



Institut luxembourgeois de la normalisation
de l'accréditation, de la sécurité et qualité
des produits et services

ILNAS-EN 343:2003

**Protective clothing - Protection
against rain**

Schutzbekleidung - Schutz gegen Regen

Vêtements de protection - Protection
contre la pluie

08/2003



National Foreword

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EUROPEAN STANDARD ILNAS-EN 343:2003 **EN 343**
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English version

Protective clothing - Protection against rain

Vêtements de protection - Protection contre la pluie

Schutzkleidung - Schutz gegen Regen

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 2 July 2003.

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Foreword

This document (EN 343:2003) 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.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by February 2004, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by February 2004.

This document supersedes ENV 343:1998.

This European Standard has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association, and supports essential requirements of EU Directive(s).

For relationship with EU Directive(s), see informative annex ZA, which is an integral part of this standard.

The annexes A, B and C are informative.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Introduction

In this European Standard the measured properties of materials and seams of protective clothing and their subsequent classification are intended to ensure an adequate protection level. Water proofness and water vapour resistance are the essential properties to be tested and marked on the label.

Water proofness is the most important property and it is measured on material of the outer garment layer. Tests are made on new and pretreated fabric samples and on parts with seams.

Some waterproof materials are impermeable to water vapour transmission. However other materials on the market combine water proofness with water vapour permeability. This property expressed by low water vapour resistance enhances sweat evaporation and significantly contribute to body cooling. This is valuable, because it contributes to better comfort and less physiological strain and prolongs the wearing time in certain climatic conditions (see annex A).