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Guidelines for selection, use, care and maintenance of protective clothing against foul weather, wind and cold

Guide pour la sélection, l'utilisation, l'entretien et la maintenance des vêtements de protection contre les intempéries, le vent et le froid

Anleitungen für die Auswahl, Anwendung, Pflege und Erhaltung von Schutzkleidung gegen schlechtes Wetter, Wind und Kälte

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European foreword

This document (CEN/TR 17330:2019) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 162 “Protective clothing including hand and arm protection and lifejackets”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

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.

Regulation (EU) 2016/425 indicates that PPE placed on the market complies with the essential health and safety requirements, and not necessarily with the various relevant EN or EN ISO standards. Nevertheless nearly all PPE meet the essential requirements of the standards, as harmonized standards give presumption of conformity with the requirements of the Directive.

The reader should be aware that if PPE is intended for use at a workplace, national and European legislation intended to ensure the safety of employees usually applies. When one mentions PPE, it must meet the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2016/425.

All annexes are informative.

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Introduction

This document has the aim to serve as guideline and checklist for companies preparing their own protective clothing program based on risk analysis.

The information in this document has been produced to assist users, employers and purchasers (or the person who advises the employer) in making the necessary decisions regarding the selection, use, care and maintenance of protective clothing, for employees exposed to risks related to foul weather, wind and cold.

The purpose of this technical report is to establish a guideline for protective clothing against foul weather, wind and cold with the goal to evaluate and reduce the safety risks and potential health risks associated with poorly maintained, contaminated, or damaged protective clothing. This Selection, Use, Care and Maintenance guideline (SUCAM) provides best practice, answers, criteria, and options related to foul weather, wind and cold to the persons that are selecting or using protective clothing through its life cycle with respect to protection." The main topics that an employer needs to consider are highlighted in this document. Many paragraphs of the document contain bullet-lists as examples and options that may need to be considered.

The annexes give additional details that are necessary to describe hazards and risks, the value of the test methods for the end user, etc.

Annex A gives details of the current EN or EN ISO Standards relating to clothing designed to provide protection from foul weather, wind and cold.

Please be aware of and consider compatibility with other items of PPE that both protect against foul weather, wind and cold, but consider other risks as well.

For European legislation on PPE see Regulation (EU) 2016/425 of the European Parliament and of Council of 9 March 2016 on personal protective equipment.

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1 Scope

This document provides guidance to the employers or persons advising them such as suppliers of PPE or services, inspection, insurance companies etc.) in taking the necessary decisions regarding the selection, use, care and maintenance of protective clothing against foul weather, wind and cold, and is compliant with the applicable European legislation.

This document is not exhaustive in addressing all the safety concerns associated with the use of compliant protective equipment for protection against foul weather, wind and cold and other related risks.

This document does not address all the safety concerns, if any, associated with the use of this document by testing or repair facilities. It is the responsibility of the persons and organizations using this document and any other documents related to PPE:

— to conduct a risk assessment,

— to select the protective clothing and other PPE,

— to ensure that these provide a holistic protection; this can be achieved by not only assessing the risks, but also the work place and the work environment, and to determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to using this document for any designing, manufacturing, and testing.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN ISO 13688:2013, *Protective clothing — General requirements (ISO 13688:2013)*

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:

— IEC Electropedia: available at http://www.electropedia.org/

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at http://www.iso.org/obp

3.1
ageing
change of one or more initial properties of protective materials during the passage of time

[SOURCE: EN ISO 13688:2013, 3.1]

3.2
air permeability
AP
velocity of an air flow passing perpendicularly through a test specimen under specified conditions of test area, pressure drop and time

Note 1 to entry: AP is expressed in millimetres per second.

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