
**Building environment design —
Indoor environment — Design process
for the visual environment**

*Conception de l'environnement des bâtiments — Environnement
intérieur — Processus de conception de l'environnement visuel*

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ISO copyright office
Ch. de Blandonnet 8 • CP 401
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland
Tel. +41 22 749 01 11
Fax +41 22 749 09 47
copyright@iso.org
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).

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).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on 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 the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 205, *Building environment design*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 16817:2012), which has been technically revised.

Introduction

ISO 16813 defines general principles for the design of building indoor environment and helps the main participants in the design process to ensure an indoor environment of the quality required for users.

The purpose of this document is to provide design team members with a design process for the indoor visual environment to aid provision of, in a sustainable approach, required visual comfort, physiological effects of light and energy performance of buildings. Visual comfort does not necessarily only provide a suitable lighting for executing a task. For example, a window has at least two functions: to facilitate the entry of daylight and to provide a view.

The design of an indoor visual environment of the required quality for users takes into account human needs that include elements linked to performance, visual comfort, health, safety and well-being.

The objective of this document is to provide the design team at each phase of the design process with a way to implement the nine general principles of sustainability (NGPS) in buildings, as described in ISO 15392 and how to integrate these principles in their decision-making processes, in order to be part of a sustainable approach.

Concerning research in illuminating and lighting, work by the International Commission on Illumination (CIE) should be consulted. The existing CIE and CEN standards are used and any new work is performed in close coordination with CIE and CEN.

This document

- provides a framework for taking into consideration various parameters and criteria that influence the quality of the indoor visual environment,
- is prepared for design teams (architects and engineers), as well as building clients, contractors, government officials, and academic staff,
- is aimed at assisting these groups in applying an effective design process in the pursuit of an indoor visual environment of the required quality for the users,
- incorporates sustainability considerations, and
- is prepared on the basis of the following fundamental ideas:
 - it addresses the standardization of a design process elaborated through a systemic approach, a system of tasks that are structured together;
 - it is a guideline which invites designers to follow an iterative and progressive approach, to make choices and take compromise solutions according to the goals of the client, to the constraints and the opportunities linked to the building site, in relation to the main areas of work covered by ISO/TC 205;
 - it allows the performance level or values to be established by the programme and/or applicable regulation.

Building environment design — Indoor environment — Design process for the visual environment

1 Scope

This document provides an integrated design process for high-quality indoor visual environment including architectural and engineering aspects of daylighting and lighting systems for user satisfaction, health, well-being and productivity as well as the energy performance and sustainability of buildings.

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 15686-5, *Buildings and constructed assets — Service-life planning — Part 5: Life-cycle costing*

ISO 26000, *Guidance on social responsibility*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60050-845 and the following 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

artificial lighting

lighting that is provided by artificial light sources such as electric lights, candles, oil lamps and gas lights

3.2

circadian rhythm

biological rhythm with a period of approximately 24 h

[SOURCE: CIE S 017/E]

3.3

colour rendering index

measure of the degree to which the psychophysical colour of an object illuminated by the test illuminant conforms to that of the same object illuminated by the reference illuminant, suitable allowance having been made for the state of chromatic adaptation

[SOURCE: CIE S 017/E]

3.4

daylighting

practice of placing *windows* (3.25) and/or *rooflights* (3.19), or other openings, and reflective surfaces so that, during the day, natural light provides internal illumination

Note 1 to entry: Particular attention is given to daylighting while designing a building when the aim is to maximize visual comfort or to reduce energy use. Energy savings can be achieved from the reduced use of *lighting systems*.

3.5

daylight opening

area, glazed or unglazed, that is capable of admitting daylight to an interior

[SOURCE: CIE S 017/E]

3.6

design aids

set of guidelines used for conceptual details and final designs for the indoor environment, based on the requirements whether or not expressed by the client and stakeholders

[SOURCE: ISO 16813]

3.7

directionality

the quality of being directional

3.8

electric lighting

lighting by electric light sources

[SOURCE: CIE S 017/E]

3.9

energy performance of a building

calculated or measured amount of weighted net delivered energy actually used or estimated to meet different needs associated with a standardized use of a building

Note 1 to entry: This may include energy used for heating, cooling, ventilation, domestic hot water and lighting.

[SOURCE: ISO 16818]

3.10

obstruction

anything outside a building which prevents the direct view of part of the sky

[SOURCE: CIE S 017/E]

3.11

glare

condition of vision in which there is discomfort or a reduction in the ability to see details or objects, caused by an unsuitable distribution or range of *luminance* (3.16), or by extreme contrasts

[SOURCE: CIE S 017/E]

3.12

illuminance

(at a point of a surface) quotient of the luminous flux $d\Phi_v$ incident on an element of the surface containing the point, divided by the area dA of that element

Note 1 to entry: This is expressed in lux, $1 \text{ lx} = 1 \text{ lm}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$.

3.13

life cycle cost

cost of an asset or its parts throughout its life cycle, while fulfilling the performance requirements

3.14

light pollution

generic term indicating the sum total of all adverse effects of artificial light

[SOURCE: CIE S 017/E]

3.15**light trespass**

unwanted impingement of light from external light sources such as nearby building and street lights

3.16**luminance**

L_v

(in a given direction, at a given point of a real or imaginary surface) quantity defined by the following formula:

$$L_v = \frac{d^2\Phi_v}{dA \cdot \cos\theta \cdot d\Omega}$$

where

$d\Phi_v$ is the luminous flux transmitted by an elementary beam passing through the given point and propagating in the solid angle, $d\Omega$, containing the given direction;

dA is the area of a section of that beam containing the given point;

θ is the angle between the normal to that section and the direction of the beam.

Note 1 to entry: This is expressed in candela per square metre, $1 \text{ cd} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} = 1 \text{ lm} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{sr}^{-1}$.

[SOURCE: CIE S 017/E]

3.17**luminous flux**

quantity derived from the radiant flux by evaluating the radiation according to its action upon the CIE standard photometric observer

Note 1 to entry: This is expressed in lumen lm.

[SOURCE: CIE S 017/E]

3.18**reflectance**

ratio of the reflected radiant or *luminous flux* (3.17) to the incident flux in the given conditions

[SOURCE: CIE S 017/E]

3.19**rooflight**

daylight opening (3.5) on the roof or on a horizontal surface of a building

[SOURCE: CIE S 017/E]

3.20**skylight**

part of sky radiation capable of causing a visual sensation

[SOURCE: CIE S 017/E]

3.21**sunlight**

part of direct solar radiation capable of causing a visual sensation

[SOURCE: CIE S 017/E]