
**Prosthetics — Structural testing
of lower-limb prostheses —
Requirements and test methods**

Prothèses — Essais portant sur la structure des prothèses de membres inférieurs — Exigences et méthodes d'essai



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: Foreword - Supplementary information

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 168, *Prosthetics and orthotics*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition ISO 10328:2006 which has been technically revised with the following changes:

- a) Test loading levels P7 and P8 have been introduced in [Table B.1](#), [Table B.2](#), [Table B.3](#), Table 4.1, [Table D.1](#), [Table D.2](#), [Table D.3](#) and the clauses pointing at these tables have been updated. Additional information on P7 and P8 is given in Annex B.1;
- b) [Table 9](#) has been revised;
- c) [Annex D](#) has changed from informative to normative.

Introduction

Throughout this International Standard, the term prosthesis means an externally applied device used to replace wholly, or in part, an absent or deficient limb segment.

As a result of concern in the international community about the need to provide prostheses that are safe in use, and also because of an awareness that test standards would assist the development of better prostheses, a series of meetings was held under the aegis of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO). The final one was held in Philadelphia, PA, USA in 1977 at which a preliminary consensus was reached on methods of testing and the required load values. From 1979 onwards this work was continued by ISO Technical Committee 168 leading to the development of ISO 10328:1996. The test procedures may not be applicable to prostheses of mechanical characteristics different from those used in the consensus.

During use, a prosthesis is subjected to a series of load actions, each varying individually with time. The test methods specified in this International Standard use static and cyclic strength tests which typically produce compound loadings by the application of a single test force.

The static tests relate to the worst loads generated in any activity. The cyclic tests relate to normal walking activities where loads occur regularly with each step. This International Standard specifies fatigue testing of structural components. The tests specified do not provide sufficient data to predict actual service life.

The evaluation of lower-limb prostheses and their components requires controlled field trials in addition to the laboratory tests specified in this International Standard.

The laboratory tests and field trials should be repeated when significant design changes are made to a load-bearing part of a prosthesis.

Ideally, additional laboratory tests should be carried out to deal with function, wear and tear, new material developments, environmental influences and user activities as part of the evaluation procedure. There are no standards for such tests, so appropriate procedures will need to be determined.

Prosthetics — Structural testing of lower-limb prostheses — Requirements and test methods

1 Scope

IMPORTANT — This International Standard is *suitable* for the assessment of the conformity of lower limb prosthetic devices/structures with the strength requirements specified in 4.4 of ISO 22523:2006 (see NOTE 1). Prosthetic ankle-foot devices and foot units on the market, which have demonstrated their compliance with the strength requirements specified in 4.4 of ISO 22523:2006 through submission to the relevant tests of ISO 10328:2006, need not be retested to ISO 22675:2016.

WARNING — This International Standard is *not suitable* to serve as a guide for the selection of a specific lower limb prosthetic device/structure in the prescription of an individual lower limb prosthesis! Any disregard of this warning can result in a safety risk for amputees.

This International Standard specifies procedures for static and cyclic strength tests on lower-limb prostheses (see NOTE 2) which typically produce compound loadings by the application of a single test force. The compound loads in the test sample relate to the peak values of the components of loading which normally occur at different instants during the stance phase of walking.

The tests described in this International Standard comprise

- principal static and cyclic tests for all components;
- a separate static test in torsion for all components;
- separate static and cyclic tests on ankle-foot devices and foot units for all ankle-foot devices as single components including ankle units or ankle attachments and all foot units as single components;
- a separate static ultimate strength test in maximum knee flexion on knee joints and associated parts for all knee units or knee-shin-assemblies and adjacent components that normally provide the flexion stop on a complete prosthesis;
- separate static and cyclic tests on knee locks for all mechanisms which lock the knee joint in the extended position of the knee unit or knee-shin-assembly.

The tests described in this International Standard apply to specific types of ankle-disarticulation prostheses (see NOTE 2), to transtibial (below-knee), knee-disarticulation and transfemoral (above-knee) prostheses and to the distal (lower) part of hip-disarticulation and hemi-pelvectomy prostheses (see NOTE 3).

NOTE 1 The tests can be performed on complete structures, on part structures or on individual components.

NOTE 2 The tests only apply to ankle-disarticulation prostheses which include (foot) components of prosthetic ankle-foot devices taken from the normal production line.

NOTE 3 The distal part comprises the knee unit, the ankle-foot device and all parts between. Tests on hip units are described in ISO 15032.

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.