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Examples of how to calculate degree of sorting

The degree of sorting may be used as a target figure for the quality of waste sorting.

Examples of how to calculate the degree of sorting is given below. The operator must themselves choose which calculating method to use. The degree of sorting can be calculating including or excluding metals, hazardous waste, radioactive waste or heavy materials, depending on the operator's preference.

To ensure a degree of sorting that is suitable for comparisons, only waste generated during "normal" operations should be used for calculations (i.e. larger modification projects are kept separate from the degree of sorting). Certain types of heavy waste, such as concrete, metals and blasting sand, may add to a high degree of sorting, which will be misleading in showing the total quality of the waste sorting done at the installation. Due to this such waste should be kept separate when calculating the degree of sorting.

Example 1:

Total degree of sorting:

Amount of *sorted* waste, (incl. non-hazardous waste / metals / hazardous waste / radioactive waste) Total amount of waste

Comments: This method will show the remaining waste and non-conformance waste compared to the total amount of waste.

Example 2:

Degree of sorting excluding hazardous/radioactive waste:

Amount of sorted non-hazardous waste and metal waste Total amount of non-hazardous waste and metal waste

Comments: This method will show the remaining waste and non-conformance waste compared to the total amount of waste, excluding hazardous and radioactive waste. The method is less affected by drilling waste variations.

Example 3:

Degree of sorting, non-hazardous waste:

Amount of *sorted* non-hazardous waste (excl.metal/hazardous/radioactive waste) x100

Total amount of non-hazardous waste

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Comments: Blasting sand, concrete and larger types of mass waste is included in the calculation, even if that may not reflect upon the general quality of the waste sorting. This method will mean that waste delivery of larger amounts of non-hazardous dry bulk and blasting sand will have a positive impact on the degree of sorting.

Example 4:

Degree of sorting, non-hazardous waste:

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Amount of sorted non-hazardous waste (exclusive metal/hazardous/radioactive/mass waste)
Total amount of non-hazardous waste
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Comments: Blasting sand, concrete and other larger mass waste are not included in the calculation, as the weight of these will give a misleading result that is not representative for the waste sorting quality. The degree of sorting will be less affected by larger operations.

Example 5:

Degree of sorting, defined non-hazardous waste categories:

Amount of non-hazardous waste (paper/cardboard-plastic-wood-EE waste-glass/metal packaging -single use batteries) Total amount of non-haz.waste (remaining w.-paper/cardboard-plastic-wood-food cont./combust.-EE -glass/metal pack.-s. use batt.) x100

Comments: The degree of sorting will reflect the quality of the waste sorting performed for chosen waste categories, and will help increase the environmental consciousness regarding waste handling. Incorrect sorting of waste categories not defined here will increase the amount of remaining waste and influence the degree of sorting. Apart from that, this method will be less influenced my delivery of separate waste categories.

Example 6:

Degree of sorting, defined non-hazardous waste categories:

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Amount of sorted non-hazardous waste (categories chosen by operator)Total amount of non-hazardous waste (chosen categories + remaining waste)
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Comments: The operator will choose which waste categories to use for the calculation. The degree of sorting will reflect the quality of waste sorting of chosen categories. Incorrect sorting of waste categories not defined here will increase the amount of remaining waste, and influence the degree of sorting.