾ Although ISO 3696:1987 and ISO 385-1:1984 are indicated in the text of ISO 7252:1984 as at being the stage of draft, both are now published.

A British Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of British Standards are responsible for their correct application.

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This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.