



Designation: D8487 – 23

Standard Specification for Natural Gas, Hydrogen Blends for Use as a Motor Vehicle Fuel¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D8487; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification defines the minimum fuel quality requirements for gaseous fuels consisting primarily of methane blended with volume fraction of up to 10 % hydrogen (H_2) when used as an internal combustion engine fuel.

1.2 This specification defines the criteria for blending hydrogen with natural gas, biogas, or renewable natural gas (RNG) and then compressed into compressed natural gas (CNG) for use as a fuel for internal combustion engines in motor vehicles.

1.3 The total volume fraction of hydrogen within the fuel shall consist of hydrogen contained in the natural gas, biogas, or renewable gas and any additional hydrogen blended into the fuel mixture.

1.4 This specification covers the needs of internal combustion engines designed for use in motor vehicles.

1.5 This specification applies to the fuel as delivered into the on-board fuel tanks of a motor vehicle as a compressed gas.

1.6 This specification is not a natural gas pipeline standard; those requirements are determined by national and regional tariffs.

1.7 *Units*—The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses after SI units are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.8 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.9 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:²

- D1142 Test Method for Water Vapor Content of Gaseous Fuels by Measurement of Dew-Point Temperature
- D1945 Test Method for Analysis of Natural Gas by Gas Chromatography
- D3588 Practice for Calculating Heat Value, Compressibility Factor, and Relative Density of Gaseous Fuels
- D4150 Terminology Relating to Gaseous Fuels
- D4468 Test Method for Total Sulfur in Gaseous Fuels by Hydrogenolysis and Rateometric Colorimetry
- D5454 Test Method for Water Vapor Content of Gaseous Fuels Using Electronic Moisture Analyzers
- D5504 Test Method for Determination of Sulfur Compounds in Natural Gas and Gaseous Fuels by Gas Chromatography and Chemiluminescence
- D6228 Test Method for Determination of Sulfur Compounds in Natural Gas and Gaseous Fuels by Gas Chromatography and Flame Photometric Detection
- D6968 Test Method for Simultaneous Measurement of Sulfur Compounds and Minor Hydrocarbons in Natural Gas and Gaseous Fuels by Gas Chromatography and Atomic Emission Detection
- D7165 Practice for Gas Chromatograph Based On-line/At-line Analysis for Sulfur Content of Gaseous Fuels
- D7493 Test Method for Online Measurement of Sulfur Compounds in Natural Gas and Gaseous Fuels by Gas Chromatograph and Electrochemical Detection
- D7551 Test Method for Determination of Total Volatile Sulfur in Gaseous Hydrocarbons and Liquefied Petroleum Gases and Natural Gas by Ultraviolet Fluorescence
- D7606 Practice for Sampling of High Pressure Hydrogen and Related Fuel Cell Feed Gases
- D7607 Test Method for Analysis of Oxygen in Gaseous Fuels (Electrochemical Sensor Method)
- D7650 Practice for Sampling of Particulate Matter in High Pressure Gaseous Fuels with an In-Stream Filter

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D03 on Gaseous Fuels and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D03.92 on Terminology Classification and Specifications.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

- D7651** Test Method for Gravimetric Measurement of Particulate Concentration of Hydrogen Fuel
- D7833** Test Method for Determination of Hydrocarbons and Non-Hydrocarbon Gases in Gaseous Mixtures by Gas Chromatography
- D7904** Test Method for Determination of Water Vapor (Moisture Concentration) in Natural Gas by Tunable Diode Laser Spectroscopy (TDLAS)
- D7941** Test Method for Hydrogen Purity Analysis Using a Continuous Wave Cavity Ring-Down Spectroscopy Analyzer
- D8221** Practice for Determining the Calculated Methane Number (MN_C) of Gaseous Fuels Used in Internal Combustion Engines
- D8230** Test Method for Measurement of Volatile Silicon-Containing Compounds in a Gaseous Fuel Sample Using Gas Chromatography with Spectroscopic Detection
- D8455** Test Method for Speciated Siloxane GC-IMS Analyzer Based On-line for Siloxane and Trimethylsilanol Content of Gaseous Fuels
- D8251** Practice for Determining Compressor Oil Carryover in Compressed Natural Gas Used as a Natural Gas Motor Vehicle Fuel

2.2 ISO Standards:³

- ISO 6976** Natural gas—Calculation of calorific values, density, relative density and Wobbe index from composition
- ISO 10715** Natural gas—Sampling Guidelines

2.3 ASHRAE Standard:⁴

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineer's (ASHRAE) Handbook 1989 Fundamentals Volume

3. Terminology

3.1 For definitions of general terms used in D03 Gaseous Fuels standards, refer to Terminology **D4150**.

3.2 Abbreviations:

- 3.2.1 **CNG**—compressed natural gas
- 3.2.2 **MN**—methane number
- 3.2.3 **MN_C**—calculated methane number
- 3.2.4 **RNG**—renewable natural gas

4. Sampling

4.1 Review relevant test methods prior to sampling to understand the importance and effects of sampling technique, proper containers, and any special handling required for each test method.

4.2 Samples shall be collected directly from the fuel dispenser.

4.3 Samples shall be representative of the product as dispensed into an on-board motor vehicle fuel tank and shall be collected by a suitable sampling procedure.

NOTE 1—This standard is applicable at the point of delivery into the vehicles on-board fuel tank.

³ Available from International Organization for Standardization (ISO), ISO Central Secretariat, Chemin de Blandonnet 8, CP 401, 1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland, <https://www.iso.org>.

⁴ Available from American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. (ASHRAE), 1791 Tullie Circle, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329, <http://www.ashrae.org>.

TABLE 1

Substance/Property	Units	Test Methods	MN _C 65	MN _C 75
Hydrogen	% by volume, max	D1945, D7833	10	10
Calculated Methane Number	MN _C per Practice D8221 , min	D8221	65	75
Wobbe Index (based on Higher Heating Value) ^A	MJ/m ³	ISO 6976	46 to 53	46 to 53
Lower Heating Value ^B	MJ/m ³ , min	D3588	33.2	33.2
Oxygen	% by volume, max	D1945, D7607, D7833	1	1
Water Dew Point max at 24,821 kPa ^C	°C below the 99.0 % winter design temperature at dispenser	D1142, D5454, D7904	6	6
Total Sulfur (Includes odorant) ^D	ppmv, max	D4468, D5504, D6228, D6968, D7165, D7493, D7551	5	5
Hydrogen Sulfide ^E	ppmv, max	D4468, D5504, D6228, D6968, D7165, D7493, D7551, D7833	5	5
Maximum Particulates	mg/kg, max	D7651	1	1
Siloxanes ^F	mg of Si/m ³ , max	D8230, D8455	0.1	0.1
Compressor Oil	mg/kg, max	D8251^G	10	10

^A Wobbe Index of the gas mixture is calculated based on the Higher Heating Value on a volumetric basis at 101.325 kPa and 15.55 °C reference conditions, divided by the square root of the relative density at the same specified metering reference conditions. ISO 6976 uses the term Superior Heating Value in place of the term Higher Heating Value.

^B Lower Heating Value is calculated based on at 101.325 kPa and 15.55 °C reference conditions.

^C Refer to the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineer's (ASHRAE) Handbook, 1989 Fundamentals Volume. For the United States, refer to Chapter 24, Table 1, Climatic Conditions for the United States; for Canada, refer to Chapter 24, Table 2, Climatic Conditions for Canada; and for the rest of the world, refer to Chapter 24, Table 3, Climatic Conditions of Other Countries. For regions not listed, it is recommended that this reference be consulted for methodology used to calculate the 99 % minimum temperature.

^D Report in ppmv [μmol of S from all Sulfur compounds/mol of Gas]. As a minimum, total sulfur compounds include, for example, hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), carbonyl sulfide (COS), carbon disulfide (CS₂) Sulfides, thiols, and mercaptans. (See **Appendix X1**.)

^E Report in ppmv [μmol of S from H₂S/mol of Gas]. Refer to **Appendix X2**.

^F Reference conditions for Test Method **D8230** are 101.325 kPa and 25 °C. G Work Item: Practice for Determining Compressor Oil Carryover in Compressed Natural Gas Used as a Natural Gas Motor Vehicle Fuel.

^G Work Item: Practice for Determining Compressor Oil Carryover in Compressed Natural Gas Used as a Natural Gas Motor Vehicle Fuel.