



# SLOVENSKI STANDARD SIST EN 15610:2019

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Nadomešča:  
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## Železniške naprave - Akustika - Merjenje valovitosti vozne površine tirnice in kolesa, ki povzroča hrup med vožnjo

Railway applications - Acoustics - Rail and wheel roughness measurement related to rolling noise generation

Bahnanwendungen - Akustik - Messung der Schienen- und Radrauheit im Hinblick auf die Entstehung von Rollgeräuschen

Applications ferroviaires - Acoustique - Mesurage de la rugosité des rails et des roues relative à la génération du bruit de roulement

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93.100	Gradnja železnic	Construction of railways

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## Railway applications - Acoustics - Rail and wheel roughness measurement related to noise generation

Applications ferroviaires - Acoustique - Mesurage de la rugosité des rails et des roues relative à la génération du bruit de roulement

Bahnanwendungen - Akustik - Messung der Schienen- und Radrauheit im Hinblick auf die Entstehung von Rollgeräuschen

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**EN 15610:2019 (E)****European foreword**

This document (EN 15610:2019) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 256 “Railway applications”, 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by November 2019, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by November 2019.

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.

This document supersedes EN 15610:2009.

This document 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 2008/57/EC.

For relationship with EU Directive 2008/57/EC, see informative Annex ZA, which is an integral part of this document.

The main changes with respect to the previous edition are listed below:

- The most significant technical change is the introduction of a measurement procedure for the characterization of the wheel acoustic roughness.
- Slight improvements of the section related to the characterization of the acoustic rail roughness have also been implemented.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

## 1 Scope

**1.1** This document specifies a direct measurement method for characterizing the surface roughness of the rail and wheel associated with rolling noise (“acoustic roughness”), in the form of a one-third octave band spectrum.

This document describes a method for:

- a) selecting measuring positions along a track or selecting wheels of a vehicle;
- b) selecting lateral positions for measurements;
- c) the data acquisition procedure;
- d) measurement data processing in order to estimate a set of one-third octave band roughness spectra;
- e) presentation of this estimate for comparison with limits of acoustic roughness;
- f) comparison with a given upper limit in terms of a one-third octave band wavelength spectrum;
- g) the measuring system requirements.

**1.2** It is applicable to the:

- a) compliance testing of reference track sections in relation to the acceptance test for noise emitted by railway vehicles;
- b) performance testing of track sections in relation to noise emitted by railway vehicles;
- c) acceptance of the running surface condition only in the case where the acoustic roughness is the acceptance criterion;
- d) assessment of the wheel surface condition as an input for the acoustic acceptance of brake blocks;
- e) assessment of the wheel and rail roughness as input to the calculation of combined wheel rail roughness;
- f) diagnosis of wheel-rail noise issues for specific tracks or wheels;
- g) assessment of the wheel and rail roughness as input to rolling noise modelling;
- h) assessment of the wheel and rail roughness as input to noise source separation methods.

**1.3** It is not applicable to the:

- a) measurement of roughness (rail roughness, wheel roughness or combined roughness) using an indirect method;
- b) analysis of the effect of wheel-rail interaction, such as a “contact filter”;
- c) approval of rail and wheel reprofiling, including rail grinding operations, except for those where the acoustic roughness is specifically the approval criterion (and not the grinding quality criteria as provided in e.g. EN 13231-3);

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d) characterization of track and wheel geometry except where associated with noise generation.

**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 61260-1:2014, *Electroacoustics – Octave-band and fractional-octave-band filters – Part 1: Specifications (IEC 61260-1:2014)*

EN ISO 266:1997, *Acoustics – Preferred frequencies (ISO 266:1997)*

**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**  
**acoustic roughness**  
 $r(x)$   
variation in the height of the running surface associated with rolling noise excitation expressed as a function of distance  $x$  along the running surface

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**3.2**  
**acoustic roughness spectrum**  
 $\tilde{r}(\lambda)$   
amplitude of the acoustic roughness expressed as a function of the wavelength  $\lambda$

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**3.3**  
**acoustic roughness level**

$L_r$   
level expressed in decibels, given by the following formula:

$$L_r = 10 \cdot \log_{10} \left( \frac{r_{RMS}^2}{r_0^2} \right) \quad (1)$$

where

- $L_r$  is the acoustic roughness level in dB;
- $r_{RMS}$  is the root mean square roughness in  $\mu\text{m}$ ;
- $r_0$  is the reference roughness;  $r_0 = 1 \mu\text{m}$ .

Note 1 to entry This definition applies to values measured either in the form of a one-third octave band wavelength spectrum, or for a specific wavelength band.



**3.4****combined effective roughness**

roughness function that excites rolling noise

Note 1 to entry: The combined effective roughness is the RMS of the rail and wheel roughness spectra. It becomes the combined effective roughness when the effect of the contact patch filter is included.

**3.5****direct roughness measurement method**

acoustic roughness measurement method for which the sensor measures the running surface roughness so that either the rail or the wheel roughness is measured independently of any effect of wheel-rail interaction

**3.6****indirect roughness measurement method**

acoustic roughness measurement method that measures a quantity that is the result of wheel-rail interaction, such as noise, rail or axle box vibration, whereby the original excitation by the combined effective wheel and rail roughness is inferred

**3.7****test section**

specific section of track associated with a particular set of measurements

**3.8****RMS**

root mean square average which is required in the standard where averaging of spectra is required

Note 1 to entry: This is defined for each spectral band as:

$$RMS = \sqrt{\frac{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + \dots + a_N^2}{N}} \quad (2)$$

where:

$a$  is a spectral amplitude; and

$N$  is the number of spectral band value from which the average is being calculated.

Note 2 to entry: In terms of levels, this is equivalent to:

$$L_{average} = 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{10^{L_1/10} + 10^{L_2/10} + \dots + 10^{L_N/10}}{N} \right) \quad (3)$$

**3.9****running surface**

part of the wheel tread or of the rail head, along which the wheel-rail contact passes during rolling

Note 1 to entry: In the case of the rail this is the bright band of the surface of the rail head that contains all the running positions of the wheel-rail contact, associated with current traffic.

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## 3.10

**partially conditioned surface**

part of the rail head outside the rail running surface that nevertheless can appear to have been affected by the passage of vehicles

## 3.11

**reference surface**

surface of the rail head, within the running surface, that is chosen for the acoustic roughness assessment

## 3.12

**reference length**

dimension of the reference surface in the longitudinal rail direction

## 3.13

**reference width** **$w_{\text{ref}}$** 

dimension of the reference surface across the rail

Note 1 to entry: Figure 1 shows an example of some of the defined terms

**Key**

- 1 running surface
- 2 reference surface
- 3 partially conditioned surface

**Figure 1 — Example showing defined parameters**

## 3.14

**field face**

outer face of the railhead, offering a reference position constant during the rail wear process

## 4 Symbols

Symbol	Meaning
$C(x)$	circular curve used for the acoustic roughness processing
$d_{\text{ref}}$	position, relative to the outer surface of the rail head, of the longitudinal axis of symmetry of the reference surface
$h$	height of a spike
$L_{\text{r}}$	acoustic roughness level
$r(x)$	acoustic roughness
$r'(x)$	acoustic roughness processed with the spike removal and curvature algorithm
$w$	width of a spike
$w_{\text{ref}}$	width of the reference surface
$x$	variable of the distance along the rail
$x_i$	particular position along the rail
$z$	mean value of height over a given interval
$\tilde{r}(\lambda)$	discrete Fourier Transform of $r(x)$
$\lambda$	wavelength

## 5 Rail roughness

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### 5.1 Measuring system requirements

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#### 5.1.1 General

This subclause summarizes the requirements of the measuring system and its calibration. The measuring devices shall be checked and calibrated regularly.

#### 5.1.2 Accuracy of the output signal

The measuring system shall be capable of making valid measurements in the wavelength range and at the acoustic roughness levels for the test site being characterized.

NOTE Typical rail roughness spectra can be found in [11], [18], [22], [23] and [25].

However, where it is required simply to show that the estimated acoustic roughness does not exceed a given upper limit, the measuring system shall effect valid measurements for one-third octave band acoustic roughness levels equal to or greater than this limit. This case applies particularly for test section approval.

A measurement device shall be considered making valid measurements if the uncertainty resulting from the measuring device, expressed in terms of its standard uncertainty, does not exceed 3 dB.

#### 5.1.3 Dimensions of the sensor

If a contact sensor is used, the sensor tip shall be spherical and its radius shall not exceed 7 mm.

In the case of a non-contacting sensor, its effective width shall be less than the sampling interval.

**EN 15610:2019 (E)****5.1.4 Tracking of the sensor**

The measuring system sensor shall follow a line on the rail head parallel to the field (outer) face of the rail head, with a tolerance of  $\pm 1$  mm.

**5.1.5 Sampling interval**

The measuring system shall measure data with a sampling interval less than or equal to 1 mm to an accuracy of no worse than 3 %.

**5.1.6 Record length**

The system shall provide records of length  $\geq 1$  m.

**5.1.7 Calibration and traceability to a national measurement standard**

The calibration shall verify the accuracy and the compliance of the measuring device

The calibration shall include the traceability to a national measurement standard or a primary standard. This shall be done in terms of a reference roughness standard (e.g. a section of a reference rail or beam). The surface geometry of the reference roughness standard shall be measured by a national or primary standards laboratory. For comparing the measurement values to a limit curve, the roughness of this reference roughness standard shall be of a measurable value and shall be no greater than 10 dB above the respective limit curve over the whole wavelength range of the limit curve.

The calibration procedure shall be documented. The documentation shall justify the calibration and the checking of all aspects of the instrument including the electronics and processing.

An instrument shall always be recalibrated if it has been repaired or is suspected of fault or damage or wear. The maximum time from the last calibration of the instrument shall be 24 months.

**5.2 Data acquisition**

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**5.2.1 General**

The aim of the data acquisition procedure is to obtain digitized records of the acoustic roughness of the two rails in the test section measured at a sufficiently high sampling rate (samples per unit length) and with a record length sufficient to derive from it the acoustic roughness spectrum. Record lengths of at least 1 m are required to estimate the acoustic roughness spectrum covering the wavelength range up to the 0,25 m one-third octave band.

To attain wavelengths greater than 0,25 m, records longer than those specified in this sub clause shall be obtained. The record length shall be at least 4 times of mid wavelength the one-third octave band wavelength.

**5.2.2 Test section requirements****5.2.2.1 Track structure**

The track structure design shall be constant along the test section, at least in terms of the following parameters: rail cross-section, rail inclination and rail supporting structure. In the case of a ballasted track, the rail supporting structure parameters are: the rail pad type, the rail fasteners, the sleeper type, the sleeper spacing and the ballast.

If the track structure changes, separate test sections shall be defined and the acoustic roughness of each shall be assessed and presented.