



# Technical Specification

**ISO/TS 16733-2**

## Fire safety engineering — Selection of design fire scenarios and design fires —

### Part 2: Design fires

*Ingénierie de la sécurité incendie — Sélection de scénarios  
d'incendie et de feux de dimensionnement —*

*Partie 2: Feux de dimensionnement*

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# Contents

Page

<b>Foreword</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>1 Scope</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>4 Symbols</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>5 Role of design fires in fire safety design</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>6 Considerations based on methods of analysis</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>7 Elements of a design fire</b>	<b>9</b>
7.1 General	9
7.2 Incipient stage	11
7.3 Growth stage	11
7.4 Flashover	12
7.5 Fully developed stage	12
7.6 Events that change a design fire	13
7.6.1 General	13
7.6.2 Suppression systems	13
7.6.3 Intervention by fire services	13
7.6.4 Changes in ventilation	14
7.6.5 Enclosure effects	14
7.6.6 Combustible construction materials	14
7.7 Extinction and decay stage	14
<b>8 Constructing a design fire curve</b>	<b>15</b>
8.1 Procedure	15
8.2 Step 1 — Parameters provided by the design fire scenario	16
8.3 Step 2 — Fires involving single or multiple fuels	17
8.3.1 General	17
8.3.2 Develop the design fire curve for first item	18
8.3.3 Ignition of other items	18
8.3.4 Power law design fire curves	19
8.3.5 Wall and ceiling linings	20
8.3.6 Smouldering fires	20
8.4 Step 3 — Flashover	20
8.4.1 General	20
8.4.2 Empirical correlations for critical heat release rate for onset of flashover	21
8.5 Step 4 — Maximum heat release rate	21
8.5.1 General	21
8.5.2 Fuel-controlled fires	21
8.5.3 Ventilation-controlled fires	22
8.5.4 Mechanical ventilation	23
8.6 Step 5 — Modifying the design fire curve	23
8.6.1 Suppression systems	23
8.6.2 Fire service intervention	24
8.6.3 Changes in ventilation	24
8.6.4 Enclosure effects on mass loss rate of fuel	24
8.7 Step 6 — Fire duration	25
8.7.1 Duration of the fire growth stage	25
8.7.2 Duration of the steady burning stage	25
8.8 Step 7 — Decay	26
<b>9 Species production</b>	<b>26</b>
9.1 Species yields	26

<b>10</b>	<b>Design fires for structural fire engineering</b>	<b>26</b>
10.1	General	26
10.2	Localized fires	27
10.2.1	General	27
10.2.2	Flames not impinging the ceiling	27
10.2.3	Flames impinging the ceiling	28
10.3	Parametric fires	29
10.3.1	General	29
10.3.2	Heating phase	30
10.3.3	Heating duration and maximum temperature	31
10.3.4	Cooling phase	31
10.4	Fires in large compartments (travelling fires)	32
<b>11</b>	<b>External design fires</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Fire tests</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Probabilistic aspects of design fires</b>	<b>36</b>
13.1	General	36
13.2	Inclusion of statistical representativeness/distribution characteristics	36
13.3	Simulations using distributed input and sampling techniques	36
13.4	Stochastic models	37
13.5	Results of probabilistic analysis and their evaluation	38
<b>14</b>	<b>Documentation</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Annex A (informative)</b>	<b>Data for development of design fires</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Bibliography</b>		<b>45</b>

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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 document 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)).

ISO draws attention to the possibility that the implementation of this document may involve the use of (a) patent(s). ISO takes no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of any claimed patent rights in respect thereof. As of the date of publication of this document, ISO had not received notice of (a) patent(s) which may be required to implement this document. However, implementers are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information, which may be obtained from the patent database available at [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents). ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

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

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 92, *Fire safety*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Fire safety engineering*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/TS 16733-2:2021), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

— revision of 10.4.

A list of all parts in the ISO 16733 series can be found on the ISO website.

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).

## Introduction

This document provides guidance for the specification of design fires for use in fire safety engineering analysis. A design fire is linked to a specific scenario that is tailored to the fire-safety design objective. There can be several fire safety objectives being addressed, including safety of life (for occupants and rescue personnel), conservation of property, protection of the environment and preservation of heritage. A different set of design fire scenarios and design fires can be required to assess the adequacy of a proposed design for each objective.

The procedure for the selection of the design fire scenarios is described in ISO 16733-1. The design fire can be thought of as an engineering representation of a fire or a “load” that is used to determine the consequences of a given fire scenario. The set of assumed fire characteristics are referred to as “the design fire”. In this document, various formulae are presented to calculate different phenomena. Formulae other than those presented here can also be applicable for a given application.

It is important that the design fire be appropriate to the objectives of the fire-safety engineering analysis. It should challenge the fire safety systems in a specific built environment and result in a final design solution that satisfies performance criteria associated with all the relevant design objectives.

Users of this document should be appropriately qualified and competent in the field of fire safety engineering. It is important that users understand the parameters within which specific methodologies may be used.

ISO 23932-1 provides a performance-based methodology for engineers to assess the level of fire safety for new or existing built environments. Fire safety is evaluated through an engineered approach based on the quantification of the behaviour of fire and based on knowledge of the consequences of such behaviour on life safety, property, heritage and the environment. ISO 23932-1 provides the process (necessary steps) and essential elements for designing a robust, performance-based fire safety programme.

ISO 23932-1 is supported by a set of ISO fire safety engineering standards available on the methods and data needed for the steps in a fire safety engineering design summarized in ISO 23932-1:2018, Clause 4 and shown in [Figure 1](#). This system of standards provides an awareness of the interrelationships between fire evaluations when using the set of ISO fire safety engineering standards.

Each document includes language in the introductory material of the document to tie it to the steps in the fire safety engineering design process outlined in ISO 23932-1. Selection of design fire scenarios and design fires form part of conformance with ISO 23932-1, and all the requirements of ISO 23932-1 apply to any application of this document.

# Fire safety engineering — Selection of design fire scenarios and design fires —

## Part 2: Design fires

### 1 Scope

This document provides guidance for the specification of design fires for use in fire safety engineering analysis of building and structures in the built environment. The design fire is intended to be used in an engineering analysis to determine consequences in fire safety engineering (FSE) analyses.

### 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 13943, *Fire safety — Vocabulary*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 13943 and the following apply.

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 <https://www.electropedia.org/>

#### 3.1

##### **combustion efficiency**

ratio of the amount of heat release in incomplete combustion to the theoretical heat of complete combustion

Note 1 to entry: Combustion efficiency can be calculated only for cases where complete combustion can be defined.

Note 2 to entry: Combustion efficiency is dimensionless and is usually expressed as a percentage.

#### 3.2

##### **design fire**

quantitative description of assumed fire characteristics within a *design fire scenario* (3.3)

Note 1 to entry: Typically, an idealized description of the variation with time of important fire variables, such as heat release rate and toxic species yields, along with other important input data for modelling such as the fire load density.

#### 3.3

##### **design fire scenario**

specific *fire scenario* (3.9) on which a deterministic fire safety engineering analysis is conducted

Note 1 to entry: As the number of possible fire scenarios can be very large, it is necessary to select the most important scenarios (the design fire scenarios) for analysis. The selection of design fire scenarios is tailored to the fire-safety design objectives, and accounts for the likelihood and consequences of potential scenarios.