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**Building and civil engineering  
sealants — Vocabulary**

*Mastics pour le bâtiment et le génie civil — Vocabulaire*

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ISO copyright office  
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8  
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva  
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11  
Email: [copyright@iso.org](mailto:copyright@iso.org)  
Website: [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 59, *Buildings and civil engineering works*, Subcommittee SC 8, *Sealants*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/SS B02, *Structures*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 6927:2012), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- modified the title;
- added important terminology for the property of the sealant to reflect the progress of the sealant technology.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

# Building and civil engineering sealants — Vocabulary

## 1 Scope

This document defines technical terms for self-levelling and gun-grade (gunnable) sealants for above-ground exposed structures.

## 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.

ISO 11600, *Building construction — Jointing products — Classification and requirements for sealants*

## 3 Terms and definitions

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1 Sealant classification

ISO 6927:2021

#### 3.1.1 seal

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install the appropriate products in the *joint* (3.2.15) between components in order to prevent the penetration of water, moisture and/or air between the elements, components and assemblies made of the same or dissimilar materials

#### 3.1.2 sealant

text material applied in an unformed state which, once *cured* (3.4.7) or dried, has the adhesive and cohesive properties to *seal* (3.1.1) a *joint* (3.2.15)

#### 3.1.3 elastic sealant

*sealant* (3.1.2) in which the *stresses* (3.5.8) induced as a result of *joint* (3.2.15) movement are nearly proportional to the *strain* (3.5.7)

Note 1 to entry: The elastic behaviour of the sealant is evaluated by the *elastic recovery* (3.5.10) measurement (see ISO 7389).

#### 3.1.4 plastic sealant

*sealant* (3.1.2) in which the *stresses* (3.5.8) induced as a result of *joint* (3.2.15) movement are nearly proportional to the rate of joint movement and are rapidly relieved when joint movement ceases

Note 1 to entry: The plastic behaviour of the sealant is evaluated by the *elastic recovery* (3.5.10) measurement (see ISO 7389).

#### 3.1.5 one component sealant

*sealant* (3.1.2) ready for use not requiring mixing

### 3.1.6

#### **multi-component sealant**

*sealant* (3.1.2) supplied in the form of multiple separate components which become ready for use after mixing together

### 3.1.7

#### **solvent-release sealant**

*sealant* (3.1.2) supplied in the form of a suspension or solution in an organic solvent and which *cures* (3.4.7) mainly by evaporation of solvent

### 3.1.8

#### **water-borne sealant**

#### **water-based sealant**

*sealant* (3.1.2) supplied in the form of a dispersion in which water is the main carrier and which *cures* (3.4.7) mainly by evaporation of water

Note 1 to entry: Water-borne sealants are sometimes referred to as water-based sealants. The term “water-based” is deprecated.

### 3.1.9

#### **low-modulus sealant**

*sealant* (3.1.2) with a *secant tensile modulus* (3.5.9)  $< 0,4 \text{ N/mm}^2$  at  $23 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  and  $< 0,6 \text{ N/mm}^2$  at  $-20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$

Note 1 to entry: Low-modulus sealants/High-modulus sealants shall be in accordance with ISO 11600.

### 3.1.10

#### **high-modulus sealant**

*sealant* (3.1.2) with a *secant tensile modulus* (3.5.9)  $> 0,4 \text{ N/mm}^2$  at  $+23 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  or  $> 0,6 \text{ N/mm}^2$  at  $-20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$

Note 1 to entry: Low-modulus sealants/High-modulus sealants shall be in accordance with ISO 11600.

### 3.1.11

#### **self-levelling sealant**

*sealant* (3.1.2) that exhibits sufficient flow to achieve gravitational levelling

### 3.1.12

#### **gun-grade sealant**

*sealant* (3.1.2) suitable to extrude through the nozzle of a hand- or power-operated device

### 3.1.13

#### **non-sag sealant**

*sealant* (3.1.2) with minimal flow when applied in vertical or inverted *joints* (3.2.15)

## 3.2 Ancillary materials

### 3.2.1

#### **ancillary materials**

*substrates* (3.2.9), *back-up materials* (3.2.3) and other materials necessary for preparing a *sealant* (3.1.2) *joint* (3.2.15) for installation or testing

### 3.2.2

#### **primer**

surface coating applied to the faces of the *joint* (3.2.15) before placing the *sealant* (3.1.2) in order to ensure its adhesion

### 3.2.3

#### **back-up material**

#### **backing material**

material inserted in a *joint* (3.2.15), which defines the depth of *sealant* (3.1.2) applied, prevents three-sided adhesion, and defines the back profile of the sealant

**3.2.4****surface finish**

qualities of a surface determined by deliberate preparation or absence of said preparation

**3.2.5****porous substrate**

*substrate* (3.2.9) which absorbs liquids

**3.2.6****non-porous substrate**

*substrate* (3.2.9) that is impervious to liquids

**3.2.7****anti-adherent substrate**

*substrate* (3.2.9) to which a *cured* (3.4.7) *sealant* (3.1.2) has no adhesion

**3.2.8****casting spacer**

material that is placed to maintain a specified distance between the two *substrates* (3.2.9) of a *test specimen* (3.2.11), while the *sealant* (3.1.2) is curing

**3.2.9****substrate**

material to which a *sealant* (3.1.2) is applied in a test, specified both by composition, *surface finish* (3.2.4), and physical dimensions

**3.2.10****separator**

material that is placed to maintain a specified *strain* (3.5.7) level between the two *substrates* (3.2.9) of a *test specimen* (3.2.11) while the specimen is being subjected to a test

**3.2.11****test specimen**

piece or assembly with defined configuration subjected to a test

**3.2.12****cleaning agent**

material used to clean *substrates* (3.2.9)

**3.2.13****masking tape**

peelable material applied to the surface of the *substrate* (3.2.9) to prevent contamination or adhesion of the *sealant* (3.1.2)

**3.2.14****glazing**

installation of glass or other materials in framed prepared openings

**3.2.15****joint**

space or opening between two or more adjoining surfaces

**3.3 Rheology****3.3.1****extrusion rate**

amount of a *sealant* (3.1.2) which exits a container per unit of time under defined conditions

**3.3.2****extrudability**

property of a *sealant* (3.1.2) determined by *extrusion rate* (3.3.1)

**3.3.3**  
**resistance to flow**  
**non-sag**

property of a *sealant* (3.1.2) exhibiting little or no flow during *cure* (3.4.7) when applied in *joints* (3.2.15)

**3.3.4**  
**self-levelling**

property of a *sealant* (3.1.2) in an uncured state that allows it to be poured into horizontal *joints* (3.2.15), forming a level surface without *tooling* (3.4.5)

**3.4 Application**

**3.4.1**  
**conditioning**

storage of a *sealant* (3.1.2) and/or *ancillary materials* (3.2.1) under specified parameters prior to and/or during testing

**3.4.2**  
**pot life**  
**working life**

time after mixing a *multi-component sealant* (3.1.6) in which the material (still remains workable) and allows for *tooling* (3.4.5) into application

**3.4.3**  
**surface cure time**  
**surface dry time**

time after application when the *sealant* (3.1.2) has sufficiently *cured* (3.4.7) so that there is no transfer of materials when lightly touching the surface

**3.4.4**  
**depth of the sealant**

smallest distance between the exposed surface of the *sealant* (3.1.2) and its back profile

**3.4.5**  
**tooling**  
**smoothing**

act of forcing the *sealant* (3.1.2), following application, into a *joint* (3.2.15) in order to ensure contact between the sealant and the *substrate* (3.2.9) surface, in order to improve the surface appearance and adhesion

**3.4.6**  
**tack-free time**

time after which a *sealant* (3.1.2) surface loses its tackiness

**3.4.7**  
**cure**

irreversible transformation of a *sealant* (3.1.2) from a liquid or paste-like state into a plastic or rubber-like solid state

Note 1 to entry: This transformation may be due to loss of solvent or water and/or to a chemical reaction, e.g. *crosslinking* (3.4.12).

**3.4.8**  
**cure time**

time after application when the *sealant* (3.1.2) attains its serviceability properties

**3.4.9**  
**cure degree**

relative state or level to which the *sealant* (3.1.2) has *cured* (3.4.7) at a given point in time

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**3.4.10****cure rate**

rate at which the *sealant* (3.1.2) cures (3.4.7)

**3.4.11****cure depth**

measured thickness to which a *sealant* (3.1.2) has cured (3.4.7) after a given period of time

**3.4.12****crosslinking**

formation of a three-dimensional polymer network by means of inter-chain reactions resulting in physical property changes

**3.4.13****tooled surface**

aesthetic profile of the *sealant* (3.1.2) surface in a *joint* (3.2.15) after *tooling* (3.4.5) the sealant

**3.4.14****skinning time****skin over time**

time it takes to form a thin layer at the surface of an applied *sealant* (3.1.2) that differs in physical properties from the material beneath it

**3.5 Physical properties****3.5.1****compatibility**

property of a *sealant* (3.1.2) to remain in direct contact with, or in close proximity to, another material without unfavourable physical or chemical interactions

**3.5.2****movement capability**

quantitative statement of the ability of a *sealant* (3.1.2) to accommodate movement while maintaining an effective seal

**3.5.3****compression**

*C*

reduction of a *joint* (3.2.15) width due to an applied force

Note 1 to entry:  $C = (B_1 - B_0)/B_0 \times 100$ .

where

$B_0$  is the initial width of the joint;

$B_1$  is the joint width at the applied force.

Note 2 to entry: Compression is expressed as a percentage.

**3.5.4****shrinkage**

decrease in length, area or volume

**3.5.5****extension**

*Y*

increase of a *joint* (3.2.15) width due to an applied force

Note 1 to entry:  $Y = (B_1 - B_0)/B_0 \times 100$ .

where

$B_0$  is the initial width of the joint;

$B_1$  is the joint width at the applied force.

Note 2 to entry: Extension is expressed as a percentage.

### 3.5.6 maintained extension

constant increase of *joint* (3.2.15) width maintained for a period of time, as in a constant *strain* (3.5.7) test or *creep* (3.5.18) measurement

### 3.5.7 elongation strain

$E$   
amount by which a *sealant* (3.1.2) is stretched beyond its initial length due to an applied force

Note 1 to entry:  $E = (L_1 - L_0)/L_0 \times 100$ .

where

$L_0$  is the initial length;

$L_1$  is the length at the applied force.

Note 2 to entry: Elongation is expressed as a percentage.

### 3.5.8 stress force per unit area

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### 3.5.9 secant tensile modulus

$\sigma$   
*stress* (3.5.8) at a given *strain* (3.5.7)

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Note 1 to entry:  $\sigma = F/S$ .

where

$\sigma$  is the secant tensile modulus at the chosen elongation rounded to 0,01 N/mm<sup>2</sup>;

$F$  is the force at the chosen *elongation* (3.5.7), expressed in newtons;

$S$  is the initial cross-section area of *test specimen* (3.2.11), expressed in square millimetres.

### 3.5.10 elastic recovery

property of a *sealant* (3.1.2) whereby the initial shape and dimensions are wholly or partially restored on removal of forces causing deformation

### 3.5.11 storage life shelf-life

period following manufacture, during which a *sealant* (3.1.2) stored under defined conditions may be used, will maintain its functional characteristics and retain properties necessary for satisfactory performance

### 3.5.12 stringiness

property of a *sealant* (3.1.2) that causes the formation of threads or filaments during application and *tooling* (3.4.5)