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Osebna varovalna oprema - Ščitniki za kolena za delo v klečečem položaju - 6. del: Zahteve za sisteme za varovanje kolen (tip 4)

Personal protective equipment - Knee protectors for work in the kneeling position – Part
6: Requirements for kneeling systems (type 4)

Persönliche Schutzausrüstung - Knieschutz für Arbeiten in kniender Haltung - Teil 6:
Anforderungen an Knieschutz-Systeme (Typ 4)

Équipements de protection individuelle - Protection des genoux pour le travail à genoux -
Partie 6 : Exigences relatives aux systèmes d'agenouillement (type 4)

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ICS:

13.340.50	Varovanje nog in stopal	Leg and foot protection
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EUROPEAN STANDARD
NORME EUROPÉENNE
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DRAFT
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ICS 13.340.50

Will supersede EN 14404:2004+A1:2010

English Version

Personal protective equipment - Knee protectors for work in the kneeling position - Part 6: Requirements for kneeling systems (type 4)

Persönliche Schutzausrüstung - Knieschutz für
Arbeiten in kniender Haltung - Teil 6: Anforderungen
an Knieschutz-Systeme (Typ 4)

This draft European Standard is submitted to CEN members for enquiry. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 162.

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
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European foreword

This document (prEN 14404-6:2019) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 162 “Protective clothing including hand and arm protection and life jackets”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This document is currently submitted to the CEN Enquiry.

This document will supersede EN 14404:2004+A1:2010.

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(s).

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

This standard “Personal protective equipment - Knee protectors for work in the kneeling position” is split into 6 parts:

- Part 1: Test methods
- Part 2: Requirements for wearable knee protectors (type 1)
- Part 3: Requirements for the combination of knee pads and garments (type 2)
- Part 4: Requirements for the combination of interoperable knee pads and garments (type 2)
- Part 5: Requirements for knee mats (type 3)
- Part 6: Requirements for kneeling systems (type 4)

Introduction

Kneeling is a frequently occurring working position, but one which is problematic from an occupational health viewpoint. Without knee protectors, workers may suffer immediate injuries from hard surfaces and small stones and similar objects lying on the surfaces. However, no knee protector can ensure that workers will not suffer medical complications if they are required to kneel for long periods.

It is important that knee protectors do not compromise venous drainage in the leg while kneeling or standing up. Therefore, it is important that it is easy for workers to change position and to stand up to re-establish a normal blood circulation at frequent intervals while wearing knee protectors.

Work in a kneeling position involves the risk of chronic diseases such as prepatellar bursitis and cartilage injuries caused by continuous pressure on the knees. Knee protection is therefore recommended for all work in the kneeling position. The protection should distribute forces evenly and prevent small hard objects on the ground causing injuries. Many workers have pre-existing damage to their knees, particularly to their cartilages from sports injuries and from previous work. These injuries will be made worse by further kneeling. Wearing knee protectors cannot correct existing damage, but should slow down further damaging effects.

Work in a kneeling position may expose the skin of the shins, knees and thighs to toxic and corrosive materials normally kept off the body while walking and standing by waterproof or water-resistant footwear. Knee protectors and trousers for use with such wet materials and particularly wet cement, should take this into account and provide adequate protection, as should footwear.

For working in kneeling position exist 4 types of knee protectors:

- wearable knee protectors (type 1),
- knee pads in combination with garments (type 2),
- knee mats (type 3) and
- kneeling systems (type 4)

This document describes test methods, specifies requirements for knee protectors and defines performance levels. Requirements for the marking of knee protectors and the information to be supplied by the manufacturer are given. Where protection against additional hazards is claimed, performance requirements from other applicable standards may also be applied.

The additional functions of the kneeling systems (type 4) could lead to consider other legislations than the PPE regulation (e.g. general product safety directive). Requirements related to PPE regulation of the kneeling systems (type 4) are based on those of wearable knee protectors (type 1) or knee pads in combination with garments (type 2).

This document does not apply to knee protectors that are medical devices or are intended for sports and motorcycles.

1 Scope

This document specifies the requirements for knee systems (type 4) for use by work in kneeling position.

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.

prEN 14404-1:2019, *Knee protectors for work in the kneeling position – Test methods*

EN ISO 3758, *Textiles - Care labelling code using symbols*

EN ISO 13688, *Protective clothing - General requirements (ISO 13688:2013)*

ISO 7000, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment — Registered symbols*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose 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

knee protectors, knee systems (type 4)

knee protectors worn on the body for one or both knees, which are parts of devices with additional functions

Note 1 to entry: additional functions such as a frame to aid standing up, or a kneeling seat

3.2

restraint

part of the kneeling system which keeps this fixed in position on the leg and is required to protect the knee

3.3

zone of protection

surface of the knee protector that is intended to provide the user with protection of patellar and infrapatellar areas

4 Performance levels

Four performance levels are defined. The tests for the performance levels are described in 4 of prEN 14404-1:2019:

- **level 0:** knee protectors suitable for use on flat floor surfaces and providing no protection against penetration.
- **level 1:** knee protectors suitable for use on flat floor surfaces and providing protection against penetration at a force of at least 100 N

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- **level 1U:** knee protectors suitable for use on even or uneven surfaces providing protection against penetration at a force of at least 100 N.
- **level 2:** knee protectors suitable for use on flat or non-flat floor surfaces in severe conditions and providing protection against penetration at a force of at least 250 N.

5 Requirements

Summary of the requirements given in Clause 5.1 – Clause 7 for knee systems (type 4) and the tests applicable

Table 1 — Summary of requirements for kneeling systems (type 4) that are worn on the body and the tests applicable

Clause number	Subject	Level				Clauses describing the tests applicable
		0	1	1U	2	
5.1	General requirements	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.4.1
5.1	Innocuousness	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.4.2 EN ISO 13688
5.2	Products for testing	X	X	X	X	Comparison with Clause 5, 5.2
5.3.1	Orientation of the knee protector Vertical alignment	X	X	X	X	Comparison with Clause 5, 5.3.1
5.3.2	Orientation of the knee protector Knee, right/left	X	X	X	X	Comparison with Clause 5, 5.3.2
5.4.1.1	Size designation	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.4.3
5.4.1.2	Dimensions	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.4.3
5.4.2	Penetration resistance (Performance levels 1, 1U and 2)	n.a. ^a	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.5
5.4.3.1	Force distribution on an even surface	X	X	n.a.	n.a.	Part 1: 5.6.2.1
5.4.3.2	Force distribution on an uneven surface	n.a.	n.a.	X	X	Part 1: 5.6.2.2
5.4.4	Peak transmitted force	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.7
5.4.5.1	General requirements for restraint	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.8.1
5.4.5.2	Restraint by straps or equivalent system	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.8.1
5.5.	Optional requirement for water resistance	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.9.1
5.6.1	Restraint and comfort during use on an even surface	X	X	n.a.	n.a.	Part 1: 5.11.2.1
5.6.2	Restraint and comfort during use on an uneven surface	n.a.	n.a.	X	X	Part 1: 5.11.3.1
5.6.3	Compliance of straps	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.12
6	Marking	X	X	X	X	Comparison with Clause 6
7	Manufacturer information	X	X	X	X	Comparison with Clause 7

^a n.a.: non-applicable

Table 2 — Summary of requirements for kneeling systems (type 4) that are not worn on the body and the tests applicable

Clause number	Subject	Level				Clauses describing the tests applicable
		0	1	1U	2	
5.1	General requirements	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.4.1
5.1	Innocuousness	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.4.2 EN ISO 13688
5.2	Products for testing	X	X	X	X	Comparison with Clause 5, 5.2
5.3.1	Orientation of the knee protector	X	X	X	X	Comparison with Clause 5, 5.3.1
5.4.1.1	Size designation	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.4.3
5.4.1.2	Dimensions	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.4.3
5.4.2	Penetration resistance (Performance levels 1, 1U and 2)	n.a. a	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.5
5.4.3.1	Force distribution on an even surface	X	X	n.a.	n.a.	Part 1: 5.6.2.1
5.4.3.2	Force distribution on an uneven surface	n.a.	n.a.	X	X	Part 1: 5.6.2.2
5.4.4	Peak transmitted force	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.7
5.5.	Optional requirement for water resistance	X	X	X	X	Part 1: 5.9.1
5.6.1	Comfort during use on an even surface	X	X	n.a.	n.a.	Part 1: 5.11.2.1
5.6.2	Comfort during use on an uneven surface	n.a.	n.a.	X	X	Part 1: 5.11.3.1
6	Marking	X	X	X	X	Comparison with Clause 6
7	Manufacturer information	X	X	X	X	Comparison with Clause 7
a n.a.: non-applicable						

5.1 General requirements for knee protectors

Knee protectors shall meet the general requirements.

Knee protectors shall be safe to use and fit for their intended application defined by the manufacturer.

They shall be designed and manufactured to provide protection when used according to the information supplied by the manufacturer, without endangering the user.

There shall not be hard or sharp edges, seams, buckles or other items on the inner surfaces (especially within the zone of protection) of the products that could harm the user during normal use. Examination shall be made according to 5.4.1 Part 1.

Knee protectors shall meet the innocuousness requirements of EN ISO 13688. Construction materials and incorporated substances shall not harm those being in or coming into contact with them.

5.2 Products for testing

The manufacturer shall submit complete and ready-to-use knee 8 knee protection systems for testing. Further details are given by the test institute in the individual case.

He shall provide the documents and data required for the testing.

5.3 Orientation of the knee protector

5.3.1 Vertical alignment

The marking below (Figure 1) shall be used on the side facing the knee and pointing upwards.

If the knee system is not worn at the body, the marking below shall be used on the side facing the knee and pointing forwards.



Figure 1 — Pictogram ISO 7000 – 1861 Indication for (vertical) alignment

5.3.2 Knee right, left

When a differentiation is necessary to indicate the side of the body (left/ right) the additional marking (Figure 2 and Figure 3) shall be used respectively for the left knee and for the right knee.



Figure 2: Pictogram ISO 7000 – 1861 +1140 + 0251 Marking of left knee side at which the knee protector is to be worn

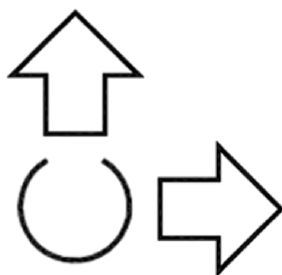


Figure 3: Pictogram ISO 7000 – 1861 +1140 + 0251 Marking of right knee side at which the knee protector is to be worn

5.4 Specific requirements for knee protectors

5.4.1 Size and dimension

5.4.1.1 Size designation

The size system used by the manufacturer shall be based on the knee girth (knee girth range for which the knee protector has been designed, expressed in cm) and explained.