
INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



1043

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Plastics — Symbols

Plastiques — Symboles

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Documents

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FOREWORD

IOS (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards institutes (ISO member bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO technical committees. Every member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been set up 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.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 1043 was developed by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*. The first edition (ISO 1043-1975), which resulted from the combination of ISO Recommendation R 1043-1969 and its Addenda 1 and 2 into one single document, had been approved by the member bodies of the following countries :

Austria	Iran	Romania
Belgium	Ireland	South Africa, Rep. of
Brazil	Israel	Spain
Bulgaria	Italy	Sweden
Canada	Japan	Switzerland
Czechoslovakia	Korea, Dem. P. Rep. of	Thailand
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	Korea, Rep. of	Turkey
Finland	Netherlands	United Kingdom
Germany, F.R.	New Zealand	U.S.A.
Greece	(R 1043/DAD 2)	U.S.S.R.
Hungary	Poland	Yugoslavia
India	Portugal	

The member bodies of the following countries had expressed disapproval of the document on technical grounds :

France
New Zealand
(R 1043 + R 1043/DAD 1)

This second edition, which supersedes ISO 1043-1975, incorporates draft Addendum 1, which was circulated to the member bodies in May 1976. This draft addendum was approved by the member bodies of the following countries :

Australia	Hungary	Poland
Austria	India	Romania
Belgium	Iran	South Africa, Rep. of
Brazil	Ireland	Spain
Chile	Israel	Sweden
Czechoslovakia	Italy	Switzerland
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	Korea, Rep. of	Turkey
Finland	Mexico	United Kingdom
France	Netherlands	U.S.A.
Germany, F.R.	New Zealand	

The member body of the following country expressed disapproval of the document on technical grounds :

Peru

Plastics — Symbols

1 SCOPE AND FIELD OF APPLICATION

This International Standard provides uniform symbols for terms relating to plastics.

Abbreviated terminology has evolved through widespread common usage. This compilation of abbreviated nomenclature has been prepared primarily to promote the use of one rather than more than one symbol for a given material, and to avoid the use of the same symbol for more than one material. It includes, in general, those symbols that have come into established use.

When symbols are used in publications or other written matter, their first occurrence in the text should be enclosed in parentheses and should be preceded by the written word or words being abbreviated; subsequent references to such words in the text can then be by the appropriate symbols.

2 EXPLANATORY NOTES

2.1 IUPAC rules for source-based names of polymers specify that when "poly" is followed by more than one word, enclosing marks are used. The IUPAC practice is followed in this document. In common usage the enclosing marks are often omitted.

2.2 In addition to their use in designating polymers, the symbols are also intended for use in designating materials and compounds based on polymers; for example, PE plastics, PE moulding materials, PE film, PE sheeting, PE pipe, etc. Supplementary symbols for designating primary intended uses, distinguishing characteristics, etc., of plastic materials and compounds are standardized in specifications and designations prepared by ISO/TC 61.

2.3 Unless otherwise indicated, the alkyl groups are *n*-alkyl groups and the phthalates are esters of *o*-phthalic acid.

2.4 The letter P may be used in place of F for "phosphate" in plasticizer symbols.

3 SYMBOLS FOR HOMOPOLYMERIC AND NATURAL POLYMERIC MATERIALS

CA	Cellulose acetate
CAB	Cellulose acetate butyrate
CAP	Cellulose acetate propionate
CF	Cresol-formaldehyde
CMC	Carboxymethyl cellulose
CN	Cellulose nitrate
CP	Cellulose propionate
CS	Casein
EC	Ethyl cellulose
EP	Epoxide; epoxy
MF	Melamine-formaldehyde
PA	Polyamide
PB	Polybutene-1
PBTP	Poly(butylene terephthalate)
PC	Polycarbonate
PCTFE	Polychlorotrifluoroethylene
PDAP	Poly(diallyl phthalate)
PE	Polyethylene
PEOX	Poly(ethylene oxide)
PETP	Poly(ethylene terephthalate)
PF	Phenol-formaldehyde
PIB	Polyisobutylene
PMMA	Poly(methyl methacrylate)
PMP	Poly-4 methylpentene-1
POM	Polyoxymethylene; polyformaldehyde
PP	Polypropylene
PPOX	Poly(propylene oxide)
PPSU	Poly(phenylene sulfone)
PS	Polystyrene
PTFE	Polytetrafluoroethylene
PUR	Polyurethane
PVAC	Poly(vinyl acetate)
PVAL	Poly(vinyl alcohol)
PVB	Poly(vinyl butyral)
PVC	Poly(vinyl chloride)
PVDC	Poly(vinylidene chloride)
PVDF	Poly(vinylidene fluoride)
PVF	Poly(vinyl fluoride)
PVFM	Poly(vinyl formal)
PVK	Polyvinylcarbazole
PVP	Polyvinylpyrrolidone
SI	Silicone
UF	Urea-formaldehyde
UP	Unsaturated polyester