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SIST EN 423:2002

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English version

Resilient floor coverings - Determination of resistance to staining

Revêtements de sol résilients - Détermination de résistance
aux tachesElastische Bodenbeläge - Bestimmung der
Fleckenempfindlichkeit

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 18 November 2001.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

Management Centre: rue de Stassart, 36 B-1050 Brussels

Foreword

This European Standard has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 134 "Resilient and textile floor coverings", the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2002, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2002.

This European Standard supersedes EN 423:1993.

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, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

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1 Scope

This European Standard specifies a method for determining the resistance of a resilient floor covering to those chemical substances it is likely to experience in service.

2 Principle

Various chemical substances in liquid or paste form are placed on a test piece for defined periods and removed. After cleaning has been carried out the resulting change of appearance is assessed under specified lighting conditions.

3 Apparatus and materials

3.1 Standard laboratory equipment

- a) pipettes;
- b) spatulas.

3.2 Untreated glass fibre fabric, of mass per unit area (300 to 400) g/m² and diameter approximately 40 mm.

3.3 Chemical substances in liquid or paste form, to be agreed between the interested parties.

3.4 Standard cleaning and stain removal products.

3.4.1 White cotton, in pad or cloth form.

3.4.2 Brushes, hard, unlikely to score the surface.

3.4.3 Warm water, used alone or with the following:

- a) synthetic detergent, e.g. sodium alkylsulfate;
- b) soap;
- c) alkaline products, e.g. washing soda or ammonia solution;
- d) hydrogen peroxide;
- e) sodium hypochlorite;
- f) sodium thiosulfate, 1 % solution;
- g) oxalic acid.

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EN 423:2001 (E)**3.4.4 Denatured ethanol****3.4.5 White spirit****3.4.6 Turpentine****3.5 Abrasives**

Abrasive scouring pads, steel wool No. 00 or scouring powder, or abrasive papers, grain size P 240 or finer, used with water.

3.6 Special cleaning products, special products, recommended by the floor covering manufacturer.

3.7 Illumination device, comprising a lamp of correlated colour temperature 5 500 K to 6 500 K, mounted to give an intensity of light at the viewing platform of (1500 ± 100) lx and in such a way as to illuminate the test piece vertically from above. The surroundings shall be neutral and darkened.

The intensity of the light shall be checked frequently by the use of a luxometer. The lifetime of the lamp, as given by the manufacturer, shall not be exceeded.

3.8 Rotary viewing table, enabling the test piece to be rotated so that it may be viewed from all directions under the standard illumination.

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4 Sampling and preparation of test pieces

Take a representative sample from the available material.

Take one test piece in the colour(s) to be used with a surface area of at least 3 000 mm² for each stain to be tested. If the test uses a substance likely to cause swelling or deformation of the test piece, e.g. prolonged contact with a solvent, bond the test piece to a fibre-cement sheet at least five days before testing.

Subject the test piece to any treatment required, e.g. light abrasion to remove surface polish or application of a non-specified maintenance product.

Identify the positions corresponding to each of the substances used, either by marking numbers on the test piece (using a marking which is not affected by the material used in the test), or by a sketch, diagram or photograph.

5 Procedure**5.1 Application of liquid substances**

Place the fabric (3.2) on the surface of the test specimen and saturate it with 1 ml to 2 ml of the test liquid. Leave the fabric in place for the duration of the test.

5.2 Application of paste substances

With a spatula, spread about 1 000 mm³ over an area of 300 mm² to 400 mm², (i.e. thickness 2,5 mm to 3 mm).

5.3 Duration of contact

The main duration of contact shall be 2 h. If a stain appears on the test piece after 2 h, a new test shall be conducted for a period of 30 min.

5.4 Types of cleaning and observation

5.4.1 Before cleaning, remove stains that are still liquid with cotton, working from the edge towards the centre of the stain. Scrape off the remains of paste with a spatula and wipe with cotton as above.

After cleaning has been carried out, examine the residual staining from a distance of approximately 800 mm at an approximate angle of 45° and from all directions by slowly rotating the viewing table.

5.4.2 If a stain is visible, rub it down with a mild abrasive material or a cleaning product recommended by the manufacturer, and examine as described in 5.4.1.

NOTE If white spirit or turpentine are used, these should be rinsed off with denatured ethanol.

6 Expression of results

Express the results in accordance with Table 1.

Table 1 — Interpretation and presentation of results

Index	Effect of the test after cleaning/abrasion
0	Not affected
1	Very slightly affected
2	Slightly affected
3	Affected
4	Severely affected

7 Test report

The test report shall contain the following information:

- a reference to this standard, i.e. EN 423;
- a complete identification of the product tested, including type, source, colour and manufacturer's reference numbers;
- previous history of the sample;
- the staining materials, type of cleaning and contact periods used;
- the test results in accordance with Table 1;
- any deviation from this standard which may have affected the results.