



BSI Standards Publication

Bio-based products — Requirements for Business to Business communication of characteristics using a Data Sheet

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 16848:2016.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee MI/2, Bio-based products.

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

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English Version

Bio-based products - Requirements for Business to Business communication of characteristics using a Data Sheet

Produits biosourcés - Exigences relatives à la
communication entre entreprises des caractéristiques
à l'aide d'une Fiche Technique

Biobasierte Produkte - Anforderungen an die
Kommunikation von Eigenschaften bei
Firmenkundengeschäften unter Verwendung eines
Datenblattes

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 19 October 2016.

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European foreword

This document (EN 16848:2016) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 411 “Bio-based products”, the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2017, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2017.

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 has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Introduction

Bio-based products from forestry and agriculture have a long history of application, such as paper, board and various chemicals and materials. The last decades have seen the emergence of new bio-based products in the market. Some of the reasons for the increased interest lie in the bio-based products' benefits in relation to the depletion of fossil resources and climate change. Bio-based products may also provide additional product functionalities. This has triggered a wave of innovation with the development of knowledge and technologies allowing new transformation processes and product development.

Acknowledging the need for common standards for bio-based products, the European Commission issued mandate M/492¹, resulting in a series of standards developed by CEN/TC 411, with a focus on bio-based products other than food, feed and biomass for energy applications.

The standards of CEN/TC 411 "Bio-based products" provide a common basis on the following aspects:

- Common terminology
- Bio-based content determination
- Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)
- Sustainability aspects
- Declaration tools

It is important to understand what the term bio-based product covers and how it is being used. The term 'bio-based' means 'derived from biomass'. Bio-based products (bottles, insulation materials, wood and wood products, paper, solvents, chemical intermediates, composite materials, et cetera) are products which are wholly or partly derived from biomass. It is essential to characterize the amount of biomass contained in the product by for instance its bio-based content or bio-based carbon content.

The bio-based content of a product does not provide information on its environmental impact or sustainability, which may be assessed through LCA and sustainability criteria. In addition, transparent and unambiguous communication within bio-based value chains is facilitated by a harmonized framework for certification and declaration.

The objective of this European Standard is to harmonize the use of claims which are relevant to describe characteristics of bio-based products for business to business communication. It is intended to give the structure for reporting and to improve transparency by specifying the criteria for the use of claims about different aspects of bio-based products. This standard was prepared based on the general principles outlined in ISO 14020.

¹ A Mandate is a standardization task embedded in European trade laws. M/492 Mandate is addressed to the European Standardization bodies, CEN, CENELEC and ETSI, for the development of horizontal European Standards for bio-based products.

1 Scope

This European Standard specifies requirements for transparent and non-misleading business to business communication of characteristics of bio-based products by means of a specific Data Sheet. It does not specify requirements for bio-based products.

This European Standard is intended to be used as a tool to generate and transfer information in the value chain and/or as an input for product-specific standards and certification schemes.

Business to consumer communication is covered by prEN 16935.[1]

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 16575, *Bio-based products - Vocabulary*

EN ISO 14020, *Environmental labels and declarations - General principles (ISO 14020)*

CEN/TS 16640, *Bio-based products - Determination of the bio based carbon content of products using the radiocarbon method*

EN 16785-1, *Bio-based products - Bio-based content - Part 1: Determination of the bio-based content using the radiocarbon analysis and elemental analysis*

prEN 16785-2:2015, *Bio-based products - Bio-based content - Part 2: Determination of the bio-based content using the material balance method*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN 16575 and the following apply.

3.1

biomass origin

geographic origin(s) of the biomass used for the production of a bio-based product

EXAMPLE country, territory, water body.

3.2

claim

label

declaration

statement, symbol or graphic that indicates an aspect of a bio-based product

Note 1 to entry: It may take the form of a statement, symbol or graphic on a product or package label, in product literature, in technical bulletins, in advertising or in publicity, amongst other things.

[SOURCE: EN ISO 14021:2016, 3.1.4, modified: 'environmental' removed from term. 'product, a component or packaging' replaced by 'bio-based product', original note removed][2]