INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Fire safety — Vocabulary

Sécurité au feu — Vocabulaire

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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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.

ISO 13943 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 92, *Fire safety*, in cooperation with Technical Committee IEC/TC 89, *Fire hazard testing*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 13943:2000), which has been technically revised.

Introduction

Over the last two decades, there has been significant growth in the subject field of fire safety. There has been a considerable development of fire safety engineering design, especially as it relates to construction projects, as well as the development of concepts related to performance-based design. With this continuing evolution, there is an increasing need for agreement on a common language in the large domain of fire safety, beyond what traditionally has been limited to the subject field of fire hazard testing.

The first edition of ISO 13943 contained definitions of about 180 terms. However, the area of technology that is related to fire safety has continued to evolve rapidly and this second edition contains many new terms as well as new definitions of some of the terms that were in the first edition.

This International Standard defines general terms to establish a vocabulary applicable to fire safety, including fire safety in buildings and civil engineering works and other elements within the built environment. It will be updated as terms and definitions for further concepts in the subject field of fire safety are agreed upon and developed.

It is important to note that when used in legislation, some general fire safety terms have a narrower interpretation and hence the definition given in this International Standard does not apply.

The terms in this International Standard are

— fundamental concepts, which may be the starting point for other, more specific, definitions,

— more specific concepts, used in several areas of fire safety such as fire testing and fire safety engineering used in ISO and IEC fire standards, and

— related concept fields, designated by borrowed terms used in building and civil engineering.

The layout is in accordance with ISO 10241, unless otherwise specified. Thus, the elements of an entry appear in the following order:

a) entry number;

b) preferred term(s);

c) admitted term(s);

d) deprecated term(s);

e) definition;

f) example(s);

g) note(s).

The terms are presented in English alphabetical order and are in bold type except for accepted but non-preferred terms and deprecated terms, which are in normal type.

In a definition, example or note, reference to another entry in bold face is followed by the entry number in brackets, when it is first mentioned.

Entry number, preferred term and definition are the mandatory elements of each entry. Other elements appear only when appropriate.

Where a given term designates more than one concept, the concepts are listed in separate consecutive entries and the terms individually numbered.

If the term has a general meaning but is being used in a specific subject field, that subject field is indicated in angled brackets, 〈 〉, at the beginning of the definition.

Word class, e.g. “noun”, “adj.”, “verb”, is indicated if there is a risk of misunderstanding.

Where the term describes a physical quantity, a note is given to indicate the typical units that are used (except in cases where the unit is a single dimension such as mass, time or length).

Where a national variant in English is preferred or another equivalent exists, this has been given in bold face following the preferred term and annotated by the respective country code. Where no other country code or other equivalent is given in bold, this signifies that the preferred term is the accepted term in English-speaking countries.

A term following the preferred term not given in boldface type is a non-preferred synonym.

To facilitate the location of any term given in this International Standard, irrespective of preference or country of origin, the alphabetical index lists all preferred and non-preferred synonyms, without the respective country code being indicated. There is also a systematic index and an index of deprecated terms.

Fire safety — Vocabulary

1 Scope

This International Standard defines terminology relating to fire safety as used in International Standards and other documents of the International Standardization Organization and the International Electrotechnical Committee.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 6707-1:2004, *Building and civil engineering — Vocabulary — Part 1: General terms*

ISO 10241:1992, *International terminology standards — Preparation and layout*