

ISO/TR 15916:2015-12 (E)

Basic considerations for the safety of hydrogen systems

Contents	Page
Foreword	vi
Introduction	vii
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Overview of hydrogen applications	13
4.1 Basic hydrogen infrastructure	13
4.1.1 Categories of infrastructure	13
4.1.2 Production	13
4.1.3 Storage and transport	13
4.1.4 Hydrogen use applications	14
4.2 Typical hydrogen system components	15
4.2.1 General	15
4.2.2 Storage vessels	15
4.2.3 Fluid delivery lines, piping, joints, and seals	15
4.2.4 Flow controls	15
4.2.5 Pressure-relief systems	16
4.2.6 Detection components	16
4.2.7 Other components	16
4.2.8 Considerations for conditions external to the system	16
4.3 Hydrogen fuel	16
4.4 Environmental effects	17
5 Basic properties of hydrogen	17
5.1 General properties	17
5.1.1 Atomic and molecular properties	17
5.1.2 Appearance and general characteristics	18
5.2 Selected thermophysical properties	18
5.2.1 General	18
5.2.2 Selected thermophysical properties of gaseous hydrogen	18
5.2.3 Selected thermophysical properties of cryogenic liquid hydrogen	18
5.3 Basic combustion properties	19
5.3.1 General remark on safety characteristics	19
5.3.2 Selected combustion properties of hydrogen	19
5.3.3 Explosions	20
5.3.4 Deflagration	20
5.3.5 Detonation	21
5.3.6 Flammability limits	21
5.3.7 Ignition energy and minimum ignition energy as applied to deflagration	22
6 Safety considerations for the use of gaseous and liquid hydrogen	23
6.1 General	23
6.2 Hazards involved as a consequence of the properties of hydrogen	24
6.2.1 General	24
6.2.2 Gaseous hydrogen	24
6.2.3 Liquid hydrogen	24
6.3 Factors involved in combustion hazards	25

6.3.1	Aspects of combustion	25
6.3.2	Non-premixed combustion processes	25
6.3.3	Explosions	26
6.4	Factors involved in pressure hazards	26
6.4.1	General	26
6.4.2	Gaseous storage	27
6.4.3	Liquid hydrogen	27
6.5	Factors involved in low temperature hazards	27
6.6	Factors involved in hydrogen embrittlement hazards	27
6.6.1	Hydrogen embrittlement	27
6.6.2	Hydrogen attack	28
6.7	Health hazards	28
6.7.1	Cold burns	28
6.7.2	High temperature burns	28
6.7.3	Asphyxiation	28
6.8	Team approach and education/training needed for the safe use of hydrogen	28
7	Mitigation and control of hazards and risks	28
7.1	General mitigation and control of hazards and risk	28
7.1.1	General	28
7.1.2	Lessons learned from past experience	29
7.1.3	Addressing hazards	30
7.1.4	Minimizing the severity of the consequences of hazards	30
7.2	Mitigation of design hazards and risks	31
7.2.1	Inherently safer design	31
7.2.2	Considerations in the selection of suitable construction material	31
7.2.3	Considerations for vessels and components	32
7.2.4	Prevention of overpressure	33
7.2.5	Considerations for piping, joints, and connections	33
7.2.6	Cleaning considerations	34
7.2.7	Component considerations	34
7.3	Prevention and mitigation of fire and explosion hazards and risks	35
7.3.1	General	35
7.3.2	Prevention of unwanted hydrogen/oxidizer mixtures	35
7.3.3	Ignition	36
7.3.4	Deflagration and detonation	37
7.3.5	Oxygen enrichment	37
7.4	Detection considerations	38
7.4.1	Hydrogen gas detection	38
7.4.2	Fire detection	38
7.5	Considerations for facilities	39
7.5.1	General	39
7.5.2	Locations	39
7.5.3	Exclusion areas	40
7.5.4	Protecting barricades	40
7.5.5	Safety control equipment	40
7.5.6	Disposal of hydrogen	41
7.5.7	Buildings	41
7.5.8	Ventilation	42
7.5.9	Electrical components	42
7.5.10	Alarms and warning devices	43
7.5.11	Fire protection and fire fighting	43
7.6	Considerations for operations	44
7.6.1	General	44
7.6.2	Operating procedures	44
7.6.3	Personal protective equipment	44
7.6.4	Cool-down	45
7.6.5	Transportation	45
7.6.6	Storage and transfer operations	45
7.6.7	Safety procedures	46
7.7	Recommended practices for organizations	48

7.7.1	General	48
7.7.2	Control through organizational policies and procedures	48
7.7.3	Use of approved procedures and checklists	48
7.7.4	Conduct appropriate reviews	48
7.7.5	Approved maintenance and quality control programmes	48
7.7.6	Personnel education/training	48
7.7.7	Hazard and operability assessment	49
Annex A (informative) Hydrogen properties		50
Annex B (informative) Hydrogen combustion data		54
Annex C (informative) Material data		57
Annex D (informative) Other storage options		61
Bibliography		62