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**Ohranjanje kulturne dediščine - Splošni izrazi za opisovanje sprememb predmetov**

Conservation of cultural heritage - Generale terms for describing the alterations of objects

Erhaltung des kulturellen Erbes - Allgemeine Begriffe zur Beschreibung von Veränderungen an Objekten

Conservation du patrimoine culturel - Termes généraux pour décrire l'altération des objets

**Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: prEN 17135**

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**ICS:**

|        |                                                                           |                                                                 |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 97.195 | Umetniški in obrtniški izdelki.<br>Kulturne dobrine in kulturna dediščina | Items of art and handicrafts.<br>Cultural property and heritage |
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**oSIST prEN 17135:2017**

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English Version

## Conservation of cultural heritage - Generale terms for describing the alterations of objects

Conservation du patrimoine culturel - Termes  
généraux pour décrire l'altération des objets

Erhaltung des kulturellen Erbes - Allgemeine Begriffe  
zur Beschreibung von Veränderungen an Objekten

This draft European Standard is submitted to CEN members for enquiry. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 346.

If this draft becomes a European Standard, 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.

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Recipients of this draft are invited to submit, with their comments, notification of any relevant patent rights of which they are aware and to provide supporting documentation.

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

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| <b>Contents</b>                                                  | <b>Page</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| European foreword.....                                           | 3           |
| Introduction .....                                               | 4           |
| 1 Scope.....                                                     | 6           |
| 2 Normative references.....                                      | 6           |
| 3 General terms.....                                             | 6           |
| 4 Optical alteration .....                                       | 7           |
| 5 Deformation .....                                              | 17          |
| 6 Addition of a substance.....                                   | 22          |
| 7 Loss of material.....                                          | 35          |
| 8 Loss of cohesion .....                                         | 48          |
| 9 Biological alteration.....                                     | 62          |
| 10 Chemical alteration .....                                     | 66          |
| Annex A (informative) Diagrammatic record and visual codes ..... | 73          |
| Bibliography.....                                                | 74          |

## European foreword

This document (prEN 17135:2017) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 346 “Conservation of cultural heritage”, the secretariat of which is held by UNI.

This document is currently submitted to the CEN Enquiry.

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## Introduction

The aim of conservation is to manage alteration in cultural heritage objects in order to optimize the preservation of their significance. The aim of this document is to provide terminological tools for the description of such alteration. This document is part of a developing suite of tools that both clarify the concepts used and improve communication between those dealing with the objects. It draws upon “EN 15898:2011 Conservation of cultural property - Main general terms and definitions”. Especially when preparing condition reports according to the “EN 16095:2012 conservation of cultural property – Condition report of movable heritage” and “EN 16096:2012 conservation of cultural property – Condition survey of immovable heritage”, the terminology drawn up in this standard should be used.

Objects that are deemed worth of preservation require conservation, if necessary, with respect to the materials including their structure and their significance. Although changes in either aspect are significant, this document does not take into account the immaterial aspects of alterations. It covers only the material aspects of alterations.

A change is assessed as the difference between a previous state and the current state.

The material state of an object can be assessed by many methods, including instrumentally intensive operations. This document concentrates on those methods that can be readily appreciated by a person's senses with limited additional instrumental assistance. Visual inspection is only the first stage of the conservation process. Although visual observation is the commonly recorded assessment, people routinely perceive properties by touch, smell, hearing and even sometimes taste. The validity of the assessment relies upon the accuracy, skills, knowledge and experience of the individual carrying it out.

It is sometimes possible to build upon documentation, previous records of inspections, condition reports, condition surveys, photographs etc. However in the majority of cases, one should postulate and establish a supposed previous state, extrapolated from the observation of the present state. This extrapolation requires considerable knowledge and experience of the materials, the object types, their production, ageing and damaging processes.

The terms selected in this standard describe the result of alteration, not the cause/causes or defects, except when the causes can be identified unambiguously (chemical alteration, biological alteration). Be aware that there can be more than one cause to an observed change. The photos supplied with the definitions in this standard are meant as examples only. They are not intended to determine alterations in actual examination cases. Be aware that some alterations cannot be recognized only by visual observation.

The terms for alteration have been chosen in order to describe the current state of the object, not the process that produced the alteration. For instance, since “corrosion” describes a process it is not included in this document. Consequently, “corroded” is the term to be used to describe observed objects.

The terms are chosen to understand and describe changes which have occurred after the initial making of the materials. Therefore terms describing defects in the manufacture of the object are not included.

The standard was developed upon collected contributions from professionals working in the field of moveable and immoveable heritage objects. From this long initial list, those alteration terms common across many materials or object types (at least 3) were chosen for inclusion. Common terms mentioned in general language dictionaries are not included in this document.

The conventions used are those recommended in the documents CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations – Part 3, ISO 704 and ISO 10241:1992. Each definition aims to be succinct summary of the concept as used across the field of conservation. Where it is necessary, some notes and examples are added. As far as possible each definition should be able to replace its term when inserted into a relevant sentence.

There are many ways to organize the terms in a structure. This standard proposes a structure based on initial visual observation.

Inside each category terms are organized from general to more specific, except for biological and chemical alterations where an alphabetical order is used.

|    |                          |          |
|----|--------------------------|----------|
| 4  | Optical alteration:      | 7 terms  |
| 5  | Deformation:             | 10 terms |
| 6  | Addition of a substance: | 9 terms  |
| 7  | Loss of material:        | 12 terms |
| 8  | Loss of cohesion:        | 15 terms |
| 9  | Biological alteration:   | 2 terms  |
| 10 | Chemical alteration:     | 7 terms  |

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## 1 Scope

This European Standard defines terms used in the field of conservation of cultural heritage for the description of alteration of objects with particular attention to those terms which are applied to many types of objects.

This standard applies to all types of material changes that can be observed.

## 2 Normative references

Not applicable.

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

### 3.1

#### **alteration**

change in condition, beneficial or not, intentional or not

[SOURCE: EN 15898:2011, 3.2.4]

### 3.2

#### **damage**

alteration that reduces significance or stability

Note 1 to entry: Stability can be physical, chemical, biological, etc.

Note 2 to entry: Although damage has negative connotations, it may sometimes be viewed as broadening significance.

[SOURCE: EN 15898:2011, 3.2.7]

### 3.3

#### **deterioration**

gradual change in condition that reduces significance or stability

Note 1 to entry: This term can also refer to the process itself.

Note 2 to entry: The term “decay” is sometimes used as a synonym.

Note 3 to entry: For movable heritage the French term “détérioration” is also used to describe a complete and sudden worsening of condition.

[SOURCE: EN 15898:2011, 3.2.8]

**3.4****object**

single manifestation of tangible cultural heritage

Note 1 to entry: The term “object” is used in this standard for cultural heritage, both immovable and movable. In specific professional contexts, other terms are used: e.g. “artefact”, “cultural property”, “item”, “ensemble”, “site”, “building”, “fabric”.

[SOURCE: EN 15898:2011, 3.1.3]

**4 Optical alteration****4.1**

|                                                                                                                                                        |                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>chromatic alteration (en)</b><br><b>modification chromatique (fr)</b><br><b>Farbveränderung, Farbverschiebung (de)</b><br>DEPRECATED: discoloration | change of colour |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|

|                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mural painting                                                                      |
|  |
| <b>Figure 1</b>                                                                     |

## prEN 17135:2017 (E)

## 4.2

|                                                                          |                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>darkened, adj (en)</b><br><b>foncé (fr)</b><br><b>verdunkelt (de)</b> | having had reduction of light reflection |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|

|          |
|----------|
| Material |
|          |

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## 4.3

|                                                                     |                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>faded, adj (en)</b><br><b>pâli (fr)</b><br><b>verblasst (de)</b> | having had reduction of colour intensity |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|

## Textile



Figure 2

## prEN 17135:2017 (E)

## 4.4

|                                                                        |                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>yellowed, adj (en)</b><br><b>jauni (fr)</b><br><b>vergilbt (de)</b> | having had a change of colour to yellow or yellow-brown |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|

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Textile



Figure 3