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Playground equipment for children - Part 2: Replies to requests for interpretation of EN 1176:2017 and its parts (2020 -- 2022)

Kinderspielplatzgeräte - Teil 2: Antworten zu Interpretationsanfragen der Jahre 2020 -- 2022 zur EN 1176:2017 und deren Teilen

Équipements d'aires de jeux pour enfants - Partie 2: Réponses aux demandes d'interprétation de l'EN 1176:2017 et de ses parties (2020 - -2022)

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1176:2017 et de ses parties (2020 - 2022)

Kinderspielplatzgeräte - Teil 2: Antworten zu
Interpretationsanfragen der Jahre 2020 - 2022 zur EN
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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
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Contents	Page
European foreword	5
Introduction	6
1 Scope	8
2 Normative references	8
3 Terms and definitions	8
4 EN 1176-1:2017+A1:2023, Playground equipment and surfacing — Part 1: General safety requirements and test methods	8
4.1 Interpretation request 2022-05 – Finland: 4.2.4.3 Guardrails	8
4.1.1 Member body question	8
4.1.2 Member body proposal	9
4.1.3 Interpretation Panel	9
4.1.4 Comments/proposal for an answer	9
4.2 Interpretation request 2021-02 – Sweden: 4.2.7.2 b) – Entrapment, partially bound test probe	9
4.2.1 Member body question	9
4.2.2 Member body proposal	10
4.2.3 Interpretation Panel	10
4.2.4 Comments/proposal for an answer	10
4.3 Interpretation request 2022-02 – Sweden: 4.2.7.2 b) – Entrapment, partially bound test probe	10
4.3.1 Member body question	10
4.3.2 Member body proposal	11
4.3.3 Interpretation Panel	11
4.3.4 Comments/proposal for an answer	11
4.4 Interpretation request 2021-01 – Sweden: 4.2.8.2.4, Table 4 – Bark, woodchip, particle size	11
4.4.1 Member body question	11
4.4.2 Questions:	11
4.4.3 Member body proposal	12
4.4.4 Interpretation Panel	12
4.4.5 Comments/proposal for an answer	12
4.5 Interpretation request 2020-09 – Netherlands: EN 1176-1 – 4.2.8.2.4 and EN 1176-2 – 4.10.2.2 – Width, Impact area, Group swing seat	14
4.5.1 Member body question	14
4.5.2 Member body proposal	14
4.5.3 Interpretation Panel	16
4.5.4 Comments/proposal for an answer	16
4.6 Interpretation request 2022-04 – Finland: 4.2.8.4 Protection against injuries in the falling space	16
4.6.1 Member body question	16
4.6.2 Member body proposal	16
4.6.3 Interpretation Panel	16
4.6.4 Comments/proposal for an answer	16
4.7 Interpretation request 2020-14 – Finland: 4.2.8.5.4	17

4.7.1	Member body question.....	17
4.7.2	Member body proposal	18
4.7.3	Interpretation Panel.....	18
4.7.4	Comments/proposal for an answer	18
4.8	Interpretation request 2020-01 – Norway: 4.2.12.2 – Sand cranes, ropes fixed at both ends.....	18
4.8.1	Member body question.....	18
4.8.2	Member body proposal	20
4.8.3	Interpretation Panel.....	20
4.8.4	Comments/proposal for an answer	20
4.9	Interpretation request 2020-06 – Denmark: A.2.6.1, a) and b) – Definition of “traditional” and “gondola”	20
4.9.1	Member body question.....	20
4.9.2	Member body proposal	20
4.9.3	Interpretation Panel.....	20
4.9.4	Comments/proposal for an answer	21
4.10	Interpretation request 2020-07 – Lithuania: Annex H confirming the adequate level of impact attenuation after installation of impact attenuating surfacing.....	21
4.10.1	Member body question.....	21
4.10.2	Member body proposal	21
4.10.3	Interpretation Panel.....	21
4.10.4	Comments/proposal for an answer	21
5	EN 1176-2:2017+AC:2019, Playground equipment and surfacing — Part 2: Additional specific safety requirements and test methods for swings.....	23
5.1	Interpretation request 2020-02 – Netherlands: 4.5, 4.6.3 and Annex B – Parent-child swing	23
5.1.1	Member body question.....	23
5.1.2	Member body proposal	23
5.1.3	Interpretation Panel.....	25
5.1.4	Comments/proposal for an answer	26
5.2	Interpretation request 2020-05 – Denmark: 3.13 – Group swing seat	26
5.2.1	Member body question.....	26
5.2.2	Member body proposal	26
5.2.3	Interpretation Panel.....	26
5.2.4	Comments/proposal for an answer	26
6	EN 1176-3:2017, Playground equipment — Part 3: Additional specific safety requirements and test methods for slides	27
6.1	Interpretation request 2022-03 – Finland: 4.8 – Impact area and Figure 9.....	27
6.1.1	Member body question.....	27
6.1.2	Member body proposal	27
6.1.3	Interpretation Panel.....	27
6.1.4	Comments/proposal for an answer	27
7	EN 1176-4:2017+AC:2019, Playground equipment and surfacing - Part 4: Additional specific safety requirements and test methods for cableways	28
7.1	Interpretation request 2020-13 – Türkiye: 4.9, acceleration, seat test, Annex C, Annex B.....	28
7.1.1	Member body question.....	28
7.1.2	Member body proposal	28
7.1.3	Interpretation Panel.....	28
7.1.4	Comments/proposal for an answer	28

CEN/TR 17842-2:2024 (E)

8	EN 1176-5:2019, Playground equipment and surfacing — Part 5: Additional specific safety requirements and test methods for carousels	29
8.1	Interpretation request 2020-03 – Finland: 5.2.3 Ground clearance – rotating platform not flush with the ground.....	29
8.1.1	Member body question.....	29
8.1.2	Member body proposal.....	29
8.1.3	Interpretation Panel.....	29
8.1.4	Comments/proposal for an answer	29
8.2	Interpretation request 2020-12 – Sweden: Table 1, 4.3 + 4.5 – User stations/Annex E.....	30
8.2.1	Member body question.....	30
8.2.2	Member body proposal.....	30
8.2.3	Interpretation Panel.....	31
8.2.4	Comments/proposal for an answer	31
9	EN 1176-6:2017+AC:2019, Playground equipment — Part 6: Additional specific safety requirements and test methods for rocking equipment.....	31
9.1	Interpretation request 2020-04 – Denmark: 3.11, 4.5 – Restraint of Motion, Damping.....	31
9.1.1	Member body question.....	31
9.1.2	Member body proposal.....	32
9.1.3	Interpretation Panel.....	32
9.1.4	Comments/proposal for an answer	32
10	EN 1176-7:2020, Playground equipment and surfacing — Part 7: Guidance on installation, inspection, maintenance and operation.....	32
10.1	Interpretation request 2020-08 – Lithuania: Scope.....	32
10.1.1	Member body question.....	32
10.1.2	Member body proposal.....	33
10.1.3	Interpretation Panel.....	33
10.1.4	Comments/proposal for an answer	33
	Bibliography	34

[SIST-TP CEN/TR 17842-2:2024](https://standards.iteh.ai/standards/sist/a7095c68-006b-427e-8700-f082539fdbf0/sist-tp-cen-tr-17842-2-2024)

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European foreword

This document (CEN/TR 17842-2:2024) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 136 “Sports, playground and other recreational facilities and equipment”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

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.

CEN/TR 1784 consists of the following parts, under the general title Playground equipment for children — Replies to requests for interpretation of EN 1176:2017 and its parts:

- Part 1: Replies to requests for interpretation of EN 1176:2017 and its parts (2018-2019)
- Part 2: Replies to requests for interpretation of EN 1176:2017 and its parts (2020-2022)

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

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CEN/TR 17842-2:2024 (E)

Introduction

Interpretations and no-action decisions

This document contains all agreed responses to interpretation requests of the years 2020 to 2022 concerning the understanding of clauses and requirements in EN 1176 and its parts. The responses concern those requests that have resulted in an interpretation or a decision that no action is required as the standard is sufficiently clear. It should bring a close to all interpretations made to EN 1176 and its parts.

An interpretation does not have the same status as the text of the standard. However, following an interpretation gives assurance that the relevant clause of the standard has been applied correctly.

An interpretation is a clarification of the meaning of the standard.

Disclaimer

The interpretations have been prepared by the interpretation panel of CEN/TC 136/SC 1 in accordance with an agreed process and finally confirmed by the whole CEN/TC 136/SC 1 prior to responding back to the enquiring National Standardization Body. The information contained herein should always be considered in association with the original published text contained in the EN 1176 standard series.

Requests for interpretations can be submitted by a CEN member body through its national mirror committee or by a CEN/TC 136 liaison organization (but not directly by an individual or a company) – in accordance with the interpretation panel process agreed by CEN/TC 136/SC 1. The requests are channelled to the CEN/TC 136/SC 1 interpretation panel, which will then deal with the request.

A request for an interpretation may lead to:

- a) an interpretation of the standard with no action to the standard (no revision and no amendment)

This should reflect a reasonable interpretation of how the standard should be used, taking into account:

- 1) the wording of the standard;
- 2) the rationale of the standard;
- 3) the history of the standard.

This is also applicable when it is agreed that the standard appropriately specifies how playground equipment is assessed.

- b) a proposal for an amendment of the standard

This is applicable when it is agreed that the existing standard clauses need urgent update, for example, if the interpretation identifies a serious conflict that compromises safety.

NOTE All replies to interpretation requests received since 2017 are published in the CEN/TR 17842 series. As required, additional parts of this TR are published to include any new interpretations that have been agreed since the publication of the previous TR part. Proposals for amendments will be progressed as new work item proposals in accordance with CEN rules.

c) a future revision

It is not part of the interpretation panel process to carry out new work that was not previously covered within the published EN 1176 parts and clauses. Future work requests should always be raised by National Standard Bodies using the “Future work request template” to ensure full consideration is given to the necessity and possible consequences, before starting any new work on EN 1176 and its parts.

Responses to interpretation requests

Since requests for interpretations are submitted through a CEN member body, it is assumed that the member body will keep itself informed about decisions concerning the request and its progress and will itself inform the originator of the request, as appropriate.

The following information requests have been included in this document:

2020**Table 1**

Request Number	Standard reference	Clause	Submitting country	Key words
2020-01	EN 1176-1	4.2.12.2	Sweden	Sand cranes
2020-02	EN 1176-2	4.5, 3.13, 4.6.3 & Annex B	Netherlands	Parent-child swing
2020-03	EN 1176-5	5.2.3	Finland	Ground clearance, tapered underside
2020-04	EN 1176-6	3.11, 4.5	Denmark	Restraint of motion, damping
2020-05	EN 1176-2	3.13	Denmark	Group swing seat, parent-child swing
2020-06	EN 1176-1	A.2.6.1	Denmark	Swing seats, gondola, traditional
2020-07	EN 1176-1	Annex H	Lithuania	adequate level of impact attenuating surfacing
2020-08	EN 1176-7	scope	Lithuania	Scope
2020-09	EN 1176-2	Impact Area, Group swing seat	Netherlands	Impact area, group swing
2020-12	EN 1176-5	4.3 and 4.5, Table 1	Sweden	Type D, user stations, Annex E
2020-13	EN 1176-4	4.9	Türkiye	Impact test method
2020-14	EN 1176-1	4.2.8.5.4	Finland	Adjacent platforms

CEN/TR 17842-2:2024 (E)

2021

Table 2

Request Number	Standard reference	Clause	Submitting country	Key words
2021-01	1176-1	4.2.8.2.4, table 4	Sweden	Bark, woodchip, particle size
2021-02	1176-1	4.2.7.2b	Sweden	Entrapment, partially bound test probe

2022

Table 3

Request Number	Standard reference	Clause	Submitting country	Key words
2022-02	EN 1176-1	7.2.7.2	Sweden	Partially bound openings
2022-03	EN 1176-3	4.8	Finland	Impact areas, slides, falling spaces
2022-04	EN 1176-1	4.2.8.4	Finland	Falling space, obstacles, climbing, risk assessment
2022-05	EN 1176-1	4.2.4.3	Finland	Guardrails, falling height, climbing

1 Scope

The purpose of this document is to publish replies to requests for interpretations to all parts of EN 1176 which have been drafted by the interpretation panel and confirmed by CEN/TC 136/SC 1.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

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

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

4 EN 1176-1:2017+A1:2023, Playground equipment and surfacing — Part 1: General safety requirements and test methods

4.1 Interpretation request 2022-05 – Finland: 4.2.4.3 Guardrails

4.1.1 Member body question

1. Is the underside of a guardrail (A) allowed to have elements or geometries (B) that could be used for climbing? See Figure 1.

2. If geometries that could be used for climbing do exist, should the guard rail be included to falling height?

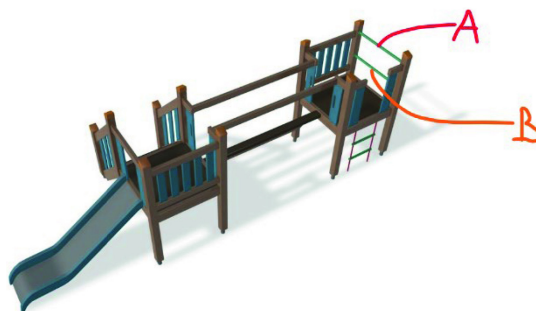


Figure 1

4.1.2 Member body proposal

1. Yes. The requirement to discourage climbing is given only for barriers and not for the guard rails.
2. In line with interpretation 2011-04, only if the guardrail allows access to higher locations, the guard rail is considered a climbing element and should be included to the falling height.

4.1.3 Interpretation Panel

Proposed track: No action

4.1.4 Comments/proposal for an answer

A Guardrail' is defined in EN 1176-1:2017+A1:2023, clause 3.23, as 'rail intended to prevent a user from falling'.

Requirements for 'Guardrails' are given in EN 1176-1:2017+A1:2023, clause 4.2.4.3, which do not require them to discourage climbing.

To answer the specific MB Questions:

1. Yes. The requirement to discourage climbing is given only for barriers and not for the guardrails.
2. Yes. Any elements that encourage climbing to higher sections of the equipment should be included in the 'Free Height of Fall'. (EN 1176-1:2017+A1:2023, clause 4.2.8.1, includes examples of what features could encourage climbing 'for roofs, or other features not intended for play'. Guardrails are not specifically mentioned although they would generally be expected as a 'feature not intended for play'.)

The Interpretation Panel also noted that when considering a fall onto a platform that is more than 1m high, the surface of the lower platform shall present the necessary impact attenuating properties, in line with EN 1176-1:2017+A1:2023, clause 4.2.8.5.4.

4.2 Interpretation request 2021-02 – Sweden: 4.2.7.2 b) – Entrapment, partially bound test probe

4.2.1 Member body question

Our questions relate to paragraph 4.2.7.2 b) and the connected test method D2.2. This works perfectly fine for rectangular openings. However, for angular/V-shaped openings in range 2, you get totally different minimum angle depending on whether you use the shoulder part or the test template D.