

SLOVENSKI STANDARD

SIST EN 868-5:2019

01-marec-2019

Nadomešča:
SIST EN 868-5:2009

Embalaža za končno sterilizirane medicinske pripomočke - 5. del: Vrečke in zvitki papirja z možnostjo tesnjenja (samolepilni) iz poroznega materiala in s plastičnimi folijami - Zahteve in preskusne metode

Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices - Part 5: Sealable pouches and reels of porous materials and plastic film construction - Requirements and test methods

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Verpackungen für in der Endverpackung zu sterilisierende Medizinprodukte - Teil 5: Siegelfähige Klarsichtbeutel und -schläuche aus porösen Materialien und Kunststoff-Verbundfolie - Anforderungen und Prüfverfahren

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Emballages des dispositifs médicaux stérilisés au stade terminal - Partie 5: Sachets et gaines scellables constitués d'une face matière poreuse et d'une face film plastique - Exigences et méthodes d'essai

Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: EN 868-5:2018

ICS:

11.080.30 Sterilizirana embalaža Sterilized packaging

SIST EN 868-5:2019 en,fr,de

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN 868-5

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

December 2018

ICS 11.080.30

Supersedes EN 868-5:2009

English Version

Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices - Part 5: Sealable pouches and reels of porous materials and plastic film construction - Requirements and test methods

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This European Standard was approved by CEN on 20 August 2018.

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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 CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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

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European foreword

This document (EN 868-5:2018) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 102 “Sterilizers and associated equipment for processing of medical devices”, 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 June 2019, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 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 868-5:2009.

Annex A provides details of significant technical changes between this European Standard and the previous edition.

EN 868 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices*:

- *Part 2: Sterilization wrap — Requirements and test methods;*
- *Part 3: Paper for use in the manufacture of paper bags (specified in EN 868-4) and in the manufacture of pouches and reels (specified in EN 868-5) — Requirements and test methods;*
- *Part 4: Paper bags — Requirements and test methods;*
- *Part 5: Sealable pouches and reels of porous materials and plastic film construction — Requirements and test methods;*
- *Part 6: Paper for low temperature sterilization processes — Requirements and test methods;*
- *Part 7: Adhesive coated paper for low temperature sterilization processes — Requirements and test methods;*
- *Part 8: Re-usable sterilization containers for steam sterilizers conforming to EN 285 — Requirements and test methods;*
- *Part 9: Uncoated nonwoven materials of polyolefines — Requirements and test methods;*
- *Part 10: Adhesive coated nonwoven materials of polyolefines — Requirements and test methods.*

In addition, ISO/TC 198 “Sterilization of health care products” in collaboration with CEN/TC 102 “Sterilizers and associated equipment for processing of medical devices” has prepared the EN ISO 11607 series “Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices”. The EN ISO 11607 series specifies general requirements for materials, sterile barrier systems and packaging systems (Part 1) and validation requirements for forming, sealing and assembly processes (Part 2).

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations 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,

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Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

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Introduction

The EN ISO 11607 series consists of two parts under the general title “Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices”. Part 1 of this series specifies general requirements and test methods for materials, preformed sterile barrier systems, sterile barrier systems and packaging systems that are intended to maintain sterility of terminally sterilized medical devices to the point of use. Part 2 of this series specifies validation requirements for forming, sealing and assembly processes.

General requirements for all types of sterile barrier systems are provided by EN ISO 11607-1.

The EN 868 series can be used to demonstrate compliance with one or more of the requirements specified in EN ISO 11607-1.

CEN/TC 102/WG 4 also appreciates the initiatives of CEN with regard to the minimization of adverse environmental impacts by standards. It was agreed that this subject should be given priority during the next edition of the EN ISO 11607 series that is the basic reference for all parts of the EN 868 series.

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EN 868-5:2018 (E)**1 Scope**

This document specifies test methods and values for sealable pouches and reels manufactured from porous materials complying with either EN 868 part 2, 3, 6, 7, 9 or 10 and plastic film complying with Clause 4. These sealable pouches and reels are used as sterile barrier systems and/or packaging systems that are intended to maintain sterility of terminally sterilized medical devices to the point of use.

Other than the general requirements as specified in EN ISO 11607-1 and EN ISO 11607-2 this part of EN 868 specifies materials, test methods and values that are specific to the products covered by this document.

The materials specified in this part of EN 868 are intended for single use only.

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 868-2:2017, *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 2: Sterilization wrap — Requirements and test methods*

EN 868-3:2017, *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 3: Paper for use in the manufacture of paper bags (specified in EN 868-4) and in the manufacture of pouches and reels (specified in EN 868-5) — Requirements and test methods*

EN 868-6:2017, *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 6: Paper for low temperature sterilization processes — Requirements and test methods*

EN 868-7:2017, *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 7: Adhesive coated paper for low temperature sterilization processes — Requirements and test methods*

EN 868-9:2018, *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 9: Uncoated nonwoven materials of polyolefines — Requirements and test methods*

EN 868-10:2018, *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 10: Adhesive coated nonwoven materials of polyolefines — Requirements and test methods*

EN ISO 11140-1, *Sterilization of health care products — Chemical indicators — Part 1: General requirements (ISO 11140-1)*

EN ISO 11607-1:2017, *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 1: Requirements for materials, sterile barrier systems and packaging systems (ISO 11607-1:2006, including Amd 1:2014)*

ISO 8601, *Data elements and interchange formats — Information interchange — Representation of dates and times*

ASTM D882:2012, *Test Methods for Tensile Properties of the Thin Plastic Sheeting*

ASTM F88/F88M:2015, *Standard Test Method for Seal Strength of Flexible Barrier Materials*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN ISO 11607-1:2017 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>

4 Requirements

4.1 General

For any material, preformed sterile barrier system or sterile barrier system, the requirements of EN ISO 11607-1 shall apply.

This part of EN 868 only introduces performance requirements and test methods that are specific to the products covered by this part of EN 868 but does not add or modify the general requirements specified in EN ISO 11607-1.

As such, the particular requirements in 4.5 can be used to demonstrate compliance with one or more but not all of the requirements of EN ISO 11607-1.

NOTE 1 Compliance to EN 868-5 does not automatically mean compliance to EN ISO 11607-1.

A confirmation of compliance to EN 868-5 shall contain a statement whether EN ISO 11607-1 is covered.

NOTE 2 When additional materials are used inside the sterile barrier system in order to ease the organization, drying or aseptic presentation (e.g. inner wrap, indicators, packing lists, mats, instrument organizer sets, tray liners or an additional envelope around the medical device) then other requirements, including the determination of the acceptability of these materials during validation activities, can apply.

4.2 Materials

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4.2.1 Porous material

The porous material shall comply with the requirements of Clause 4 of either EN 868-2:2017, EN 868-3:2017, EN 868-6:2017, EN 868-7:2017, EN 868-9:2018 or EN 868-10:2018.

If the intended method of sterilization is irradiation only, the requirements for wet strength properties and permeability to air for porous materials are not applicable.

4.2.2 Plastic film

4.2.2.1 The plastic film shall be a composite of two or more layers. When tested after the intended sterilization process in accordance with Annex B the plastics interply bond shall not separate nor become cloudy.

4.2.2.2 The plastic film shall be free from pinholes when tested in accordance with Annex C.

4.2.2.3 When examined by unaided normal or corrected vision in transmitted light (daylight or good artificial light) the plastic film shall be free from foreign matter and/or other imperfections that would adversely affect compliance with the requirements of 4.5.

NOTE Slight continuous surface irregularities arising from the extrusion of the plastic film is not regarded as a defect.

4.2.2.4 The plastic film shall be sealable to the porous material under the conditions specified.

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4.2.2.5 The breaking factor of the plastics film, machine direction and cross direction, shall be not less than 20 N per 15 mm width when tested in accordance with ASTM D882:2012 (Method A).

4.3 Construction and design

4.3.1 Reel material shall be constructed from one web of porous material and one web of plastic film, sealed together along parallel sides.

Pouches shall be constructed from one web of porous material and one web of plastic film by sealing three sides and may include an area to effect closure of the pouch.

4.3.2 The overall width of the seal(s) shall be not less than 6 mm. For ribbed seals, the sum of the widths of the ribs shall be not less than 6 mm.

4.3.3 The distance between the end of a pouch and the nearest edge of the width wise seal shall be sufficient to enable the two webs to be separated and peeled apart.

NOTE The side seals can extend beyond the width wise seal to the end of the pouch provided that this does not impair peelability.

4.3.4 One of the materials of a pouch shall be:

- a) provided with a thumb notch not more than 12 mm deep at either the top or bottom of the pouch or at both ends; the bottom of the notch shall be at least 1 mm from the seal; or
- b) lipped such that the length of one web is greater than the length of the other web by not less than 1,0 mm.

NOTE The requirements of 4.3.4 do not apply to a reel that is sealed at the third side.

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4.3.5 The pouch and/or reel shall be closed according to the manufacturer's instructions.

NOTE 1 For validation requirements for forming, sealing and assembly processes, see EN ISO 11607-2.

NOTE 2 The closure and or sealing system can give the possibility to indicate whether or not the seal has been opened.

4.4 Process indicator

If one or more Type I indicator(s) [process indicator(s)] are printed on the pouches and reels, the indicator's performance shall comply with the requirements of EN ISO 11140-1. Each individual indicator shall be not less than 100 mm² in area. Indicators shall not be affected by the sealing procedure.

4.5 Performance requirements and test methods

4.5.1 When tested in accordance with the method described in Annex D, the strength of the seal shall be not less than required for the intended purpose, both before and after being subjected to the sterilization process.

NOTE 1 The specification for seal strength before and after exposure to sterilization processes can differ.

For use for sterilization in healthcare facilities, the minimum value for seal strength shall be 1,5 N per 15 mm for steam sterilization and 1,2 N per 15 mm for other sterilization processes.

NOTE 2 Requirements for seal strength set forth in this Standard are valid for pouches and reels delivered as preformed sterile barrier systems to healthcare facilities and for healthcare facilities to create a sterile barrier

system. For applications in industry, different values can be established based on the specific applications and on the validation requirements of EN ISO 11607.

NOTE 3 Healthcare facilities are locations where patients are medically treated and/or medical devices are terminally sterilized (e.g. hospital, dentist office, practitioner).

4.5.2 The seal shall be continuous and cover the specified width. There shall be no disruption of the surface of the porous material adjacent to the seal area upon opening. Compliance shall be tested in accordance with Annex E.

4.5.3 If applicable, for porous materials, the direction of the peel marked on the product shall correspond to that direction which ensures least fibre disturbance. Compliance shall be tested in accordance with Annex F.

4.6 Marking

4.6.1 Pouches and reels

4.6.1.1 Pouches and reel material shall be clearly marked with information required by EN ISO 11607-1. Additionally, the following information shall be provided unless agreed otherwise between the supplier and the customer:

- a) the words “*Do not use if the sterile barrier system is damaged*”, or symbol (see EN ISO 15223-1:2016, Table 1, symbol 5.2.8);
- b) lot number¹;
- c) the manufacturers name or trade name;
- d) process indicator(s), if applicable;
- e) the direction of peel which will ensure the least fibre tear for reels;
- f) nominal dimensions and/or identification code.

4.6.1.2 The product shall not be printed on any surface which is designed to come into direct contact with the items to be packaged.

4.6.1.3 For lot number, process indicator, peel direction, and nominal dimensions or identification code [see 4.6.1.1 b), d), e) and f)], the print repeat interval on reel material shall be not greater than 155 mm. For other information mentioned in 4.6.1.1 a) and c), the print repeat interval shall be not greater than 310 mm.

4.6.1.4 Preformed sterile barrier systems placed on the market for delivery to healthcare facilities shall not be supplied individually labelled with a CE logo and/or with the symbol “sterile”.

NOTE 1 This is to avoid confusion in terms of legal responsibility with the CE mark for the final product.

NOTE 2 For CE marking of transport and/or storage packaging, see 4.6.2 h).

¹ A reference number in order to trace the manufacturing history of the product.