



BSI Standards Publication

Workplace exposure — Terminology

National foreword

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The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee EH/2/2, Work place atmospheres.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

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Workplace exposure - Terminology

Exposition sur les lieux de travail - Terminologie

Exposition am Arbeitsplatz - Terminologie

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 5 December 2021.

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European foreword

This document (EN 1540:2021) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 137 “Assessment of workplace exposure to chemical and biological agents”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2022, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2022.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN 1540:2011.

The major technical changes between this document and the previous edition are as follows:

- a) The given terminology has been re-adjusted, where appropriate, to ISO 18158:2016, which represents a modified ISO-adoption of EN 1540:2011.
- b) The subdivision and order of the terms and definitions has partly been changed and simplified by deleting some subheadings.
- c) The following terms and definitions (admitted terms given in *italic*) have been added:

- 1) General terms:

aerodynamic diameter, aerodynamic equivalent diameter, agglomerate, aggregate, air sampling device, appraiser, coagulation, diffusive diameter, diffusive equivalent diameter, dustiness mass fraction, effective density, equivalent density, exposure by inhalation, exposure profile, inhalation exposure, material density, median diameter, median particle diameter, microbial compound, mobility diameter, mobility equivalent diameter, nanomaterial, nano-object, nanoparticle, nanoscale, particle aerodynamic equivalent diameter, particle diffusive diameter, particle diffusive equivalent diameter, particle material density, particle mobility diameter, particle mobility equivalent diameter, particle number concentration, particle size, particle size distribution, particle surface area, similar exposure group, source domain, surface area, ultrafine particle, volume diameter, volume equivalent diameter

- 2) Terms related to the physical and chemical processes of workplace air sampling:

area sampling, back pressure, blank, blank sample, direct-reading instrument, flow-controlled pump, method blank, pressure drop, real-time monitor, stationary sampler, sampling cassette, vapour sampler

3) Terms related to the analytical method:

test gas

4) Terms related to method performance:

collection efficiency, *measurement bias*, *measurement precision*, *repeatability condition of measurement*, *reproducibility condition of measurement*, sampler bias, sampling bias

d) The term "thermodynamic diameter" is no longer used (see 3.1.2.12).

e) The term "efficiency curve" has been deleted as synonymous term for "sampling efficiency".

f) In Annex A, an additional column has been introduced for symbols commonly used.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users' national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

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1 Scope

This document specifies terms and definitions that are related to the assessment of workplace exposure to chemical and biological agents. These are either general terms or terms which are specific to physical and chemical processes of air sampling, the analytical method or method performance.

The terms included are those that have been identified as being fundamental because their definition is necessary to avoid ambiguity and ensure consistency of use.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1 General terms

3.1.1 Agents and air pollutants

3.1.1.1

biological agent

bacteria, viruses, fungi and other micro-organisms or microbial compounds, including those which have been genetically modified, cell cultures and human endoparasites which can provoke hazardous effects

Note 1 to entry: Examples for hazardous effects are infections, allergies, poisoning and inflammations.

Note 2 to entry: Dusts of organic origin, for example pollen, flour dust and wood dust, are not considered to be biological agents and are therefore not covered by this definition.

3.1.1.2

chemical agent

chemical element or compound on its own or admixed as it occurs in the natural state or as produced, used, or released, including release as waste, by any work activity, whether or not produced intentionally and whether or not placed on the market

[SOURCE: Council Directive 98/24/EC Art. 2(a)]

3.1.1.3

air pollutant

chemical or biological agent emitted into the atmosphere either by human activity or natural processes and adversely affecting humans or the environment

[SOURCE: ISO 18158:2016, 2.1.2.1, modified – "material" has been replaced with "chemical or biological agent".]

3.1.1.4

airborne dust

chemical and/or biological agent(s) in solid form, dispersed in air