ISO EN 17225-4 – Fact Sheet for Chip Producers, Traders and Users requiring Fuel Quality for ***RHI requirements**

Why do I need ISO 17225?

The RHI regulation that came into force earlier this year stated all woodfuel needs to be compliant to ISO 17225-4 or equivalent. Önorm is not recognised as an equivalent standard. **Woodsure** registrants required to demonstrate Fuel Quality for woodchip will be tested to EN ISO 17225-4:2021.

Any equivalent standard must be tested and **established by KIWA** who have been appointed by BEIS to carry this out.

What do you need to do?

Initially you do not need to do anything; you do not need new kit or new processes! Woodsure will contact you and request you to send a sample of your woodchip or one of our auditors will visit and collect a sample.

This might be the first time you are tested to the new standard. Please be aware that Woodsure can only test to regulation for the purpose of fuel quality related to RHI. If you are already graded to EN ISO 17225-4 then nothing changes for you.

Once we have your EN ISO 17225-4 chip grade, you need to update your quality manual and invoices, removing references to Önorm specifications, replacing with your new EN ISO 17225-4 classification.

FAQs

Do I need to buy new equipment to chip my wood?

You do not need to buy new equipment or change your processes. Continue to chip as normal.

I'm not currently EN ISO 17225-4, will I lose my RHI payments?

We have carried out extensive dual testing over the years as Woodsure and we have found that Önorm size classifications often meet an ISO17225-4 size class. Being Woodsure certified to ISO 17225-4 provides you with the confidence that your chip and the methods you use meet the requirements for RHI boilers. The new legislation requires you to be certified as meeting the ISO standard and you will need to have the ISO size class as a reference when you present your information to Ofgem (quarterly reporting or at an RHI audit).

What if my sample fails?

Our team will discuss your options, this could be to respecify or resubmit another sample – please note there is a charge made for retests.

Can I be tested for both ISO 17225-4 and Önorm ?

Fees related to fuel tests in the Woodsure scheme covers only fuel tests required by regulation. Yes, you can be tested to both standards but you will be charged an additional fee for the Önorm test as they require different equipment, methods, reports and certificates.

I'm worried that my chip isn't compliant, can I get additional testing undertaken?

Yes, we can test this inhouse. Please contact our lab directly at **lab@woodsure.co.uk** who can book you a slot and advise of charges for this service. (Do not send samples without first contacting the lab).

Will I get a new certificate?

Yes, this will be sent after you receive your test results of your sample.

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Want to know the technical stuff..?

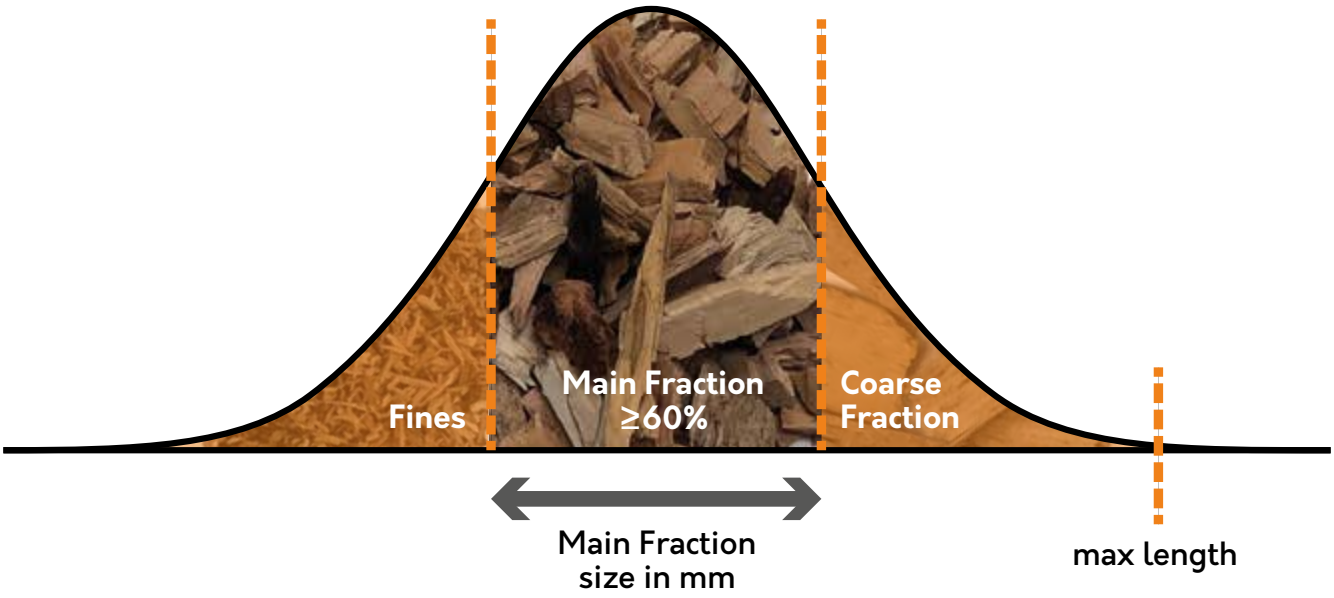
The photo on the right demonstrates the two most common size classes of chip produced in the UK; P16s and P31s. EN ISO 17225-4 standard refers to three elements within the chip:

Fines – ranges from 15% to 10% of the overall sample

Main Fraction – the main fraction must be over 60% of the overall sample

Coarse fraction – less than 6% of the overall sample

Right: includes pound coins for scale. The two size classes are divided into their fines, main and coarse fractions.



Imagine your entire store has been screened through our lab sieves and the 3 fractions laid out with the fines on the left, the main fraction in the middle and the coarse fraction on the right. The main fraction must be at least-two thirds (≥60%) of the chip in your store. Either side of the Main Fraction is the allowance for small pieces referred to fines, and larger pieces referred to the Coarse Fraction. In all chip standards there is an allowance for a small number of over length or *Max length pieces. These are commonly called slivers and are longer than the Coarse Fraction. A very small proportion of these are allowed as most feed systems will be able to work with them, but if there are a lot they cause bridging in the auger feed system and are therefore not ideal. More than one or two in a test sample will mean the sample will fail.

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Want more technical stuff?

The list of fuel standards has evolved over the years. The Austrian Önorm chip standard introduced the G30 and G50 chip grades in the 1990's which became the established in the newly evolving industry. The Önorm standard has been superseded a number of times, but their size class specifications G30, G50 and G100 are still widely referred too.

This paper provides the alignment of the chip grades against current and superseded standards based on the chip characteristics only. Combining the limits across standards does not guarantee compliance with all standards and their testing methods, but offers a unique specification that may satisfy the two following common chip grades

1. G30 / P16B / P16s chip

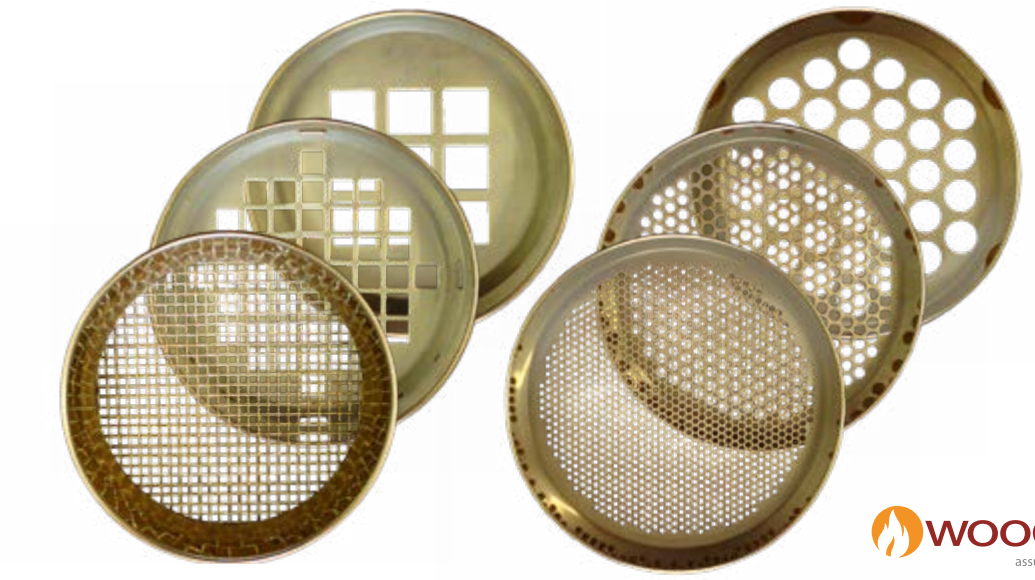
Standard	Grade	Max Length*	Coarse Fraction	Main Fraction	Fine Fraction	Fines (dust)
Önorm M 7133	**G30**	85mm	16-85mm	2.8-16mm	1-2.8mm	<1mm
Obsolete	**Limits**	All*	<20%	>60%	<20%	<4%
EN14961-4: 2011	**P16B**	120mm	45-120mm	3.15-16mm	<3.15mm	
Superseded	**Limits**	All*	<3%	>75%	<12%	
ISO17225-4: 2014	**P16s**	45mm	31.5-45mm	3.15-16mm	<3.15mm	
Superseded	**Limits**	All*	<6%	>60%	<15%	
ISO17225-4: 2021	**P16s**	45mm	31.5-45mm	3.15-16mm	<3.15mm	
Current	**Limits**	All*	<6%	>60%	<15%	

2. G50 / P31.5 / P31s chip

Standard	Grade	Max Length*	Coarse Fraction	Main Fraction	Fine Fraction	Fines (dust)
Önorm M 7133	G50	**120mm**	**32-120mm**	**5.6-31.5mm**	**1-5.6mm**	**<1mm**
Obsolete	Limits	**All***	**<20%**	**>60%**	**<20%**	**<4%**
EN14961-4: 2011	P31.5	**120mm**	**45-120mm**	**8-31.5mm**	**<3.15mm**	
Superseded	Limits	**All***	**<6%**	**>75%**	**<8%**	
ISO17225-4: 2014	P31s	**150mm**	**45-150mm**	**3.15-31.5mm**	**<3.15mm**	
Superseded	Limits	**All***	**<6%**	**>60%**	**<10%**	
ISO17225-4: 2021	P31s	**120mm**	**45-120mm**	**3.15-31.5mm**	**<3.15mm**	
Current	Limits	**All***	**<6%**	**>60%**	**<10%**	

Note: *to test chip to both Önorm and ISO standards, two tests need to be undertaken as the samples need to be run through different sieves (square for Önorm and round for ISO). This increases testing time and testing costs.*

Please note that the two examples are based upon the most common sizes, we can also accommodate sawdust, shavings and industrial chip.



Far-left: *Önorm sieves with square holes (mesh).*
Left: *EN and ISO standards round hole sieves*

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